

Nevada Union High School Site Council Agenda Approved Minutes  
Thursday, October 27, 2016  
Library Conference Room  
4:00 p.m.

Members present: Katie Alling, Junet Bedayn, Alicia Brott, Betsy Brown, Andy Burton, Sherry Chargin, Nolan Clark, Mitch Giles, June Gilfillan, Keri Kemble, Kelsey Langel, Christina Phillips, Nathan Potter, Nick Sims, Kelly Rhoden

Guests: Dan Frisella, Carol Lee

Welcome: Junie Bedayn, Chairperson

1. PUBLIC MEETING

- A. Call to Order 4:03
- B. Agenda (Consent Approval)
- C. Minutes of the September 15th, 2016 meeting: Andy moved, Nolan seconded that minutes be approved as submitted. Approved unanimously.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Invitation to members of the public to address the School Site Council with issues not on the agenda (non-action items which may be added to future agendas)  
Dan Frisella explained that it was difficult for him to leave NU and accept a job at the District Office, and he will still work closely with NU admin until he's kicked out and his key is taken away. He is glad to answer questions as needed. He thanked everyone for their participation and contribution to the Site Council.

3. REPORTS

A. Students (student council, non-action item)  
Nathan Potter and Nick Sims are attending Site Council for the first time. Nathan reported that they're seeing a huge improvement in school spirit this year, and plan to continue along that path. They are open to suggestions. Nick reported that the Walkathon went a lot better this year than last.

Nolan reported that the environmental club is taking on "Take Back the Tap" as their main issue, trying to diminish the use of single-use water bottles. Classes are going well; students and teachers are getting to know each other and are excited about the school year. AP Environmental Science class went on a rafting trip on the lower fork of the Yuba and learned about salmon.

Photography class made a trip to San Francisco, and AP and H English classes went to Ashland and saw 3 plays; had a great time!

WASC focus groups have met 3 times. Students tried to encourage other students to participate (with some success).

B. Principal (non-action item) Kelly Rhoden introduced herself. She's glad to still have Dan's support; it's a powerful opportunity to have someone so connected to NU in District administration. Kelly will do her best to continue to serve NU, in a different capacity now, but with a long-term commitment. She thanked students and parents for their participation in the WASC process. Volleyball team is going into playoffs, choir performances are coming up soon.

Kelly will be the Principal for the remainder of the school year. The position will be posted in the Spring (at which time Kelly is welcome to be one of the candidates).

C. WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges - non-action item) Site Council has been working over the past couple years to bring Site goals in line with WASC goals. Site Council will be invited to work on writing an action plan along with administrative and teacher groups; meeting time to be determined ~ mid-November.

Andy asked whether we can rename the WASC process to make it more appealing to students and parents. The name "WASC Action Plan" doesn't inspire. June gave the example that 20/20 Vision is easier to understand rather than WASC and LCAP acronyms. We want to be proactive rather than reactive. Junie feels like the focus groups have been promoted as somewhere to make your voice heard and give input on new ideas. Kelsey suggested that getting student feedback in class might be successful; that way we aren't asking students to give up their free time to participate. Class discussions that relate to the whole school, not just the individual class, would be worthwhile and effective, and would reflect more of a cross-section of students. Keri asked if this could be done once a week in lieu of NU News. June suggested a name like Your Voice, Your Vision.

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

##### A. Election of School Site Council Officers

I. Secretary - Nolan nominated June, Betsy seconded. June was elected unanimously. Katie is willing to be a back-up.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Walkathon Application - June moved, Sherry seconded that we approve Jessica Lee's application for funding. The group has actually already been on the field trip, but post-funding would allow them to put funds already committed to a different use. Site goals are specifically addressed. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Refining the Role of the School Site Council - Junie explained that the Site Council makes goals about what they want to see the school focus on that year, in relation to WASC, LCAP, Title 1, etc. goals. Our function is then to make connections and find ways to check whether progress is happening in these areas. We have not been effective in surveying stakeholders. Dan has wanted to have senior exit surveys, but we haven't done that yet.

Andy suggested you could ask a sample cross-section group of students the same questions at the same time in their 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade years.

Junie asked whether there is interest from this group in developing a survey and planning for it to be administered. It is often necessary to have a survey developed by an outside group versed in survey development in order to get valid questions and statistically reliable results. It was moved that we create a sub-committee to plan for a survey to evaluate alignment with goals: Kelly, Junie, Kelsey, and Andy are interested. Dan will work on locating funding through District sources. Motion approved.

C. Evaluate Goal #1: Increase proficiency rates on the CAASPP (CA Assessment of Student Performance and Progress) exam for 11th grade students and sub-groups.

'14-15: 55% in English, increased to 70% in '15-16

'14-15: 30% in Math, increased to 46% in '15-16

While the progress is encouraging, we'd still like to see higher scores. We will re-visit this next meeting.

Feedback from smaller group discussions: Make goal more specific. There is concern about putting pressure on students and staff to achieve certain percentages. We made

progress last year; maybe see how it goes again with the same actions. Timing, with AP testing right afterwards, is an impediment, but there's no way to change that; testing windows are established at a state level. Were the actions taken that were suggested? Who created the actions? What influence can Site Council have on these actions? We look at data and connect resources, and figure out if actions need to be changed or not. Admin communicates input from Site Council directly with teachers. The teachers actually took the test before administering it, which gives them insight in instruction.

Site Council can ask the Principal or staff to come back to the meeting with data.

D. Evaluate Goal #2 - revisit at the next meeting.

6. Comments from Council members and public

Betsy reported that her daughter enjoyed games purchased through Walkathon funds application previously approved by Site Council.

7. CLOSING

A. Confirm November 10th Meeting

B. Future agenda items

8. ADJOURNMENT 5:34