

Nevada Union High School Site Council Approved Minutes
Thursday, February 9th, 2017
Library Conference Room
4:00 p.m.

Welcome: Junie Bedayn, Chairperson

1. PUBLIC MEETING

- A. Call to Order 4:04 by Junet
- B. Agenda (Consent Approval)
Kelly moved to approve
Katie seconded
Agenda approved with unanimous vote
- C. Minutes of the January 12th, 2017 meeting
Sherry moved to approve
Kelly seconded
Minutes approved with unanimous vote

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)

No comments from the public.

3. REPORTS

- A. Students (student council, non-action item)

Junet: Several student presented to board about having a student on the school board. 500 signatures on a petition. Elections next year during student elections next fall.

Group of students went to DC to see inauguration and Women's march. Great trip with a lot of students from different parts of the country. Interesting to share ideas and opinions. Program really fostered those discussions. Talk between students was more understanding and less divisive. Group was mostly Trump supporters, but debating the issues was great.

Breaking down the walls is happening this week. Great experience and it's been happening all week. It's an outside program that develops connections between staff and students. Everyone is more than what they seem on the outside. The program gives you tools to work through our differences.

Just finished with Addams Family performances. Big for drama, band and dance. Student dancers choreograph and band students write and create the music. Nice grouping of departments.

Winter sports in final two weeks and spring sports are kicking off.

- B. Principal (non-action item)

Big focus on WASC and working with staff to understand what's on the document. Staff are developing binders with student work for committee to see. Visiting committee arrives on Sunday, Feb. 12th from 4-5 p.m. in library conference room. Visit Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and then staff meeting on Wednesday for review of the process. 3:40-4:40 staff meeting in science lecture hall. We won't get final results until May. We've made some huge progress since our last visit. Lots of positives to point out, but there are also some areas to work on. All of those areas are covered in our next action plan.

Feb. 15, Wednesday 6 p.m. is NU Preview for incoming 8th grade families. Lots of work from counselors, teachers, coaches. Booths in cafeteria set up like a college fair so parents and students can interact with teachers and programs.

Freshmen through juniors for next year have been scheduled for next year. Visiting feeder schools towards the end of February to get those students registered and ready to go.

Next big program is the 16th annual student choreography event. Dance students choreograph their own dances and it's exciting to see students work performed in such a public space.

C. WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges - non-action item)

See notes above.

D. ELAC Report (non-action item)

Dan Frisella: Presenting from first ever committee meeting. Population has been growing in the last 3 years. Doubled in the last 3 years and right now we have 50 in the district with about 40 of those at NU. State law requires schools with more than 20 to form a committee. Have been out of compliance, but we're back! Meeting on Jan. 27 and part of the requirement is to report to Site Council.

Below is a copy of the notes from the ELAC committee.

Concerns:

1. How credit is awarded for the ELD class;
2. The perceived need for additional support for EL students (parent observations are that the aides appear "stretched, with 30+ students to serve and 2 aides);
3. Student transitions from 9th grade to 10th -- students producing a grade and the ability of teachers to make appropriate accommodations that meet assignment/unit targeted outcomes while being accessible to students in relation to their language development levels;
4. EL students self-isolating instead of branching out, including one incident of two chinese speakers being grouped together to complete a project as a group of two, when the rest of the class worked in groups of four. Were these students expected to complete the work of four?
5. Does the school automatically funnel students into the Partnership Academy? If so, it seems limiting in that there are required electives that are a part of the academy;
6. A parent reported an isolated incident of bullying in the classroom surrounding her students

7. Parents are looking for teachers to have flexibility with their classroom expectations and the ability to reteach content when needed.

Needs:

1. EL strategy training for teachers, instead of putting the burden of redesigning lessons and making accommodations on the EL aides - the need for teachers to employ SDAIE strategies;

2. More staff support;

3. Encourage better integration between EL population and the general population; and

4. Better English support beyond 9th grade (it was suggested that ELA classes are blocked with ELD and literacy support). These needs will be presented to the school site council at their monthly meeting (next meeting 2/9/17).

Discussion: Andy wanted to know if there was any communication between the local middle schools and the high schools. Dan said there might be, but it's still early in the process. Dan said that more teacher trainings would be important. Kelsey pointed out it's a challenge when EL students don't speak any English. Cornelia asked about funding for the EL students and where the extra money comes from. Dan talked about the LCFF and the extra money the district receives for that population.

Andy asked about a connection between LCAP and LCFF. Dan said the parent who used to serve as parent rep on LCAP committee is now at a classified employee. He said we do need to be more explicit about how we're serving those students through the LCAP process.

Katie suggested looking at schools that have smaller EL populations so it's easier to see how those staffs are handling it. Andy said in the last meeting we talked about CTE and pathways and adding EL to those groups adds a level of complexity. Dan said that students are currently put in the Partnership Academy and the aides and kids and teachers are working better. The concern is integration. Dan mentioned that there are trainings for staff in PCOE and other local areas. Andy suggested an EL-type track to allow those students to experience other academies or academic programs and narrow the divide between what is offered to ELs.

Dan suggested more research and discussion related to LCAP and the EL population and needed services. Dan will present his research regarding effective EL models at the next Site Council meeting.

E. LCAP Advisory Committee

Dan shared the survey with staff. The information will be shared out by Kelly with families this week.

4. Comments from Council members and public NONE

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. 10th Grade Survey Development

Junet shared that we'll look at the survey and circle the questions we think will work and work on piecing it together. Five sections of questions. What questions should be included on sophomore and senior survey. The main goal is to figure out the student perspective. Using that data will help guide areas of need.

Junet collected packets and we'll review next week before making any final decisions.

6. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Review feedback from English Learners Advisory Committee

7. CLOSING
 - A. Confirm March 9th, 2017 Meeting
 - B. Future agenda items

8. ADJOURNMENT 5:34