

August 12, 2015 Minutes

Board Members Present:

Curtis Douglass, Eleanor Brookins, Millie Dunn, Chip Fife, Lisa Jern, Stephen Lawrence

Guests attending:

Leslee Evans (College and Career Center), Mike Everly (rolled off as Chair), Joleen Neel (rolled off as Vice Chair),

1. Called to Order

4:20 p.m. by Ms. Dunn, Secretary

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes presented for approval by Ms. Dunn, Secretary

Motion to approve by Mr. Fife; second by Ms. Jern; approved unanimously

NEW BUSINESS/ONGOING INITIATIVES:

2. Elections (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary)

The following were elected as officers for the 2015-16 school year:

Chairperson – Millie Dunn

Vice Chairperson – Chip Fife

Secretary – Lisa Jern

3. Election of New Parent Member to Fill Denise Wilson’s Seat

Mr. Douglass referred LSC to an email, indicating we’re not required to have an election. Ms. Dunn proposed asking LSC members from last year (specifically Mike Everly and Joleen Neel, as well as non-member Leslee Evans) to continue on the LSC Board. Mr. Everly and Ms. Neel are willing to remain on the Council; Ms. Evans will consider it.)

Ms. Dunn moved, and Mr. Fife seconded, bringing them on as members. Approved unanimously.

4. LSC Priorities for the 2015-16 School Year

a. LSC Task Force / Committee Updates / Membership

The group discussed whether to continue the priorities developed last year or to develop new priorities and agreed that the committees (below) should be “rollover committees.”

i. IB/AP (Joleen Neel)

Mr. Douglass reported that the new MYP Coordinator started on Monday. She is currently reviewing the NA plan and has met with Mr. Douglass. She is full-time. Jill Stewart will continue as DP coordinator for now. Sutton has new MYP IB Coordinator as well. John Denine has met with the IB coordinators.

Action item: Joleen Neel will follow up to set up a meeting with the IB coordinators at NA and Sutton. Ms. Neel proposed asking a parent to assist as administrator (paid through Foundation?). Mr. Douglass will discuss with Jill Stewart.

ii. Parent Engagement (Millie Dunn)

The group agreed that the scope of Parent Engagement should include outreach to our NA Hispanic community. Ms. Dunn spoke to Mr. Henry regarding Title I. In October, Sutton and North Atlanta are hosting a meeting focusing on issues in the Hispanic community.

No update over the summer.

iii. Community Engagement (Chip Fife)

Website: Chip Fife indicated that Lindsey Jordan (IT for APS) will be handling the website. Mr. Fife would like to discuss the content that is going to be provided. Mr. Douglass indicated that the website project is moving forward. He indicated that the District will allow groups to have direct access to the site to provide content. The PTSA will direct to the

“.org” official website. Direct questions to Felecia Stewart (NAHS Media Center).

iv. Academic Achievement in Math (Mike Everly)

Through Mr. Everly’s efforts, NA obtained Algebra I resources with funding from the Foundation for this year. \$14,000 bought 150 textbooks. We have 300 log-ins for students to use online resources (150 one-year log-ins; 150 six-year log-ins). We have 38 classroom sets as well as workbooks.

Action Item: We need longer term strategy for providing textbooks, resources. Budget money is not available on a long-term basis despite efforts from Mr. Douglass to find resources. Mr. Everly proposed a Sub-Committee Charter for Academic Achievement in Math (Attachment A).

Ms. Dunn moved, and Ms. Jern seconded, to adopt the proposal; motion passed unanimously. Discussion continued regarding 75% (of students meeting or exceeding expectations by end of 2017-18 school year) being an ambitious goal, compared to current 30-35% from Milestone/EOCT (end-of-course testing).

v. College and Career Center (Leslee Evans)

194 colleges will be visiting the campus on August 28. All juniors and seniors are invited to submit a statement to their teacher in order to get a ticket to the College Fair. APS also wants to send top 10% from all other APS schools. 200-300 kids.

The College and Career Advisor is Mikala Bush. She is the new “Mr. Lyke.” She wants to schedule lunch-n-learn meetings as well as a parent information session. She also wants to have a “Decision Day” assembly. A “Class of 2017 Guide Book” will be available to juniors in November. It provides them with the nuts and bolts of preparing for their college search (also on the NAHSCollege.Org website).

b. New Areas (Such as LSGC)

Millie Dunn moved, and Mr. Fife seconded, to have Mike Everly act as our LSGS point person, to help us focus and direct our LSGC coordination/decision-making; motion passed unanimously.

c. Involving Others / Gaining Broader Input

Millie Dunn proposed inviting other members of the school and local community to LSC meetings in order to bring a broader perspective to our meetings – e.g., leaders from the Hispanic community to develop cultural diversity within the leadership positions within the school. HOPE was suggested as an Hispanic organization to consider; Ms. Evans suggested asking one of the HOPE leaders.

Mr. Douglass has met with the Buckhead Coalition and the Buckhead Rotary, both of which are on board to work with NA.

Mr. Douglass said that the goal is to make NA a more international school.

Action Item: Ms. Dunn will send out an invitation to the Buckhead Coalition and HOPE. Mr. Douglass will provide contacts to Ms. Dunn.

Consistent with bringing a broader perspective to LSC meetings, Ms. Neel proposed including a student in the LSC meetings. General discussion followed regarding the Student Body President to participate.

5. Future Meetings – Setting Dates for the School Year

Ms. Dunn proposed, and Mr. Fife seconded, that LSC future meetings should be the first Thursday of every month. Motion passed unanimously.

Sept. 3	Jan. 7
Oct. 1	Feb. 4
Nov. 5	Mar. 3
Dec. 3	Apr. 7
	May 5

6. **Principal Report**

Update on Current Administrative Team and Teacher Staffing

Regarding teachers, we only had two teachers' positions that weren't staffed on the first day, in Arabic and PE. We gained three additional math teachers. Mr. Douglass referred the LSC to Attachments B (Staff/Faculty) and C (Student Population). We won't lose teachers based on headcount.

Mission Statement

Mr. Douglass referred the LSC to a proposed Mission Statement (Attachment D – to be replaced with an edited version). Although APS and the Cluster now have a mission statement, APS does not have one. At a leadership meeting, the group looked at those two mission statements, as well as the IB mission/vision statement to develop a proposed statement for North Atlanta.

Action Item: Mr. Douglass asked the LSC to provide input on the proposed Mission Statement, to be rolled out in September.

Unit Recovery

Mr. Douglass briefly described the District's policy for re-testing and re-teaching and invited discussion of the concept of mastery in the context of making up course/content "units," rather than "credits." The District wants us to have a plan for how students are going to engage in "unit recovery" and is moving toward a unit recovery model. LSC discussed the possibility of capping grades at 80 when students re-take exams (i.e., if 80 is considered "mastery") and whether that creates the right incentives.

Action Item: Mr. Douglass wants to submit our proposal regarding unit recovery by the end of September at the latest.

Action Item: Mr. Douglass asked that we add involvement by the LSC in the School Improvement Plan to the agenda for next month.

7. **MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:23 p.m.**