

Minutes from January 14, 2026 Meeting

- Voted for Co-Chair:
 - Christine Vahle
 - Secretary: Karen Murano
- Reviewed School Improvement Plan (SIP) and Portrait of a Graduate
- SIP: looked at 4 areas of SIP with a focus in section 3 Goals:
 - Literacy
 - Numeracy
 - Equity:
 - Mentoring/tutoring
 - Expand Tutoring options
 - Peer tutoring
 - Making available teacher tutoring. (Pay teachers)
 - School climate- Creating sense of Belonging and Chronic absenteeism
 - School has worked hard on chronic absenteeism
 - Administrator each have a focus group of students
 - Believe that building a strong student community for a sense of belonging
- Moving forward will use PSAT to set goals. No longer using NWEA. District prefers using PSAT
- Will use PSAT data to focus on areas students need the most support on.
- PSAT is more aligned with SAR
- Reviewed Action/ PL Plan
 - Developed a professional learning plan
 - Ms. Wood uses Panorama Survey as a data point
 - Teacher (Lavro) stated that she believes that school/staff are working towards their goal with incorporating communication and critical thinking from POG in literacy and math.
- BMHS- largest HS in the district with 2,000+ students.
- Many partnerships:
 - Northwell Health for health pathway
 - Marine Studies partnership
 - \$5,000 from Rachel Ray Grant for Culinary Pathway
 - Ms. Wood is always looking for grants to assist in supporting the many pathways BMHS offers.
 - Focus on adequate funding

Questions:

- If a teacher is out for a long period of time how does that work?
 - Long ter sub
 - May ask a current staff member/teacher to take on a 6th class.
 - Ms. Wood expressed that she works hard to make sure that whoever is in the classroom will continue to provide the best instruction to students.

Looking Forward:

- SGC will meet about 5-6 times in the school year

- December: meeting with Dr. Estrella: Advocate for funding!

Next Meeting:

- Ms. Wood will Share SAR
- Look at State Accountability Report (SAR)

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Attendance-

Barbara Wood
 Laura Bassler
 Vanessa Imperati
 Heather Jossent, Parent
 Sheena Hutchinson
 Adam Kalunian
 Jasmine Marie Jean
 Karen Murano
 Darrin Pisani
 Christina Vahle

District SGC Meeting - January 14, 2026 at 6 PM

In-Person Meeting

Agenda:

- Strategic Plan
- Work to develop a new strategic plan
- Portrait of a Graduate
- Annual Budget

Excellence in Education Awards - Need to plan meeting

I. Introductions - Howard White, Chairman of the Board of Education

II. Strategic Plan presented by Dr. Alexandra Estrella

- When Dr. Estrella began working for NPS 5 years ago, a new SP was initiated
- Began by collecting data
- Conversations with parents, district partners, etc. (community stakeholders/partners)
- Diversity and equity, meeting the needs of all students was central to the plan
- Facility review was completed
- SONO School opened
- Through the strategic review process

- Strategic priorities (excellence, engagement, future readiness, equity, instruction & support)
- One elementary school added/expanded Grade 4 this year (mentioned during Q&A)

III. Partners for Educational Leadership, Director Richard Lemons- Video greeting

- Anxious Generation (Book mentioned)/in relation to (education) post COVID, several staff are familiar or had read the book
- A new strategic plan cycle is beginning

IV. Portrait of a Graduate presented by Dr. Kimberly Erickson

- Future Readiness, Future Ready, Portrait of a Graduate
- Development Phase/Critical Thinking (IB/Inset Origins/Effective Communication), Phase 1, Phase 2
- Portrait of a Graduate Video Phase II Launch- Portrait of a Graduate
- District Learning Walks- Shift, engaging with each other, and owning their thoughts
- What are you proud of? How do you know what you know? Making a claim? Thinking out?
- Students bring in an idea for each day of the week? The new food pyramid
- NEASC as a North Star, justify thinking to each other, do the heavy lifting
- English round tables for exams, to be able to communicate effectively
- Mindset shift for some staff, less sage on stage, more facilitator
- Card game & the Portrait of a Graduate- How can we prepare students/can they be prepared for the future?, open discussion
- CONUS and KENDALL partnership

V. Budget presented by Lunda Amani, CPFO/BOE Chief Financial Officer NPS

District Resources

- [Link Presentation January Budget 2026-2027](#)
- [Link Website Budget 2026-2027](#)
 - The budget is posted on the NPS website, available for review, there are four sections
 - I very detailed, lengthy, list of budget meetings, checkpoints, can be found on the website
- I. Introduction
- II. Organizational Section
- III. Financial Section
- IV. Informational Section
- Student enrollment has gone down over the past 5 years, special services have increased
- Percentage of MLL students is much greater than the state average
- Capital Budget 5.8 million
- 25-year school improvement plan (infrastructure), current year 2nd year (Westrock School next)
- Proposed budget is a 5.9% increase
- Districtwide SPED is a driver for the budget
- Want to start a SPED program at the HS

VI. Question & Answers, open microphone

- One school/P-TECH shared curriculum or program highlights or updates/program successes

Meeting adjourned at 7:45