

Announcement:**Site Council Parent Opening; Nominations Being Sought for 2015/16.**

Background – PHS Parents are represented on PHS Site Council by Dane Copeland, Lisa Joyce and Marianne Mitosinka. The Site Council meets once a month and consists of PHS administrators, teachers, students and parents. Site Council is a forum for discussing and setting school site goals, based on our school's Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) which is approved by the School Board each fall.

Nominations are being taken now for one Parent Site Council rep, a two year term which begins in the fall of 2015/16. Lisa Joyce will be finishing her two year term this spring.

If you are interested in serving on the PHS Site Council, please let Brent Daniels know.

Site Council is open to all, and your attendance is encouraged. The next Site Council meeting is Thursday, March 19 from 3:30-5:00 in the PHS Student Center.

February 2015 PHS Site Council Summary Report**Service Learning**

Courtney Goen, PHS Service Learning Site Coordinator, presented an update on grade level activities: 9th graders recently collected litter as a way of addressing the on going problem of litter around campus and in Piedmont Park; 10th graders shared stories of discrimination they faced at PHS; 11th graders had a hunger banquet to illustrate accessibility to food on a global bases in which 10% had good food at a fancy table, about 45% had a granola bar and water bottle while sitting on the bleachers and the remainder had a cup of water and a cracker while sitting on the floor; 12th graders listened to a speaker regarding health care access as part of their examination of economic disparity. Students are involved in planning these activities and additional service learning activities culminate with Day on the Green in May.

WASC Visit

Site Council reps will join approximately 15 other parent reps from all Support Groups and PHS PC committees for the parent portion of the mid-cycle WASC review on March 4. The site council reviewed the 2012 WASC report and commented on how much progress has been made towards achieving the goals identified at that time due to the efforts of PHS teachers and staff over the past 3 years.

Differentiated Instruction

Assistant Principal Ginna Myers gave a report about what has been happening with differentiated instruction and on-going professional development. They are also working on ways of measuring the success of this differentiation. Teachers have also been having professional development in the use of Chrome books in the classroom.

Bell Schedule

The faculty voted to maintain the 5 day bell schedule and every teacher voted. The recommendation committee headed by Eric is compiling ways to improve the schedule and will have several outreach meetings for student, faculty and parent input. The faculty will vote in about 2 months about whether they prefer the existing 5 day schedule or the modified 5 day schedule. The principal, superintendent and school board must then approve the schedule. It is a provision of the current teacher's contract that they have final say on the bell schedule. Mr. Mapes will be gathering all of the input so everyone should feel free to email their comments to him.

Bell Schedule and Sports Release Times

There was also much discussion about the bell schedule as it relates to dismissal for sports. That engendered more discussion about sports, scheduling of sporting events, etc. The athletic directors are working with their peers at other schools to make some progress on the scheduling of sporting events.

Mandatory Tutorial or Advisory Period

There was a discussion of best use of time during mandatory tutorials. Some students would rather be in class than attend rallies and some of the other tutorials. Courtney admitted that they usually have extra time at the end of the service learning tutorials and need to fill that time more productively. Mr. Savage pointed out that rallies are short and infrequent and as a proportion of total instructional time, pretty insignificant.

School Calendar

High school students and some families want finals to occur before winter break. Elementary and middle school families don't want to start school earlier in August. Overall, the district is very close to the lower limit on instructional minutes and many families would like to see those increase.