

Site Council Meeting Minutes: April 19, 2016

Attendance: Clair Smith, Deborah Lindsay, Jill Baker, Melinda Bailey, Stephanie Dilbone, Don Bacher, Suzanne Jones, Amanda Miles, Brandon Johnson,

Introduction: What is the purpose of site council? History? Bylaws last updated in 1996.

Today, we will brainstorm ideas. In May, we'll come back and make some decisions about how to move forward this year and into next year. In May, include pertinent staff members

What were our expectations about site council:

- Academic focus
- Pay attention to what is going on around campus, what are the areas of strength, areas that could use focus or growth
- Curriculum, didn't know what to expect
- Way to get involved
- School improvement plan (used to focus more on it). Hard to spend time focusing on the SIP document as a whole committee.
- Approving new classes
- Way to stay informed about what is new, changing, etc (especially if you aren't a Dept Chair)
- Staff development was a big chunk of what we used to do

Brainstorm ideas:

- Maybe do a hybrid for decision-making on staff development funding (collaboration between principal and site council). Might increase the amount of staff development that happens...asked for organically from departments based on need for training.
- Meet fewer times in the year, but have half day meetings. Might need more time to do group work.
- We like having information given to the group from Brent...keeps communication flow strong
- Make a school improvement plan based on good data. Then go back and check to see whether "the plan" is working. Make it a reasonable-sized document with a clear focus/goal.
- Maybe even have a separate "site council" goal (in June for the follow year?)
- Work towards making sure staff knows across departments know what's happening at SAHS. (Maybe at faculty meeting)
- Find ways to "see" each other's personalities and passion for teaching
- Add agenda item to invite a guest speaker from a different area of the school to report on what's going on in their specialty
- Keep putting out minutes right away in an attempt to keep flow of communication to staff
- Figure out a way to have student voices included in decision-making
- Ways to celebrate and value diversity on campus (staff, students, etc)
- Make the "why" of what we are here for evident
- Stipend or time for chairperson if they are a teacher/staff member- would increase amount of time/energy given to meeting prep
- Is there money currently for site council people?
- Clear focus for what we want our goal to be
- How will we ensure follow through? (parental communication as an example of a good discussion/idea without "next steps")
- Keep in mind the weight of people's current commitments and schedules
- Longer meetings (so that we can limit the amount of time that people spend outside of meetings)

- Semi-annual retreat. Off campus. Brainstorming and goal setting, etc. In between, have shorter meetings for “business”. Do some “business” over email or other online format to cut down on “rubber stamping” moments.
- Have all administrators attend this meeting?

Here are the things we think Site Council should/could have a valuable “say” in:

((*General Theme* asking for opinions and feedback in development phase rather than an “FYI”))

- Schedule of the day
- AVID implementation (or other big programs that come in)
- Tutorial and PRIDE periods purpose and effectiveness
- What should the role of the new administrator be?

Priorities to carry over to next meeting discussion:

1. Determine “what do we do that fulfills a unique need”? Does site council have a clear purpose?
2. Can whatever “the plan” is include a way for the various ‘leadership’ groups at SAHS to feel connected and like they are all working together towards a common goal? (AVID, PRIDE, Site Council, Dept. Chairs)
3. Can we be a place for a **meaningful** voice/place to fit in for teachers, parents, students, other staff?
4. Need to revamp or disband (if we are accomplishing the intent of site council elsewhere, that’s ok). But we want to make sure we are thinking of the long-term future, and not just what is working now.
5. We need input from the administrators about what they want from site council.

Action items:

- Schedule a retreat (create goal, find meaningful data)
- Invite an AVID representative to be on site council (or have a site council person attend AVID)
- Small group to meet with Brent to go over what we talked about and give him feedback

§ 329.704¹

Local 21st Century Schools Councils • district site committees (Same as SAHS By-laws)

(1)Nothing in this section shall interfere with the duties, responsibilities and rights of duly elected school district boards. There shall be established at each school a 21st Century Schools Council. The duties of a 21st Century Schools Council shall include but not be limited to:

(a)The development of plans to improve the professional growth of the schools staff;

*Thoughts: AVID site team, Department Chairs and Site Council. All feel too separate instead of working together at this point. Need to have a **long-term goal/plan** in order to create consistency. Need for a stronger direction in “how we are growing” or getting better. Professional growth might just mean staff collaboration and shared ideas. Idea: do peer evals.*

(b)The improvement of the schools instructional program;

Thoughts: We do this through “new courses” process.

(c)The development and coordination of plans for the implementation of programs under this chapter at the school;**and**

Thoughts:

(d)The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified district employees.

Thoughts: See above for thoughts on this. Maybe the hybrid system?

(2)A 21st Century Schools Council shall be composed of teachers, parents, classified employees and principals or the principals designee, as follows:

(a)Not more than half of the members shall be teachers;

(b)Not more than half of the members shall be parents of students attending that school;

(c)At least one member shall be a classified employee; **and**

(d)One member shall be the principal of the building or the principals designee.

Thoughts: We invite students, but are often involved in after school activities. Would meeting during a PLC time increase the amount student involvement. Student voices are important. Stephanie wonders how students can have a voice, especially if the topic is classes to be offered, professional development, etc. Maybe it would be a better way to get student input from Student Council.

Idea: Make agenda items that may pertain to students and that we need student input on. That way, students could stay if they wanted, but could also leave if they needed to.

(3)In addition, other members may be as the school district shall designate, including but not limited to business leaders, students and members of the community at large.

(4)Members of a 21st Century Schools Council shall be selected as follows:

(a)Teachers shall be licensed teachers elected by licensed teachers at the school site;

(b)Classified employees shall be elected by classified employees at the school site;

(c)Parents shall be selected by parents of students attending the school; **and**

(d)Other representatives shall be selected by the council.

(5) If a school district board determines that a school site is unable to fulfill the requirements of this section or if the needs of a school site require a different composition, the school district board shall establish the 21st Century Schools Council in a manner that best meets the educational needs of the district.

(6) All 21st Century Schools Council meetings shall be subject to the open meetings law pursuant to ORS **192.610 (Definitions for ORS 192.610 to 192.690)** to **192.690 (Exceptions to ORS 192.610 to 192.690)**.

(7) A school district may establish a district site committee to assist in the administration of grants or in the district-wide coordination of programs. [1995 c.660 §39 (enacted in lieu of **329.705**); 2001 c.618 §7; 2007 c.858 §25; 2013 c.1 §27]