

School Governance Council (SGC)

Nathan Hale Middle School

October 26, 2022

Agenda

Meeting started at 6:30pm via Microsoft Teams

Present: DaJaun Wiggins, Karen Lourd, Troy Davis, Jenifer Jefferies, Yuri Montoya, Keith Parmalee, Amanda Penrose, Amanda Segura, Eric Jackson, James Crouch, Stephanie Peckham, Riley Northrop, Debra DiDonato, Jay Gerlach and Bryan McQuaid.

- Introductions of New Council Members:

Troy Davis: I grew up in Jacksonville and moved to New York after graduating from the University of Florida. After I married Risa's mom, Wendi, we moved to Norwalk. I've worked as a Systems Engineer for some of the largest global media and financial services organizations, and more recently as a Sales Engineer for a large technology company. I love technology mainly because there's always something new to learn and share. I'd like to join the School Governance Council to learn more about what we can do to insure our children receive the best possible education to prepare for safe, happy, and productive lives. I'm especially interested in helping to evaluate possible technology platforms to take advantage of newer learning solutions and methods.

Jenifer Jefferies: After living and working in New York City for several years, my husband and I moved to East Norwalk in 2011. I have two children attending the Norwalk Public Schools. My daughter is in 4th grade at Marvin Elementary School and my son is in 7th grade at Nathan Hale. I have been an active member of the Norwalk school community since 2015. During this time, I served in the PTA and SGC and have enjoyed collaborating with the teachers, parents, and community members. Professionally, I have been an educator for 21 years and currently teach second grade in the New Canaan Public Schools. I am excited to join the Nathan Hale SGC to learn more about the changes taking place within the school as it becomes an art integrated IB school. I am invested in the school's journey since my son currently attends and my daughter will enter middle school within the next two years. I hope that my professional experience as a teacher and my personal experience as a parent will allow me to provide insight that will prove beneficial to the Nathan Hale school community. I look forward to working with the administrators, teachers and fellow parents for the betterment of the school.

Yuri Montoya: My daughter is in 6th grade and my son is in 5th grade at Wolfpit school. I'm a Practice Administrator for a pediatrician's office in Stamford. I am part of the SGC at Wolfpit and help/donate when I'm available. I believe in good education, and that we, as parents, are the best advocates for our kids and community.

Keith Parmalee: As a former Naramake Elementary School SGC member in 2019 & 2020 I have become very familiar with the responsibilities and functions of the SGC. As a lifetime resident of the City of Norwalk and product of the NPS system my knowledge, relationships & experience in the community have prepared me to be a contributing member of the SGC. My wife and I have four children in the NPS System, two currently at NHMS and two at Naramake. I have a bachelor's degree in Communications & Human Relations from Western Connecticut State University and a master's degree from TUI University in Healthcare Management. I served in the U.S. Navy for six years from 2004 to 2010 and was trained as a Hospital Corpsman stationed at the Naval Medical Center, San Diego. My military training and experience also included Combat Medic training and a deployment with the U.S. Marines to Iraq in 2008. I currently work at Hospital for Special Surgery as the Regional Director for HSS Connecticut. My responsibility is to oversee all operations, quality and growth in the State of Connecticut. It is my hope that I can join the SGC to bring value to the mission and goals set forth by our professional education leadership. I look forward to working with school staff, school leaders and parents to improve student achievement.

Amanda Penrose: I have been a resident of Norwalk for the last 15 years. I am originally from Mystic, Connecticut. I was very involved with early childhood development, yearbook club, junior leadership, and a few other groups. Also, class M state championship basketball team. I have my associates degree and criminal justice, and early childhood. For the last 13 years I have been a nanny in Fairfield County. I am a stepmother of two alumni and one current student at Nathan Hale!! When my children were in elementary school, I sat on the PTA, and a mentor in the Norwalk mentor mentee program. As my children went into middle school, I sat on the board for Norwalk Junior football. I am very passionate about education and want to be part in being involved.

Amanda Segura: A parent of a middle schooler and preschooler, I attended Norwalk Public Schools from 3rd to 12th grade and have lived here ever since! I work in the technology industry as a support supervisor and teach theology for elementary and middle school students. My goal is to be an advocate for our children and fellow parents while striking a balance with teachers and administrators to best suit everyone's needs. I am very analytical, and results driven, but excel in social areas such as empathy, communication, and flexibility. I love a good puzzle, creating travel plans, or a dramatic show (hello whodunit genre)! I understand that working with the NHMS Student Government Council is a privilege and a great responsibility. I look forward to the discussions surrounding how to improve our school.

- School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:13pm