

Lynn Classical High School

School Council Agenda

October 16, 2013

6:00-7:00

Core Values and Beliefs

The Lynn Classical High School mission is to meet the needs of all of our students and ensure they become knowledgeable, conscientious, productive, and self-reliant learners who are college and career ready. The school community shares in the responsibility of providing our graduates with the 21st century skills necessary to be successful on a local and global scale. We celebrate our diversity, cultivate creativity and respect, and take pride in knowing our school is safe and supportive for all.

Topics to be Discussed

1. Elections

a. Co-Chair:

The Council nominated two parents to run for Co-chair, Dawn McGann and Lori D 'Amico. A paper ballot vote was taken and Lori D'Amico was voted 2013-2014 co-chair with Mr. Constantino.

b. Parents: Seven parents were in attendance.

Lori D'Amico
Dawn McGann
Jesse Mower
Barbara Murkinson
Mirian O'neil
Michelle Pedro
Angelina Sutson

c. Teachers

Barbara Binette- Teacher Special Education Department
Amanda Curtis- Program Specialist
Estelle Dill-Teacher Special Education Department
Mark Johnston-Math Department Head
Fatima Lyle-Foreign Language Department Head
Josh Mower-Teacher Math Department
Jessica Obrien- Teacher Special Education Department
Donna Doucette-Guidance Counselor
Amy Dunn-Assistant Principal

d. Community

Richard Gorham was absent

e. Students

Allysha Dunnigan grade 10
Abigail Mariano grade 10

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- e. Students continued:
 - Brian Maldonado grade 12
 - Rebecca Potter grade 12
 - Haley Sheehan Grade II
 - Chelsea Rodgers grade 11

- e. District Accountability and MCAS results 2013:

Amanda Curtis shared a power point on MCAS data sharing our Level 1 Status and the factors that go into our PPI. She shared out information High Growth Rate in all subjects. We discussed subgroups and their status, especially sped and ell subgroups. MCAS remediation plans were outlined to the parents. We discussed concern with the science dip now that all night graders are taking the test. We also talked about concerns about special programs like COACH and Newcomers that are designed to be longer than a four year graduation rate and how that may negatively affect our status in the future.

- f. NEASC update:

We explained NEASC and the ten year cycle that addresses accountability within the school and how we are represented to colleges and universities. We talked about the past year completing self assessments and devising Core Values and Beliefs and drafting Student Learning Expectations. We have rough drafts of Rubrics that are benchmarks for student learning goals and our plans for test running the rubrics currently and then reassessing the rubrics. We talked about it being a dynamic process between the faculty, parents, students and community partners. We also discussed that a visiting team will be coming in the year 2016 to evaluate the school. We will be having monthly half days to work on the upcoming visit.

- g. Title 1: After School Detention project:

A new detention program has been instituted for the 9th and 10th grade centering on MCAS skill building, all students report for their hour detention and must have a product to leave. Students are using Study Island for skill building. The 11th and 12th graders are centering on career and college readiness as well as positive decision making.

- h. ELL and Special Education Parent nights:

The programs are designed to build relationships with students and families and to let them know about related programs and services. Special Education Night held on October 22nd and ELL night will be held on October 30th. We also discussed how the Coach students have taken over the delivery of supplies to teachers and other ways that they are integrated into the school.

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- i. Suspension Data and Plan:
We talked about how our most common suspensions were for cell phones, tardies and not show detention and our plans to try to be proactive to stop these problems. Teachers have been provided envelopes that they can use to store phones during class times.

- j. Discipline Code review:
Mr. Constantino reported that he was meeting with secondary principals, the discipline officer and the superintendent's staff to discuss current discipline code and to present updates to be approved by the school committee. Parent input was solicited about cell phones and the use of technology during the school day. Many thought polices should be more lenient with cell phones and that ethical and responsible use should be taught and modeled.

- k. Jupiter Online Grading:
Jupiter grading out online transparent grade book was outlined and discussed by all. Students and parents noted it was very user friendly and they have been checking their students' status regularly. Students noted that it was very motivating to be able to see how every assignment negatively or positively affects their grades. Both parents and students would like to see future assignments put up in the grade book how they were on the old websites that the teachers maintained. Parents appreciated the text message option that they can set to let them know when a student misses a class or assignment.

- l. Academic Parent Teacher Team program
Eight teachers are piloting a new parent teacher program to teach parents how they can support their student and help their students achieve. The initial meeting was not as well attended as we would have like so they are planning to try it again with more aggressive advertising to parents. Teachers noted that it was difficult to get parents to come and we brainstormed some of the obstacles and then strategies to overcome them and get parents in.

- m. Harvard Alumni Initiative
Peter Mazareas a Lynn Classical and Harvard Alumni is working with over 100 Harvard Alumni who reside in Lynn to partner with the Classical and come in and guest lecture in their field. Department Chairs are organizing topics and coordinating with volunteer's specialties.

Next meeting to be held on January 8th.

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School Council Meeting Dates: 6:00 Student Activities Room

October 16, 2013

January 8, 2014

March 5, 2014

April 9, 2014

The School Councils:

1. Assist and advise the principal in adopting goals for the school
2. Assist and advise the principal in the identification of the educational needs of the students in that school.
3. Assist and advise the principal in the review of the school budget request.
4. Assist and advise the principal in the formulation of the school's improvement plan.

It is important to note the School Council plays an advisory role in assisting the building principal to organize and implement a School Improvement Plan which not only addresses the areas in which the school intends to comply with the requirements of the Educational Reform Act, but also how the school intends to meet those system-wide goals and policies adopted by the school committee. Membership will consist of the principal, teachers, parents, students and community members.