BMHS School Governance Council (SGC) Minutes
September 20, 2016

In Attendance: Maribeth Becker, Patrick Begos, Tom Finn, Isabelle Hargrove, Scott Hurwitz, Robert Kane, Neal Konstantin (via phone), Suzanne Koroshetz, Dawn Leeds, James MacDonald, Chad Southerland

Absent: Kristen Carrano, David Levinson, and Eileen McNamara

SBK welcomed everyone back and introductions were held. The vote for the two vacant teacher positions will be held prior to our next meeting. Irene Surapine (student representative) was not notified of the meeting in a timely manner.

The minutes from the June 6, 2016 meeting were approved.

SBK reported on the smooth opening of school and the positive feedback she has received on the extended learning period, the 90 minute block, from all constituents. Teachers and parents shared their positive stories and impressions. Lunch periods are the greatest challenge as we get used to our new schedule and students remember their pin numbers. It was reported that the servery is empty with half the lunch period left. The remaining difficulties should work themselves out and faculty will be mindful to watch for students who are struggling with the change.

Staffing and the miscalculation of 120 extra students raised many questions about what we are doing to make up for our approximately $800,000 in site based budgeting shortfall. The District gave BMHS 1.6 extra teachers to help reduce the number of students in a study hall due to the limited number of teachers. The added classes were selected based on the list discussed with SGC last year. The extra teaching periods were put in the elective areas of: 1.2 art teachers, 0.2 business teacher, and an 0.2 teacher for Freshmen Seminar. Scott Hurwitz is going to try and uncover BMHS population and summer registration trends to aide in the SY 2017-18 population estimate.

The NPS SGC Policy and implications at BMHS were discussed. There was a decision made that for Item VI, C, 5, “VI. Roles and Responsibilities, C. Duties of Council Members, ... the Council collectively, shall establish a process and a timeline for the following functions ... 5. In addition, the council shall assist the Principal in the selection process for teachers and other certified positions.” The SGC agrees with the BMHS selection process and requests the school continue to thoroughly vet and timely hire the best qualified candidates, giving advance notice to SGC if circumstances permit. But in no event should hiring decisions be delayed for SGC input. The discussion of other implications and changes will be continued at our October meeting.

Members were given homework to review the schools data packet and bring their questions to the next meeting.

The following dates were approved for future meetings: October 18, November 15, December 13, January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, and May 16. All meeting begin, at 6:30 pm, in the Guidance Conference Room.

Tentative District training dates SGC are: October 13 (Co-President and Principal only), November 9 (all members), and December 14 (TBD). All meetings will be held in CGS CR from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne