



Meeting Date: November 14th

Meeting Time: 7:15 A.M.

Location: Roswell High School's Media Center

*Meeting Minutes*

<b>Council Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Elected Parent: Amy Jewett	Yes
Elected Parent: Erika Lewis	Yes
Appointed Staff: Lindsey Bryan	Yes
Student: Alexis Warnock	Yes
Student: Claire Stovall	Yes
Principal: Dr. Robert Shaw	Yes
Elected Staff: Laura Hunter	Yes
Appointed Community: Deb Martino	No
Elected Staff: Lashonta Flemister	Yes
Elected Parent: Tony Rosenberg	No
Appointed Staff: Amanda Brickhouse	Yes
Appointed Community: Dylan Penick	No

**Guest(s) in attendance:**

Lee Hills, Erika Jones, Lauren Mayhew

**Call to order: 7:20 A.M.**

**Edits to the Agenda:**

None

**Approval of agenda**

First: Erika Lewis	Second: Laura Hunter	Approved unanimously
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**Approval of meeting minutes: October 24, 2018**

First: Amanda Brickhouse	Second: Laura Hunter	Approved unanimously
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**Public comment:**

- Lee Hills discussed a growing interest in obtaining Naviance software licensing. This is a software that would relieve the counselors of some burden. Naviance is a college and post-secondary options predictor.
- Lee Hills explained that it may relieve manual work from counselors. Naviance will track students through college. It offers a secure transcript delivery system. It offers a survey and it can give you a scale of how likely you are to be admitted into a school based upon your profile and the information entered.
- Cambridge High School is currently looking into it. It's roughly \$11,000 for the year. It requires an annual renewal. It shows trends in college placement for the student body.
- The company offers professional development support for the first year of implementation. They also report what scholarships were received by our students.

**Student update:**

- Student Leadership Summit – Claire and Alexis explained that the summit was more about how to be a leader and how to define a brand that you want to project. They received a handbook and discussed the pillars. Claire and Alexis explained that they were able to see various schools' objectives according to each pillar. They explained that it was interesting to see the other schools and what their objectives were in comparison to the objectives of Roswell High School.
- Claire brought up a question related to graduation – when the younger kids are still testing, is there any sort of transportation for younger siblings getting to and from their school to Verizon to see their older siblings graduate?

**Principal Update:**

- Dr. Shaw explained that a lot will be coming out about graduation soon. This is a new plan and we have never done graduation in this way before. The county assigned our school a time, so we must work with what we were assigned. There is no fixed plan at this moment for transportation of younger siblings from feeder schools to graduation. Dr. Shaw will investigate it.
- We have new cameras being installed. These cameras are very similar to those at the airport. These are very advanced cameras and are being installed to assist with school safety.
- Dr. Zeidler has assisted with an "NHI" study hall. These means that she has had approximately 12 freshman that may be in danger of failing coming to her classroom

during study hall. They are working on missing assignments and this has been beneficial for those attending. Most of what we are seeing in many of the students with low grades is just a lack of turning in work.

- We will have a new website. This should be up and running by the start of next semester. This is a work in progress.
- The varsity football team won the region.
- One Act Play won fourth in the state competition.
- RHS had five students participate in honors orchestra.

### **Strategic Flexible Funding Update:**

- We are currently working on securing the Hispanic Outreach Liaison, but the hiring has stalled for the moment. There is a certain process that must be followed. Vrinda is working on the logistics of how to create this position in the appropriate manner outlined by the county.
- We have also hit a bit of a roadblock with the digital sign. The sign will need a meter from GA Power and we will be charged monthly for power of the sign. The cost is approximately \$70 per month for power. The sign is supposed to be used as a communication tool. Increasing communication is part of the strategic plan, but this will now include an additional charge if we proceed. This project has been slow moving because there were various things that have had to be completed prior to moving forward. The county requested more bids from various vendors, then we had to submit a building alteration plan, then we had to have the proposal approved, and now there is the issue of power to the sign. Dr. Shaw asked if the additional charge was a deal breaker.

### **Request for Flexibility Update:**

- Dr. Shaw introduced Lauren Mayhew and Erika Jones – teachers from the RHS math department
- Lauren Mayhew explained that we have continued to ask for the Foundations of Algebra course. She said that she would like to see this course be offered for credit towards graduation. Students do not always have the foundational math skills that they need to be successful. Approximately ten years ago, the math department did offer this type of course and she felt that students had a lot of success with taking this course and then taking Algebra I later. If students do not do well in Algebra I, this really stalls their progress towards graduation and students ultimately feel as though they are just “spinning their wheels.”
- Erica Jones explained that the current Algebra support class is not the same as the Foundations of Algebra class. The support class moves at the same pace and covers the same material as the Algebra I class. The support class is meant to be a space for students to practice the skills being learned in Algebra I. It is not meant to teach skills that should have already been mastered prior to taking Algebra I. She is seeing students who continue to fail Algebra I and this is due to not having the foundational skills required of Algebra I.

- Lauren and Erica discussed the difficulties math teachers encounter when teaching Algebra. They support the idea of allowing students to take this course and to earn a math credit for this course.
- The county did not approve this request when it was last proposed primarily because colleges will not look at this course as a college prep course. Opponents of this course felt that this would communicate that these students were not going to college. Students would be able to attend a technical school with this credit, but not a four-year college unless they took two math courses within one academic year at some points. We would like to propose that students will be able to take two math courses at some point in their high school career. This would give them the opportunity to have the Foundations of Algebra course and still have the option of taking the other math courses required to go to a four-year university if they choose to. The district leadership has felt that allowing students to take Foundations of Algebra is not communicating the right message. There have been questions about the demographics of the course and perceptions of the course. The county has not looked favorably upon doubling up on math within a senior year. It has been previously mentioned that students should possibly take two math courses within their freshman year. However, the math teachers do not agree with this idea.
- Lauren and Erica went on to discuss the problems associated with ninth graders taking two math classes during the same year. Erica and Lauren see the frustration that some students experience with math and having two hours of math when you're already struggling is not the best idea. They have seen students completely check out and this is not a good situation for a young ninth grader. Seniors are more likely to have success with doubling up on math because graduation is on the horizon and they can see the light at the end of the tunnel. From experience, teachers feel that students are mature enough to handle the workload and are willing to buckle down in their senior year. However, Lauren explained that this process would need to be clearly communicated to parents.
- Dr. Shaw went on to explain that the county has pushed back on this idea and part of this is because if they approve our RFF, then it means that they are approving this course for all schools in the district. But we are still in the same boat with this course and students are not graduating. This may have a lot to do with students getting stuck in ninth grade with Algebra I. We need to continue to work towards a possible solution to this issue.
- Amy Jewett explained that we will try to present the RFF in a different manner this time. We will explain that the plan is for students to take two math courses in their sophomore or junior years, but that it will be available to for them in their senior year. Students will be encouraged to take two math courses prior to their senior year, but it will be a choice that students will need to make. This makes various options available to students and it is not communicating that a student cannot attend a four-year college.

**Motion:**

- **Vote for General Studies RFF up for Public Comment:**

First: Lindsey Davis-Bryan	Second: Amanda Brickhouse	Approved unanimously
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**Agenda Items for Next SGC Meeting:**

- Vote for Universal Personal Fitness Waiver up for Public Comment
- Discussion of how to move forward with Foundations of Algebra RFF

**Next meeting date:** November 28, 2018

**Adjourn at: 8:09 A.M.**

First: Laura Hunter	Second: Erika Lewis	Approved unanimously
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