

NUAMES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Council Mtg Date: 11-08-2012

Location: NUAMES, Portable N12

Members and Students Present: Bill Sholler, Debbi Smith, Bryan Rudes, Alan Stokes, Laurie Larson, Tatiana Nikolaev, Pam Swanvelt, Mindy Nelson, Karl Dumas, Dave Dau, Russel Paige, Kim Sholler, Tasha Jeskie, Brett Barson

Members Excused: Deb Hefner

The meeting called to order by Bill Sholler at 5:06 pm

Reading and Approval of Minutes (5 minutes allotted)

- Minutes for October voted on and approved.

Chair – Community Council (Bill Sholler)

- Chair will be sending out the contact information for members to everyone by December's meeting.
- Chair responded to comments from new members on how the council reviews and approves requested expenditures for the school.
- Firmed up time and assignments for November 15th teacher appreciation luncheon.

Council Reports

Student Body Officers Update:

- Halloween dance was a success, working on planning the Christmas dance (Yule Ball).
- SBO's are still working on the logistics of the food drive prior to Thanksgiving.

SCC Treasurer's report (Deb Hefner):

- No changes to report from October's meeting.

Administration Update (Alan Stokes):

- Shared with the council the favorable standing NUAMES has with Utah State Charter School Board. A proposal was given to increase the enrollment cap of the school by 50 students per year over the next 3 years (additional 150 over 3 years). The proposal was reviewed and the Board not only approved 50 in 2013 but to also increase it by 100 in 2014 and 2015 for a 3 year total of 250 additional students. The change will become effective if it is approved by the State Board of Education in January.

- Discussed general details about facilities and supplies to meet this increase in student body by either maintaining the portable units currently in place or moving into an existing private complex currently owned by Northrop Grumman. Nothing is firm but ideas are circulating to plan for additional students.
- Shared that NUAMES CRT scores are in the 96th percentile in the state, a great accomplishment which brings attention to the schools methods and appeal.
- (Dave Dau) - 2012 was the first year that NUAMES screened students for proper placement in math classes which resulted in a marked improvement in student effectiveness. Failure rate in math is now the lowest to date, (1) sophomore failure out of 208 students for the period reported. Mr. Dau attributes this to the screening process and its ability to place students in classes conducive to their current level of skill in a given subject. Tatiana Nikolaev agreed with the assessment of its effectiveness and contributed to the discussion by praising the efforts of school administration to implement this screening process. Screening has led to better performance by students in those classes as better than 90% of the time students have been properly placed in a class where they will have an opportunity to advance.

School Board Update (Laurie Larson):

- School board meeting cancelled, nothing to report this month.

Around the Room/New Business to address:

- Tatiana Nikolaev - Physics social was a great success with over 60 students attending.
- Bryan Rudes -
 - brought forth a request from Jennifer Shake to purchase (7) mp3 players to be used in an experimental teaching initiative known as “flipping” the classroom. The mp3 players will be available for her students to check out where reliable Internet connections at home are not available. They can listen to the recorded lectures given during the week independent of Internet connection. As this is a small scale test of this new teaching method and she feels that (7) units will be sufficient to gauge efficacy. School Administration approves of her approach and supports her initiative to use a more “out of the box” teaching mode.
 - Asked the group for help look for support from the community for the Vex and First Robotics programs. Major sponsors from last year may not be contributing to this year's programs so new support is sought.
- Bill Sholler - motion was made to approve the request for requested funds, the motion passed and 157.00 was approved for purchase of (7) mp3 players on the condition that a report be prepared for presentation to the council after 3 months use to review their

effectiveness and possible expansion the program.

- Mindy Nelson - shared a proposal by 2 early college ambassadors at this week's student seminar to create a student blog for the purpose of informing incoming students of ways to prepare for college classes. A mentoring program was also discussed to help those new students better integrate into a new environment. A book share has also been proposed to help outgoing and incoming students reduce costs for college classes. Once those have been explored more fully by the students, they will be taken to Administration for approval.
- No other business was presented by the council.

Motion to Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.