

SIT October 5th 2015

Notes

SIT members: Present..Paige D. , Stephanie DiNozzi, Karen Ferradino, Helena Grossman, Chris Homer, Olivia H., Judy Innella, Amanda L., Jay Matuk , Joseph Monastero, Allie P., Avery P. Anabela Rivadeneira, Joyce Schieder, Tricia Sihksnel, and Matt Sneider, Marie Strunk.

Next SIT meeting 2:40 11/2/2015

Attendance was taken – Meeting started at 2:46 PM

- Mr. Matuk described the purpose of a School Improvement Team (SIT) and distributed a folder to each member.
 - The folders contained many items including: The shared decision making plan, agenda, name plate, email list (which was checked for correctness) and more.
- Mr. Matuk reviewed the testing day's calendar project the SIT worked on last year.
 - Students and staff shared their experiences with the testing schedule with day code.
 - Student SIT members shared that students feel that the staff is following the day code system.
 - Mr. Homer shared that courses with alt day meeting times can have difficulty keeping tests close to each other when the same course follows odd/even days.
 - The team will be updated with information from the faculty meeting and more reporting from staff and students.
- The SIT reviewed the Challenge Days and other SEL items.
 - Seniors have Challenge Day after the AP exams
 - Grades 10 and 11 will also have Challenge Day again
 - The 8th grade attended Caumsett
 - The 7th grade has summer beautification days and Orientation.
 - Just before the Thanksgiving vacation, the building will have assemblies on social media.
 - Speakers from industry (Human Resources), Law enforcement, A Division 1 Coach (Field Hockey Stony Brook) and a college recruiter. Other speakers may also attend.
- Holding a School Wide Olympics was proposed
 - During Spirit Week, the school will be participating in events during lunch periods.
 - Events: Football toss into a hoop, potatoe sack race, tug-o-war and more will occur during lunch periods.
 - The lunch time winners will compete during the pep rally (10/16)
 - Wednesday (10/7) is Pasta Night where sports team banners will be worked on
- The school store is open with FBLA (Future Business leaders of America) a club headed by Ms. Connolly
 - Open during some lunch periods and back to school nights
 - The store is run by students members of FBLA

- SIT Elections were held “Winners”
 - Helena Grossman – Chair
 - Joe Monastero – Recording Secretary
- Ms. Grossman took over the meeting
 - Ms. DiNozzi – Suggested the topic of having a peer mentoring program for students
 - There is a program used at the elementary buildings that we can look into
 - A good addition that can come out of the Nest to help students with the transition into the building.
 - Items that occurred with the elementary club
 - PSA announcement’s, Skits on anti-bullying, the mentors have bracelets that indicate that they are trained and safe to talk to.
 - The club meets once per week in the morning with the students.
 - The Friendship club was/is run by Dr. Moss/Dr. Fuller
 - The Natural helpers do a similar program with grades 9-12
 - Mr. Homer shared how the Natural Helpers operates
 - The SIT will invite Dr. Moss to present to the next SIT meeting.
 - Mr. Homer shared that current staff mentoring program is running in the building.
 - The Administration will look at all the organizations that do these types of skills/programs in the district and look to see where over laps and gaps occur.
- Avery P. – Topic; New students to the school
 - Many new students to the building, how can we help them
 - Mr. Homer stated that Natural Helpers and the Leadership class are running programs for these students.
 - Goal is to have students ready at the start of the school year ready to work with new students.
 - Ms. Velez does a lot with the new students to help their transition.
- a request for “homework” was made so that everyone can email Helena Grossman any goals they would like discussed at our next meeting.
- to facilitate the above, everyone was asked to think about and then discuss with everyone what they think CSHJ/SHS do well, and where there is room for improvement.
 - A parent brought up how well run she thought back to school night(s) were - the students in the halls were extremely helpful, much information was given and all in all it was considered hugely successful.
 - The NEST was discussed as a wonderful additional to the JH
 - Mr. Matuk discussed how well we gear our programing to the whole student, there is something for everyone; our co-curricular activities are done well. He did comment however on how we feels we can improve how we prepare our students for life beyond high school and would like to consider exploring improvement in this area.
 - Another parent commented that for students who do not make their chosen sport team in high school it would be nice if there were additional clubs that could meet the needs of the students still looking for an athletic after-school activity. A fitness club was discussed as a possible alternative that could be offered.
 - Additional comments were made that although we offer 126 clubs, students and parents are not always well informed about what is offered, what a club is about, where/when clubs meet, etc. A

club fair was offered as a nice way to inform students and get them to sign up become more involved.

- Mr. Matuk discussed about a dozen clubs that were previously 9-12 are now being offered to the junior high as well.

The meeting ended at 4:07PM