

FORUM meeting MINUTES

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

Present: Suzanna Bernd, Nora Buck, Francis Coccozza, Susan Frost, Maryann (Gipson) Dunbar, Jan Loonan, Forrest Perkett, Steve Preuss, Catherine Reid, Carmen Ross, Dylan Seale, Lindy Sicard, Lauren Varney, Roger Wells

Guest(s): Kemm Wilson

Absent: Forrest Perkett, Kathy Gentner

Meeting time: 2:40pm - 3:45pm Facilitator(s): Roger Wells & Susan Frost

Timekeeper: F. Coccozza Minutes Taker: L. Sicard

Strategic Plan - continue to keep up to date on goals assigned to FORUM. Bonnie will meet with us in February to update us on goals 4 & 5 with Fran (Bonnie/Fran will present on this).

- Reminder to all (advisors, etc.) to continue logging students involved with clubs. Roster information needs to be entered three times a year and **January is the second entry time.**
[Click here](#) for spreadsheets.
- Diverse Learning Experiences. Note: teachers should continue to log these experiences
- Community Service should be logged as it occurs. i.e PTSO Holiday Fair

Diversity Club Committee

No report this month. We will need to have a committee chair replacement for Sue Frost who will be retiring in January.

Senior Give Back Day

- Decide in the Spring when the football schedule is available if Senior Give Back Day will be in the fall as part of Homecoming, or a day the following spring.

Rock Solid Committee

The current groups are gelling and advisors are witnessing positive impacts among students from the program. As the program grows, the link between the elementary Leader In Me program and the high school Rock Solid program continues to strengthen.

- The committee has asked for *any and all* suggestions concerning scheduling ideas for next year. All ideas will be considered and they emphasized to 'feel free to get creative and think out of the box'. They will need to come up with a way to find 20 minutes in the schedule for the Rock Solid program which does not involve 10th period. There are 15 juniors presently training to be senior leaders, 5 of which are in BOCES programs. Because these students leave the building mid-day for the classes, Rock Solid scheduling would need to accommodate these students. Please send any thoughts, ideas or suggestions to Nora, Carmen or Catherine.

FORUM Guidelines/Handbook

The Guidelines need updating. A committee formed will consist of: Maryann (Gipson) Dunbar, Suzanna Bernd and Fran Coccozza. Maryann will get all copies/versions to the committee members

for their review and the committee will meet between now and the next meeting to discuss. Any FORUM members that want to include comments/suggestions on the guidelines, please present them to one of the committee members asap for consideration.

Cell Phone policy

Policy can be found in the Student Handbook, pages 48/49, under Personal Communication Devices. [Click here](#) for policy.

- Suggestions made: add the words 'cell phone' to the index of the handbook so it's easier to find
- Make it clear there are no phones on restroom breaks
- Decide if teacher discretion needs to read teacher direction

All changes will become effective with the July 1, 2019 Student Handbook version for the 2019-2020 school year.

Brown Bag lunches

The committee, consisting of Steve Preuss, Carmen Ross and Dylan Seale, will meet to organize the lunch series for late March or early April. They will develop a very brief student survey to determine what the students' interest are and move forward from that point. The survey will be administered during a guideroom in the near future. Student interest will determine the presenters invited, whether careers such as law, engineering, etc, or trades such as electrician, construction, etc. Steve to contact Karen Breslin for her expertise and input. Several parents were mentioned as presenters and Suzanna Bernd offered to assist in securing speakers when the decisions are made.

Steve noted that the structure of the day might be a buffet sandwich line with 3 or 4 presenters at stations to have lunch and discussions with the students. Multiple Brown Bags may be considered if they are popular.

Miscellaneous

Thank you and congratulations to Susan Frost for her many years of service on FORUM! Per Roger Wells at this meeting and previous meeting discussion: A special election by LGEA to the LGEA members at the Jr.-Sr. High School will occur in the near-term. This election will cover January 28 to end of this position's term which is this June. A new election for this position and all other relevant open positions will occur as regular in the spring.

FORUM Goals for 2018-2019

- ❖ Goal: To review and discuss the list of items that FORUM has initiated or overseen in the past and make decisions to continue, revisit, table etc. **Completed** discussion at November 2018 meeting. [FORUM Umbrella](#)
- ❖ Goal: Senior Give Back Day. Held on September 14, 2018. **Completed** for this year. Discussion to resume on timing or other possible changes for next year.
- ❖ Goal: Brown Bag lunches
- ❖ Goal: FORUM Guidelines/Handbook
- ❖ Goal: Guideroom handbook. [GR handbook](#). **Completed**. Sent to T. Sullivan for web posting.

- ❖ Goal: TA handbook [Resource Guide for Teaching Assistants](#). **Completed**. Sent to T. Sullivan for web posting.
- ❖ Goal: The Discipline Referral form. [Discipline Referral form](#) **Completed**.
- ❖ Goal: Cell phone policy
- ❖ Goal: Recommendation made for the one-hour delay days - survey students 'What are your interests before getting speakers'. Discuss if FORUM wants to pursue.
- ❖ Goal: FORUM will be the facilitators for arranging speakers for next year's assemblies, with the mindset of providing a sustainable message. After receiving faculty/staff and student feedback, it was decided that we would definitely invite Sweethearts and Heroes back. They have progressive programs that would mesh nicely with our Strategic Plan and Rock Solid. We will need to schedule a meeting with Tom to find the best fit for us. Can also talk to Fonda-Fultonville for their experience with programs they utilized. Year 2 could probably be about cyber-bullying, empathy, dealing with adversity, further developing of 13 pillars, or even a program for working with our elementary students. We will need to book this spring for next year.

Balance of Assemblies for 2018-2019

- ❖ **February 7, 2019, Thursday** Schedule has been shared for the day, with two grades/teachers at a time meeting. Our guest speaker is Michael Nearney. Additional breakout sessions, period 10 faculty session, and evening sessions for parents are also scheduled. The focus is Brain Development and the effect of outside substances on the brain.
- ❖ **April 11, 2019, Thursday** Date/time are tentative. This assembly, sponsored by the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee and SADD will be presented by Brian Strommer. This assembly is for students 7-12 and the focus is on choices and the ripple effect of negative choices. More info will be shared soon.

Constituent Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, January 22, 2019:

- January roster updates for clubs, etc. are due. ([See the shared folder from Bonnie](#)). Remember to input any diversity happening in your classroom -learning experiences, Community Service and leadership
- Coming soon: A brief survey will be ready shortly from guidance for students to take during guideroom. It will ask for their interests in careers/trades and will help determine the speakers for the Brown Bag lunches.
- Rock Solid - looking for any scheduling ideas for next year. Need 20 minute blocks each day for seniors and 20 minutes blocks every two days for freshman. Any and all suggestions are welcome.
- LGEA election to fill remainder of Sue Frost's term (Feb. - June 2019). See Roger for additional details. (also detailed above)

Regular constituent feedback form for other items ([Click here](#)) Feedback January 22, 2019

Next FORUM meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019

Next Constituent meeting: Tuesday, February 26, 2019 (following winter break)