

## Hamden High School

### School Governance Council

Meeting Date: Nov 19, 2015

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

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

#### *Purpose*

#### *Results for Council (goals)*

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

Identified a clear purpose for the school year.

Determine Terms of members

Identify issues in NEASC report

Develop strategies for working on our goals

#### *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>Still searching for a principal because there has not been a candidate that is meeting the needs of the position. There may have been a 3<sup>rd</sup> application process prior to Thanksgiving but that will not occur. As of now, Clydette Messiah remains the interim principal. Overall, there has been an improvement in school climate with current principal. Cell phone policy has improved and so has student behavior.</p> <p><u>Freshman Parent Night:</u></p> <p>50-70 parents attended. Two parents are considering sending their students to HHS as a result of the parent night. Overall, positive</p>	Paul G	Robin will send out State Department of Education Parent survey.

	<p>feedback.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u>  Put information about a week earlier in paper.  Also, report cards not being delivered in a timely manner so parents are missing information regarding conferences.</p> <p>Report Cards- To improve parent engagement with teachers possibly offer additional time at conferences “slots.” However, teacher contract limits time offered for conferences.</p> <p>Improve parent and community involvement with BOE and finance meetings. Why are our meetings not publicized? Both meetings should be broadcasted on web site and available to the public for those that cannot attend in person.</p> <p>How can parents be engaged if they do not have internet/transportation? Should BOE meetings being moved to another location that is more accessible?</p>		
6:10-6:20	<b>Terms</b>		
	<p>One Year Term Teachers: Shannon Romagnolo, David Coss, Kevin Keating</p> <p>Other Terms TBD</p>	Robin	
6:10-7:00	<b>NEASC Report</b>		
	<p><u>Areas of Concern</u></p> <p><i>Common Planning Time/ PLCs-</i> Scheduling conflict. Can there be days allotted for directors to meet with departments? Can early release days be possible?</p> <p><i>Upper grades-</i>What can be done in the upper grades post freshman teams? There is no common planning that exists after grade 9.</p> <p>Continuation of 8<sup>th</sup> grade to HHS- Disconnect – no vertical alignment. Need help from directors.</p> <p>“No district policy[...] promoting and ensuring</p>	Robin	

	<p>alignment”</p> <p><i>Strategies</i>-Need to have common strategies that are being implemented across all subjects.          Frameworks needed- No scope and sequence exists with curriculum across grades. (Returns back to common planning time)</p> <p>Stripling model adopted by district in which students question and discover what they want to research.</p> <p><i>Social Studies</i>- Beginning to focus on curriculum and ways for all teachers to instruct on a similar timeline.</p> <p><i>English</i>-Director beginning scope and sequence process. Curriculum is currently being analyzed.</p> <p><i>Math</i>- Very willing and wanting to work on children’s remedial skills but there is no opportunity to have pre-algebra taught at the high school. Math dept. is asking for appropriate resources to meet students’ needs. Two year algebra class exists but still no pre-algebra.</p> <p><i>Algebra will be the focus.</i></p>		
7:00-7:15	<b>Goals</b>		
	<p>Look at Facilities- Meeting to come.</p> <p>Analyze NWEA data- Needed</p> <p>Look at disaggregated SBAC data</p> <p>Need to look at school compact</p> <p>Form subcommittees</p>		
7:15-7:20	<b>Meeting Review</b>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research what is being implemented at other schools across the state.</li> </ul>	Robin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at Math Data-Paul</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What after school programs can be used to improve student achievement? Programs need to be high interest to increase student attendance.</li> <li>• Can teachers be posted in the library in order for it to be open later? (In NEASC report as an area of need)</li> <li>• Find/Apply for grants to help fund these initiatives.</li> <li>• List programs that we would like and how much would it cost. Can we recruit college students to help with these programs?</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyze School Compact and determine</li> <li>• Speak with head of facilities</li> </ul>
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Next Meeting: December 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Agenda: NEASC Report, Minutes