

SLHS SIP Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2005

Attendance:

Parents: Sue Massuch	Students: Kay Ann Schlang - 10 th	Staff: Freda Divitto
Dianne Beagle	Brooke Schaffer - 10 th	April Stover
Sue Zimmerman	Robert Swain - 9 th	Ron Weber
		Sue Hillman
Guest: Dr. William Pearson		Larry Jackson

Meeting called to order at 2:35 pm.

Agenda amended to add item V. j. Grading Plan. Motion to approve agenda as amended made by A. Stover, seconded by S. Hillman. Motion approved.

Previous SIP meeting held on Sept. 21, 2005 deemed to be an unofficial meeting due to inadequate membership. No minutes to approve. Minutes from May 26, 2005 meeting presented for approval. Motion to approve those minutes made by B. Schaffer, seconded by S. Zimmerman. Motion approved.

Purpose of SIP Committee: Reviewed briefly and copies of related Board policy given to new members.

New Members: S. Zimmerman, A. Stover, R. Weber, S. Hillman, R. Swain
Committee still in need of 1 parent, junior class rep and alternate, senior class rep and alternate.

2005-06 Officers: S. Massuch – Chairperson D. Beagle – Secretary

Meeting Dates and Time: 3rd Wednesday of the month 2:35 – 4:00 pm

School Improvement Goals: Reviewed briefly.

1. Students will improve in numerical operations, algebraic operations and analytical thinking.
2. Students will improve their informational reading skills in order to retrieve knowledge and increase comprehension.

NCA Accreditation Process: Strive to meet above goals. Are beginning to “credential” students per NCA guidelines. Students now required to meet established minimal expectations in 10th grade. Evaluations will be made via prescribed assessments. Students unable to meet expectations will begin tutorial program in 11th grade to assist them in meeting expectations prior to graduation.

Dual Enrollment: Students who enroll in college courses concurrent with high school classes will be provided with their SLHS class schedule in July, prior to college registration periods, to allow them to better coordinate their schedules.

Acceptable Fundraisers: Any fundraiser that benefits an individual consultant, such as Avon, Tupperware, Mary Kay Cosmetics, was questioned as to its appropriateness for the high school setting. Issues of concern were: potential for dissemination of personal student information; students would be used to build a client base for the consultant; the consultant would earn profits from sales to/by students long after the particular fundraiser is over. Motion to prohibit any fundraiser conducted by an individual who would be building his/her own business by utilizing SLHS students made by F. Divitto, seconded by S. Zimmerman. Motion approved.

9th Grade MEAP Scheduling: Was an agenda item for the September meeting but became moot since scheduling was completed and letter sent to parents. MEAP was divided into two parts which will be taken one week apart in October.

Homecoming: Comments on dance: over 1000 tickets sold, nobody turned away, no ticket sales at the door was good idea, parents did a great job of checking in students and coats, tables in alcoves worked much better, moving DJ to west side of commons worked much better, check-in system was slow but effective, nothing was stolen or lost, have more check-in stations next year to speed process, some students thought music was bad, others thought it was the best dance yet. Comments will be passed on to E. Bronstein, Student Council Advisor.

Grading Plan: The following was presented by L. Jackson:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Point Value</u>	<u>Break Point</u>
92 – 100	A	4.00	
90 – 91	A-	3.70	3.85
88 – 89	B+	3.30	3.50
82 – 87	B	3.00	3.15
80 – 81	B-	2.70	2.85
78 – 79	C+	2.30	2.50
72 – 77	C	2.00	2.15
70 – 71	C-	1.70	1.85
68 – 69	D+	1.30	1.50
62 – 67	D	1.00	1.15
60 – 61	D-	.70	.85
59 – below	E (with effort)	.30	
0	E- (with no effort)	.00	

Percentages are calculated the same as done currently for all assignments and individual marking period grades. Point values are used to calculate semester grades only. The 3 marking period grades and final exam grade are converted to point values. Point values

are summed and the total divided by 4 to obtain a semester point value. Resulting point value is converted back to a letter grade for the semester.

Problem: Division doesn't always calculate evenly. Need a consistent way to determine how to move up or down between 2 grades.

Solution: Break Points. Any calculated value falling within the range equal to the Break Point to the next highest Grade Point Value causes the grade to move up to that Grade Point Value. If the calculated value falls between the Break Point and the lower Grade Point Value, the grade moves down to the lower Grade Point Value.

Examples: Division results in point value of 1.85, which falls between 1.70 and 2.00. Does the grade move up to a C or down to a C-? Using break points, it falls in the range of 1.85 – 2.00 so grade moves up to a C. Division results in point value of 1.83. This falls in the range of 1.70 – 1.84 so grade moves down to a C-.

Exception: Student has to earn at least a .70 to obtain a D-. For example, grade will not move up if the calculated value is .65 and will remain an E.

The current system of percentages results in the following:

Example: $[0\% (E) + 75\% (C) + 100\% (A)] / 3 = 58\% (E)$

Student improves markedly over 3 marking periods and still receives an E due to averaging percentages.

However, using the point value results in the following:

$[.30 (E) + 2.00 (C) + 4.00 (A)] / 3 = 2.10 (C)$

A grade of C is more representative of the student's semester performance.

Teachers still have discretion as to grading in ambiguous cases and for each individual student's case.

College grading systems are more like this system.

Marking period grades and the final exam are weighted to account for difficulty of material covered, etc. Weights are determined by each department and are consistent by class (e.g. all biology classes weight the same).

This system differentiates between a student who tries and doesn't make it (.30 points) and one who doesn't do anything (.00). Putting forth no effort will also be treated as a behavioral issue by teachers and administration.

Tardy Policy: Committee formed with new members: D. Beagle (chair), A. Stover, F. Divitto, B. Schaffer & K. Schlang will share student membership. Study results and recommendations are to be presented to the SIP by the end of the first semester.

Next Meeting: Wednesday November 16th 2:35 pm Office conference room

Motion to adjourn made by K. Schlang, seconded by S. Zimmerman. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm. Respectfully Submitted by: D. Beagle, Secretary