

SLHS SIP Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2007

Attendance:

Parents: Nancy Kirchoff
Dianne Beagle
Sue Zimmerman

Students: Robert Swain – 10th
Kay Ann Schlang – 11th

Staff: Denise Brandon
Larry Jackson
Ron Weber
Sue Hillman

Meeting called to order at 2:42 pm by Chairperson K. Schlang

Approval of Agenda: Motion to add agenda item V. F. French Curriculum and move it to the top of the New Business category made by R. Swain, seconded by N. Kirchoff. Motion approved.

SIP Survey: R. Weber presented results from staff responses. Overall trend is that more people know how to contact a SIP member and more have done so. Communication from the SIP Committee showed some improvement. Progress is being made toward goals established last year of making SIP process and members more visible and easier to contact. More effort is needed on improving communication. Members agreed that communication to staff, students and parents will be top goal for next year. R. Weber will compile and graph results from parent and student surveys. Results will be emailed to members and added to minutes. Thanks to R. Weber for his work in typing, distributing surveys and compiling, presenting results.

French Curriculum: Question was raised by students about the future of French classes. L. Jackson explained that the District is trying to anticipate potential course needs to better prepare students for the global economy. China is a growing participant and as a result, so is the need for understanding Chinese. Participation in French classes, both at SLHS and the middle schools, is declining dramatically. Proposal has been made to phase out French and add Chinese. Next year would be the last year for French I, with the following year being the last for French II, etc., which allows current French students opportunity to complete all courses through French IV.

EdYes Parameters: Tabled until next fall.

KVC/WLAA Merger: 24 schools from KVC, WLAA (Western Lakes Activities Assoc.) and Waterford combined to form new league – Kensington Lakes Activities Association. New league begins operation during the 2008-2009 school year when SLEHS and Howell Parker HS become varsity level competitors. Will provide top notch opportunities for competition and collaboration in athletics, debate, fine arts, etc. and allow for better scheduling of activities. SLHS and SLEHS are in the Central Division along with Novi, Northville, Livonia Stevenson and Plymouth Salem, but will continue rivalries with Brighton, Milford, etc. through interdivisional competitions.

Vending Machines: L. Jackson stated that new contracts will be signed with beverage distributors for SLEHS and asked if members were interested in providing more healthy choices in the vending machines at SLHS. Contracts for SLHS expire after next year and suggestions would then be explored. Some members stated that total elimination of unhealthy items was not realistic and were supportive of offering fewer amounts of unhealthy products and more of the water. It was also suggested that beverages with high sugar content have a higher per item price as a deterrent to students purchasing these items. L. Jackson described a system utilized in another state where green, yellow and red stickers were affixed to the vending machines over healthy, okay and unhealthy selections, respectively. It was designed to increase student awareness as to the type of beverages they were choosing. Members requested that this sticker system be pursued for SLHS.

Prom Poem: L. Jackson stated that each year a letter is sent by him to all students regarding acceptable versus unacceptable behavior during Prom, especially regarding alcohol use. He found a poem, published by SADD, which would be a good addition to the letter and asked for SIP approval to use it. Members unanimously approved use of the poem.

2007-2008 Budget: L. Jackson presented the proposed budget, by line item, for next year. Budget includes the 5% overall reduction proposed by administration. He also noted that Driver's Ed. will no longer be offered by the District. Segment 2 will be offered next fall for those students who have completed Segment 1 through the District. Changes in State requirements for Driver's Ed. programs would require District to incur substantially greater costs. Most school districts either have, or are considering eliminating the program for this reason.

Next Meeting: September 2007 Date, time and place to be announced.

Motion to adjourn made by R. Swain, seconded by N. Kirchoff. Motion approved.
Meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Dianne Beagle, Secretary