

**School Council Meeting
November 28, 2007**

Members Present: Jeffrey Szymaniak Jodi Correia
Linda Kenrick Christine Tartaglia
Tina Reed Elaine Peckham
Michelle Kinahan Karen Pennington
Bob Sullivan

Members Absent: Mary Schmeer, Student Representative

Other Audience Members: Donna Cotter Meredith Pitts

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:30 pm, Mr. Szymaniak called the School Council meeting to order.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the September 26, 2007 School Council minutes made by Mrs. Tartaglia. Seconded by Mrs. Peckham. *Vote: Unanimous*

Motion to approve the October 24, 2007 School Council minutes made by Mrs. Kenrick. Seconded by Mrs. Reed. *Vote: Unanimous*

BUSINESS/UPDATES

- **NEASC:** 165 NEASC surveys were returned from parents. All Middle/Senior High Staff and students completed the surveys.

- **Class of 2008 Fundraiser:** The Class of 2008 Fundraiser was a success. 95 pre-made pies were sold and all profits were added to the scholarship. Approximately \$400 was collected. Next week, another fundraiser will kick off. Students and teachers will be able to purchase a ticket for \$1. Raffle will be conducted once a month and the winner will receive lunch for 4 from a local restaurant of their choice. Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Silva have volunteered to pick up the lunches.

- **Samantha Asker:** Samantha Asker, a junior in Mr. Teves' journalism class, has an article published in this week's edition of the West Bridgewater Times.

- **Newsletters:** Mr. Szymaniak reminded the members to sign up for each school's newsletter. Information can be found on the District's website. To date, 75 people have signed up for the High School's newsletter.
- **Drivers-Ed:** Bob Sullivan spoke about Southeastern Regional's drivers-ed program. It is offered to the communities that Southeastern serves. Preference will be given to students of Southeastern. Please call the school if interested.
- **Ski Club:** Mrs. Pennington spoke about the Ski Club. Funding will be provided by each student. The approximate cost will be \$65 per student per trip. Toni Beaver and Karen Pennington have volunteered to oversee the trips. They will bring the information to Mr. Szymaniak to be approved by the School Committee.
- **Winter Track:** Mr. Szymaniak updated the Council on Winter Track. It will be considered a club sport this year and then Mr. Barrett will apply to the MIAA for a varsity sport. 40 students (boys and girls) have committed so far. It will be self-funding and the approximate cost per student will be \$100. The Boosters donated \$2,000 to pay for transportation. It will function under the school athletic policy this year. Kyla Hobbie-Welch, Michelle DeCastro and Jonathan Pike have volunteered to be the coaches.
- **Midnight Madness:** Midnight Madness has been scheduled for January 25th and February 8th. Mr. Szymaniak is not sure which date will be for the middle school and which date will be for the high school.
- **Parking Lot:** Mr. Szymaniak asked the Council to think about student parking for next year. Please keep in mind at least 6 designated visitor spots should be allocated. Proposal was to line the parking lot. Mrs. Reed indicated her family has the machine to do this. Currently there are 85 spaces in the lot. Next year, there will be a need for approximately 200 spaces. If there is the need to charge a student for the spot, a \$5 charge is reasonable (this covers the cost of the tag).
- **Science Fair:** 8th grade Science Fair was held prior to the Thanksgiving break. The students did very well. Projects were thought out well and were very thorough. Security needs to be addressed relating to the projects being left in the cafeteria. Many students and parents walk through to view the projects.
- **Use of Breathalyzers:** Mr. Szymaniak updated the Council on the use of breathalyzers at school functions. All of the issues related to drug and alcohol use came directly from the Community Drug and Alcohol Task Force that was formed last spring. The Task Force is a partnership formed between the school, parents, and the police department to promote awareness of drug and alcohol issues in the community. A couple of students suggested that all students be tested. This was agreed by some chaperones who chaperone the dances. Mr. Szymaniak has no

preference about the decision, but wants what is in the best interest of all students. Students would face school consequences if they were found to have tested positive (5-day suspension). Mr. Szymaniak's first preference is to call the parents. If a parent is not available to come to the school, the police will be involved. Students would not be tested as they exit a dance. The School Committee will be discussing and voting on this issue at the next meeting on December 10th.

- **Parent/Student Presentations:** A presentation on drinking and driving will be scheduled before April vacation. A mock crash will take place and will reiterate the importance **no** drinking and driving.
- **Student Discipline:** Mr. Szymaniak will revisit the Saturday detention schedule with the School Committee. Mr. Szymaniak noted that the number of students being tardy has decreased from last year. Mr. Sullivan recommended Mr. Szymaniak contact Southeastern because their new discipline policy works well.
- **Bullying Workshop:** A bullying workshop (*Mean Girls*) will be held on December 5th for middle school students. Officer Thaxter will do a presentation through the DARE program and discuss the legal aspects of bullying. It was suggested have a female present with Office Thaxter (Nicole Bean).
- **Program of Studies:** Mr. Szymaniak would like to present the 2008-2009 Program of Studies to the School Committee in January or February. Classes being proposed are honors CIA, photography, sculpting, sociology II. Mr. Szymaniak plans on having the students' schedules done before the end of school. Students will receive them in August.
- **Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Conferences were well attended. A monthly events calendar went home with report cards.
- **Athletics:** Powder Puff game took place on Wednesday, November 21st. The Superbowl is being held at Stonehill College on December 1st at 11:00 am. There will be a pep rally at 1:30 on Friday. The MIAA has contracted a business out of Peoria, IL soliciting sponsors for the Superbowl program. Local businesses in the area may be contacted. The Boosters will be putting together a newsletter on all the fall sports.
- **Principal's Coffee Hour:** Next coffee hour is scheduled for December 19th at 5:30 pm.
- **Drug Recognition Workshop:** Mr. Szymaniak has scheduled a Drug Recognition expert from East Bridgewater to do a presentation for parents in January.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **January 23rd**.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:10 pm, Mrs. Kenrick motioned to adjourn the School Council Meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Tartaglia. *Vote: Unanimous*