

**NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL
SIC – SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
November 13, 2017**

The Northwestern High School Improvement Council met on Monday, November 13, 2017, at 6:00 P.M. at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The meeting was called to order by Chair Kathryn Castillo. The following members were in attendance: Latasha Brown Baird, James Blake, Karen Brackett Browning, Kathryn Castillo, Matthew Cooper, Bridget Elmore, Hannah Freeman, Dawn Pursley, Chrissie Robbins, Courtney Shipman, Kim Stilwill, Tanya Tucker and Victoria Wilform.

The October 10, 2017 meeting minutes were distributed in writing to members and reiterated by Chair Castillo. Ms. Tanya Tucker motioned to accept the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kim Stilwill and approved by the body.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT- Mr. James Blake

- Ms. Bridget Elmore provided updates from the Guidance Department.
 - Over 300 students participated on college application day.
 - FAFSA Night Overview
 - National Guard offer of alternative options
- Athletics – football and cheerleaders have completed the season. Administration is assessing all aspects to determine the challenges and solutions to better compete, especially for scholarships.
- NHS Band finished 6th in the State. Chorus will send 17 students to compete in All-State Competition. Theater Dept. continues to perform noted productions. The Art Dept. will display artwork on Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017.
- Campus Incident – SRO, staff and students responded as expected during a campus incident. Staff will continue to review the situation to enhance procedures to avoid future occurrences.
- Operations
 - Lock-down procedures need to be further defined when students are outside and/or transitioning to other classes. Will continue training drills for the students.
 - Contemplating remapping of the entire fire system. Discovered that some of the fire alarms were inoperable as a result of the construction.
 - Need amplification in the courtyard
 - Plans are to continue to examine systems or more effectiveness
 - Construction/Renovations – Vestibule move will include relocating attendance, nurses station and SRO to the main entry way.
 - Principal Blake will be meeting with Kevin Wren of RH School District to discuss building improvements to enhance the safety of students and the quality the educational experience. Students have expressed concerns regarding safety since there is not an awareness of known processes or procedures in an emergency situation during specific times. With the recent gang threats reported though social media and incidences occurring on campuses, students do not feel safe if incidences were to occur during PEAK time or third block.
 - Suggestions for improvements from SIC included installing speakers in cafeteria so teachers may hear the bell and placing telephones back in the classrooms.
- Veterans Day Program was a success.

DISCTRICT SIC MEETING UPDATE

- Construction to the main building should be completed soon.
- A new building for baseball is being constructed and should be completed by February 2018.
- PBIS was reviewed to show the impact on schools

- DO official mentioned that it is referred to as TORCH and that students on the Superintendent's Advisory Council responded well to it.
- Wellness Plan affects many fundraisers since some of the foods are no longer allowed to be served/purchased during the school day.
 - Smart Snack Guidelines are followed by the District as it relates to vending machines and what is allowed in the school for snacks.

SIC GOALS

- Showcase TORCH with PBIS to embrace all the students.
- Link morning and afternoon announcements with CANVAS
- Showcase student artwork in local businesses

UPCOMING DATES

- November 17, 2017 – Progress Reports
- November 22-24, 2017 – Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 29, 2017 – Writing Portion of English EOC
- December 11, 2017 – NHS SIC Meeting (Learning Cottage)
- December 12, 2017 – English EOC
- December 13, 2017 – Algebra I EOC
- December 14, 2017 – Biology EOC
- December 20, 2017 – Exams Blocks 3 and 4
- December 21, 2017 – Exams Blocks 1 and 2 (half day with dismissal at 11:45)
- December 22, 2017 – January 5, 2018 – Winter Holiday

CLOSING COMMENTS

Send ideas about promoting the school and recruitment of assistance from the community to Chair Castillo.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brackett Browning

Karen Brackett Browning, Secretary