

# School Governance Council Minutes

September 9, 2016

**Members in Attendance:** Tim Corrigan, Kathy Smith, Matt Mihordea, Holly Bonvissuto, Kyleigh Slocum, Francesca Dellasala, Nikki Lee, Dorsey Sammataro, Charles Thomas, Dilip Tunki; 8 voting members present of 9 possible voting members.

Meeting was facilitated by Kathy Smith, and it was called to order at 3:54 PM.

Nikki Lee made a motion to approve the agenda; Charles Thomas seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nikki Lee made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2016 meeting with no changes; Charles Thomas seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **Principal's Report**

Mr. Corrigan reported that our personal device roll out was successful. About 1900 devices were assigned to students and passed out on September 7, 2016. A few devices had minor issues which were promptly fixed by our support team. Additionally, we have a support staff composed of students (CIA) that is available on all schools days for students who need help with their Microsoft Surface.

CHS hired a new social studies teacher (Preston Paris), who will also be a coach for our swimming team.

September 12, 2016 is the end of our first 6 week grading period.

CHS Homecoming Game is September 16 and the Homecoming Dance is September 17.

Mr. Corrigan listed many of our students' academic accomplishments, including our Academic Team which is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

## **Review and Discussion of Survey Data from Teachers**

Kathy Smith shared the data from the teacher survey conducted over the past week. We received 101 responses. The staff showed some support (41%) for having 5 min shorter classes so that they could have 20 extra minutes of planning and also some support (51%) for having additional teacher workdays for professional development (PD). It was suggested by teachers that half days could also be an option. It was also suggested that PD time be free for teachers to work, not full of meetings. Kathy Smith made the point that teachers will have more time for planning as Advisement shifts to twice a week instead of daily.

Staff showed interest in receiving help using new technology and ways to personalize learning.

Staff showed interest in getting professional learning through face to face time with an expert (41%) and also face to face with additional time to practice new ideas (60%).

Staff did not show overwhelming interest for working with an instructional coach, but a significant number expressed interest in obtaining more information about this option.

Staff was evenly split on whether they would like to team up with another discipline.

Staff expressed (via the open ended question on the survey) that they enjoy working at CHS, but many would like more time to work/plan with others in their subject areas.

Dorsey Sammataro and Nikki Lee suggested bringing in outside professionals for training.

### **RFF Proposal Discussion**

RFF1 is a proposal for a service requirement for graduation. Nikki Lee made the motion to request this RFF; Holly Bonvissuto seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

RFF2 is a proposal to require one high school physics course for graduation (conceptual physics will be taught instead of physical science, in addition to physics, AP Physics 1, and AP Physics C). Nikki Lee made the motion to request this RFF; Kathy Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

RFF3 is a proposal for extra days for staff PD (non-instructional days). Holly Bonvissuto made the motion to request this RFF; Dorsey Sammataro seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

RFF4 is a proposal for reducing seat time for staff PD. Francesca Dellasala made the motion to request this RFF; Holly Bonvissuto seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

### **Initial Seed Fund Discussion**

Seed fund interest form is due October 17 and the seed fund proposal is due December 22. Committee members expressed interest in a field trip to see a STEAM school in action. A suggestion was made to bring outside speakers for PD and as motivational speakers for the students. Kyleigh Slocum suggested the concern of community members about students' emotional needs, drug abuse, suicide, and other related issues. Speakers helping students deal with these issues and instructing staff on how to support students were suggested.

The committee expressed interest in building a greenhouse with the greater goal of doing more project-based learning. This project will require capital funding, a stipend for the teacher who will head the project, and possible outside training. A possible STEAM course to go along with the greenhouse was also suggested, which will require some outside training.

### **Adjournment and Next Meeting**

Charles Thomas made a motion to adjourn; Dilip Tunki seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.

### **Dates for Upcoming Meetings**

October 5, 2016 at 3:50 in A101