

Walnut Hills High School
Local School Decision Making Committee Meeting

May 19, 2016

6:00PM

Minutes

Attendees

The following LSDMC members were in attendance: Members Attending: John Chambers, Mitch Perdrix, Jeff Lazar, Steve Baker, Bea Baker, Felicia Williams, Jeff Brokamp and Emily Bond. Scott Sublett, testing coordinator, was a guest speaker.

Testing

Scott Sublett, testing coordinator, spoke with us about changes and adherence to the testing standards. The 2015-16 juniors are the last class who will take the OGT. There are now seven end-of-course exams that will replace the OGT (Algebra, Geometry, English 9/10, Biology, American Government, and American History). It is scored on a 1-5 scale and students need a total of 18 points on the tests in order to graduate. AP test scores may be used in place of these exams so some of the best kids' scores won't be reflected in the total Walnut Hills scoring. A high enough score on the SAT or ACT could make some students exempt from the testing. This exemption won't affect school funding, but will affect the school's performance index.

Discussion followed:

- ASPIRE might be replaced (at Walnut Hills) by the preACT.
- Different teachers used block timing during testing week in different ways. Making the best use of that time was discussed.

Jeff B asked Scott what future concerns may be. Scott said he thinks this new requirement (end of course testing) will remain in effect 10-12 years. Jeff B shared that when he went up to Columbus to see the legislature in action, he noticed representatives are representing districts with one high school, very different from our own and have very different needs. There were some significant problems with the computers during testing. Jeff L. asked if laptops are to be replaced. The answer was 11th and 12th graders will get new devices and the old ones will go to the 9th and 10th graders.

Principal's Report

Jeff reported that Signing Day went well and seniors who are getting merit scholarship were recognized. Students in this senior class are represented at 70 colleges.

News from ILT: At the April meeting 8th grade AA classes were approved for Science, Social Studies, and English for the '17-'18 school year. Discussion followed about Honors and tracking.

There are 519 seventh graders registered for next school year. Having the new deadline helped get people in on time.

Student Report

Bea Baker reported that Prom went well and was a good time. The budgeting/fundraising caused a bump in the road. There was no after prom this year but the number of students attending remained similar to last year. A discussion followed that the senior costs are too expensive. An idea came up that it would be helpful for parents to get an estimate of costs early in the year. It was thought that the WH Association might help with this.

Next Year

Steve acknowledged that this was Felicia's last meeting and told her the LSDMC appreciated her service.

Next Friday will be the voting on teacher candidates for next year's LSDMC. The nominations took place this week.

Debbie Heldman will identify three community members for next year.

Meeting time for next year was changed to 6pm and day will be 2nd Thursday of the month. It needs to be changed in the bylaws to reflect a 6-8 pm time instead of 7-9 pm. Meetings will run no later than 8pm. Steve made a motion. Emily seconded. Passed.

Brian moved ILT will be permanent agenda item. Jeff seconded. Passed.

Evanston Community Report

There was no Evanston Community Report.

Other Business

Steve shared that Bill Kerr passed away. Individuals shared memories of him and discussed how he will be missed. Steve suggested he be nominated for WH Hall of Fame.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.