

**NORTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL
SIC – SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 12, 2017**

The Northwestern High School Improvement Council met on Tuesday, September 12, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at Northwestern High School in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Dawn Pursley called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: James Blake, Dawn Pursley, Eileen Curry, Trey Parrish, Denise Ciobanu, Tanya Joseph, Antonio Mickel, Chrissie Robbins and Melisa Smith.

The May 8, 2017 meeting minutes were read to the members. Mr. James Blake motioned to approve the minutes as recorded. The motion was seconded by Ms. Melisa Smith and approved by the council.

Members present introduced themselves to those present.

Discussed meeting dates and agreed to continue meeting on the second Monday of each month. However, the second Monday of October will be a teacher workday and it was decided to meet instead on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the Media Center.

Ms. Eileen Curry asked for an update on the pilot drug testing of athletes program that was discussed in May of last year. Mr. Blake reported that since that time there has been no movement toward going forward with this program and the district's attorneys have been investigating the fairness of this program and potential issues related to discriminatory actions.

Mr. Blake updated the council on the TERI (Teacher Employee Retention Program) program as explained in the May minutes. This year teachers who have completed their TERI and have been rehired to work are being 100% of their salary and principals have been instructed to insure that these employees are here to work.

Mr. Blake continued with the Principal's Report

- We have 5 district teacher's of the year on the NHS faculty. Three of these were finalists for the State teacher of the year and two of those won State Teacher of the Year. All of these teachers are still teaching at NHS.
- Update on construction: No phase is entirely complete and progress is being made. In phase 1 the soccer field has not been released due to lighting issues and the stucco on the front buildings is not complete. In phase 2, which was the painting of A, and C buildings, ceiling tiles, cove base and new windows in D and E is complete. And phase 3 still has the ventilation system in B gym incomplete and the Baseball field work has not yet begun. Also new windows will be installed in buildings A, B and C.
- Hurricane IRMA make-up day will be February 16, 2018 unless the governor excuses the day. Generally he leaves this decision up to the individual districts.
- Northwestern SIC is to present our business plan to the board on November 27, 2017 at RRMS.
- District SIC meeting will be October 24, 2017 at 6:30, location not determined. Mr. Blake would like for a core group to attend.
- We will have a Veteran's Day observation on 11/10/17.
- Mrs. Andrus will present at the October SIC meeting to share the School Renewal Plan and data updates.
- Mr. Blake explained our work this year with PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies) and the TORCH concepts. TORCH being behaviors we want to teach and encourage in all Trojans. Tenacity, Ownership, Respect, Community and Honor.

- Opening of school all teachers boarded buses and were provided a tour of local Rock Hill neighborhoods to remind us of where our students live.

Topics Mr. Blake needs SIC to explore and take a position:

- Graduation Ceremony guest decorum
 - Send copy of graduation decorum to SIC members before next meeting
 - Discuss ways to educate both parents and students well in advance of expected behavior
- Early Graduation students
 - District is indicating 3 graduations: December, May and June. Students who finish in December would not be permitted to participate in school spring events. i.e. Prom, Senior Day
- Val./Sal. Policy of not counting credits brought forward from middle schools in the calculation
- City Wi-Fi: could RHSD partner with Comporium to allow students to get free Wi-Fi only on our district computers and with restrictions as they experience on campus.
 - Give low income students the same opportunities
 - What percent of students do not have access at home?
 - District should be able to see which devices log on only on campus and therefore determine the number of students who do not have home access.
- Cell phone and electronic device policy
 - Current board policy says teachers can confiscate phones. Mr. Blake has told the faculty not to do this, as then it becomes our responsibility.
- Ms. Curry asked about the lighting at night and requested we be sure the campus is well lit when students return from sporting events and must walk across campus to their cars. Mr. Blake explained new LED lights are going in and that absolutely the goal was to have appropriate lighting.
- Mr. Blake requested the roles and responsibilities SIC booklet be sent out to SIC members via e-mail.
- Next meeting we will have election of SIC leadership. Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary

UPCOMING DATES

- 09/14/17 Theatre Improvisation Show
- 09/15/17 Theatre Improvisation Show
- 09/16/17 Palmetto Auto Meet (Cars and Coffee) 7AM – 11AM
- 10/09/17 Teacher Work-Day
- 10/10/17 SIC

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Pursley

Dawn Pursley for Karen Brackett Browning, Secretary