

GHS

Parent Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2013

Call to order by co-chair Yvonne Palasky at 7:03 PM

1. Motion made by Joann Kraemer
2. Seconded by Lisa Willard

Minutes Review

1. Motion to accept the minutes Bridget Kinnie
2. Motion seconded by Joann Kraemer

Board of Education Update (Nyssa Frazer-Shaw)

1. Mrs. Betty Osga and MR Kris Johanessen were inducted into the Griswold Distinguished Wall of Fame and were honored at the Oct 18th football game during halftime.
2. Phil Anctil was honored as October's Employee of the Month; He is the ISS coordinator and Coach at CHS. He was presented with a certificate of achievement.
3. The Griswold Recreation Department received a small grant to conduct a survey to youth in order to ascertain prevalence, attitudes and behaviors related to substance abuse such as tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs. The cost for the survey is ~ \$1800-2400 and we were asked to contribute \$600 towards the survey. The superintendent asked the Board for approval , which they granted.
4. The Board received a thank you note from the Newton Public School for the donation from GHS. Two wooden book shelves made by students and faculty and many new books were donated to NPS.
5. CT Magazine rated Griswold 12 out of 39 towns based on median home sale price up to \$174,999, on schools, crime, jobs, culture and economy.
6. Superintendent reported that Sacred Heart is planning to order new banners to be hung at GPS. He suggested GPS should purchase new banners to hung along with the Sacred Heart banners. The Board asked him to provide information on the cost at a future meeting.
7. Superintendent reported that a second meeting on the GHS roof was planned for Nov 7th at 7PM in the GMS auditorium.
8. Superintendent gave the Board an update on the Chinese principles visit.

Teacher Updates by Teacher Representative (Laureen Anthony)

1. World Languages Dept (Academic Leader: Rick Rule)
 - World Language is planning a fieldtrip to Boston on Monday November 18th. Two shows are planned (Viva Flamenco, Latin Rhythms). Students will also visit the shops in Quincy Market.
2. Social Studies Dept (Academic Leader: Betsy Kowal)
 - Freshmen in Mr. Demars' class have completed their 2nd full practice CAPT essay on the topic of Three- Strikes Law. His class is experimenting with the Samsung Galaxy tablets.

- Mr. Demars' class has been studying ancient Egypt and learning about pyramids participated in a fun pyramid building project.
- 3. Fall Drama (Tim Moore)
 - Fall production Mrs. McThing production dates; Nov 12-14 at GHS. Veterans can see the play for free.
- 4. School Health Office (School Nurse: Jacquie Burzycki, RN)
 - Ensure your students physical is up to date to participate in winter sports.
- 5. Art and Pottery (Instructors: Paula Pauley and Sarah Potpink)
 - Art department took 34 GHS students to the scenic Berkshires in MA to visit 3 art museums in October.
- 6. GHS Health Office (Jacquie Burzycki, RN school nurse)
 - 11th grade students need to have a current physical (dates 1Jun 2012 to present)
- 7. Senior Class News (Class Advisors: Nadine Keane and Kasey Hosmer)
 - Senior class fruit sale is up and running and orders can be place online @ <http://freshfruitorder.org/GHSClassof2014> thru Nov 15th.
 - Senior class is also selling Balsam Fir Wreaths (24") for \$16 thru 11/16.
 - Mr. GHS – Tuesday, November 26th at 7PM. Tickets can be pre-purchased for \$6 or \$8 at the door.

Academic Leader (Mr. Wilson)

1. GHS is now offering a new Statistics class, planning to add AP Stats in the future.
2. New Geometry books to align with the Common Core Standards.
3. Smarter Balance – replace CAPT testing next year.
4. Offering an everyday Algebra program for students that would benefit from having algebra daily vs the every other day block schedule.

Calendar Update (Dr. Frizzell)

1. Nov 1st – pep rally/homecoming parade, homecoming football game
2. Nov 1st- 1st marking period closed
3. Nov 2nd – Homecoming dance
4. Nov 6th- PAC meeting – 7PM
5. Nov 6th- 8th grade students visiting (Lisbon, Voluntown)
6. Nov 12th – BOE
7. Nov 13th – GHS Conferences – 5-8PM
8. Nov 12-14 – Mrs. Mc Thing – Fall Play
9. Nov 18th – 8th grade students visiting (Cantebury), World Language field trip to Boston
10. Nov 21st – Field trip to UCONN library
11. Nov 25th- BOE
12. Nov 26th – MR GHS, 7PM GHS Auditorium
13. Nov 27th – ½ day of school, bonfire
14. Nov 28-29 – Thanksgiving break
15. Nov 28th- Home football game vs Plainfield (GHS has won the past 11 yrs), Turkey Dip (AM)

Mr. Peel's Update

1. Reviewed successful homecoming week activities (spirit week, parade, homecoming dance)
2. Parent Teacher conferences – Nov 13th 5-8PM. Teachers can be contacted via email or phone to schedule appointments.

Campus Wide Activities and Athletic Director (Glen LaBossiere)

1. 230 students (~1/3 of the school) participated in a Fall sport
2. Winter sports starting up week of Thanksgiving thru Dec 2nd.
3. CIAC website is a great resource for team schedules, standing etc. Parents/students can subscribe to RSS feeds for updates.
4. GHS has a Twitter account for sports
5. Booster club – tremendous supporter for GHS athletics. Recently purchased a set of new cheerleading mats.

Raffle (All embroidered items donated by STM Embroidery)

Black Hats: Bridget Kinnie, Joann Kraemer

Green Griswold T-shirts: Kim Walters, Mrs. Moore

****Next meeting to be held December 4th at 7PM**

Close Meeting

1st: Joann Kraemer

2nd: Lisa Willard

Minutes respectfully submitted by Deb Camacho