

Hamden High School

**School Governance Council
Meeting Date: Oct 20, 2015**

SGC Members:

*Tony Kaplan **community leader**, Shannon Romagnolo **teacher** (ABSENT) , Robin Lamott Sparks **parent**, Kevin Keating **teacher**, Paul Giansanti **asst. vice principal**, Paul Darcy **parent**, Kimberlee Forsellius **parent**, Christy Palumbo (ABSENT) **parent** , Sherlet Kurian **parent**, David Coss **teacher**, Mary Hall (ABSENT)**community leader**, Elisa James **teacher**, Steven DelGrego **teacher**, Joanne Courtmanche **parent**, Alicia Norris **parent**, Clydette Messiah **acting principal***

SGC as it stands has seven parents, two community leaders, five teachers, one principal and her designated representative.

Purpose

Goals for Council at meeting today

The following will be achieved as a result of our work:

Identified a clear purpose for the school year.

Develop strategy for alumni engagement

Develop strategy and next steps for improving Hamden High School’s public profile

Review safety data regarding Hamden High School

Agenda

6:00	Getting Started	Agenda item led by:	Next Steps
6:05-6:10	School Updates		Next Steps
	<p><u>Update on Principal Search:</u></p> <p>Position has been reposted. There have been some applicants. There will be extensive pre-screening process. Not rushing, looking for the right person. SGC will be a round in the interview process (for example the 4th round of interviews)</p> <p><u>Update on Parent Night:</u></p> <p>Plan is to give highlights of HHS. Promoting school. There will be different speakers, Alicia Norris (PTSA), student, parent, Athletic director, Fine Arts Director, Guidance, Library specialist, Other directors will be in the hallway to meet with parents/students directly. Ad placed in Patch and register. HMS has it posted on website, St Rita’s, Wintergreen notified.</p>	Paul G	
6:10-6:30	Purpose		Next Steps

<p><u>Develop Purpose Statement for the Council:</u></p> <p>(a) <i>Engaging, facilitating, and improving foundation of HHS</i></p> <p>(b) <i>Identify problems, address them, tailor education to the student, and improve student achievement</i></p> <p><u>Areas Need of Improvement to be addressed by SGC:</u></p> <p>(1) <i>School Image-School spirit.</i> Dispelling the negative myths associated with the school</p> <p>(2) <i>Aesthetics of school:</i> Add art work to hallways, paint, might it brighter, less dingy appearing, Make it inviting.</p> <p>(3) <i>Long term plans for building.</i> It is an 80 year old building, what are plans to improve it or finding a new site.</p> <p>(4) <i>Severe heating and cooling issue:</i> very uncomfortable environment, can be obstacle to achievement. For example taking PSAT's in HOT room could affect performance. Also a waste of funds in regards to heating oil costs. Invite Director of facilities, Mark Albanese and Asst. Director of facilities Frank Carglios to meet with us to address issues.</p> <p>Review "Connection" response in which asked students if given money, what they would do with it. Majority of students would use it to improve building instead of using money on themselves. Same answers from freshmen, sophomore and juniors. PG will speak to Rose to see if we could use responses to get data.</p> <p>Develop student and parent survey (survey monkey) to identify temperature or aesthetic issues in school. See if we could obtain data from school nurse as to illness related consequences of heating/cooling (headaches, nausea, excessive fatigue)</p> <p>(5) <i>More communication between school and Central office.</i> Need Central office to visit school more often. How does central office communicate with school, with parents effectively? What is the Goal of Central office? Requesting look at data. Not a data driven school presently What are the policies at central office? For example there was a technology committee, What are our technology goals? Complaints from previous students in college that they weren't prepared for the technology used in college such as "GoogleDocs" "Blackboard"?</p> <p>Inviting Karen Kaplan, Director of Instructional</p>	<p>Robin</p>	
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	<p>Technology to meet with us.</p> <p>We are in position to provide leverage; These are the problems identified and how is the town going to address them. The town does not want to lose it NEASC accreditation.</p> <p>SGC will review NEASC report prior to next meeting . Also most recent Strategic School profile and data on SBAC testing. Robin also can find data online on any particular concern or question posed by SGC</p> <p>SGC will also have to develop COMPACT for parents, legal guardians, and students that outlines school goals and academic focus... (pg 2 under responsibilities in by laws) Robin has examples.</p>		
6:30-6:45	Engaging Alumni: NOT DISCUSSED		Next Steps
	How can we best reengage alumni?	Kevin	
6:45-7:00	Hamden High Image		
	<p><u>What strategies can we adopt to promote a positive image of Hamden High School?</u></p> <p>Consider boosting town and high school pride. Consider putting lawn signs out sponsoring the school(potential fundraiser) with statements such as “Go Dragons” or “Welcome to the Dragon’s Den”. Seen in neighboring towns such as Shelton, Guilford. Perhaps could be project for DECA.</p>	Kevin	
7:00-7:15	School Safety: NOT DISCUSSED		
	<p>Do we have data to review?</p> <p>What is our role in promoting safety?</p>	Kevin	
7:15-7:20	Meeting Review		
	<p><u>What worked and what can be improved?</u></p> <p>Inviting more diversity on council.</p>	Robin	

Next Meeting November 19th, 6 pm