

**Northview High School
Local School Council Minutes
February 16, 2006**

Members Present:

Peter Zervakos, Principal
Clayton Shepherd, Chairman & Parent
Bob Miller, Vice-Chairman & Parent
Sandi Rose, PTSA Representative
Pat Taylor, Business Representative
Jay Blanton, Teacher
Susan Gilmore, Teacher
Lonna Upton, Teacher
David Nakano, Student
Sarah Barker, Student

Members Absent:

Sol Aboulafia, Teacher
Maria Orlando, Parent

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. by Clayton Shepherd

The January meeting minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Over Crowding

Mr. Shepherd opened the meeting by showing the council the AJC article on student enrollment "Enrollment set to surge". He asked Mr. Zervakos about the timeline for the new high school, the number of trailers planned for the 2006-07 school year and the number of students projected for next year.

Mr. Zervakos said that he had heard that there should be an announcement in the near future concerning the location for the new high school. He felt that the new school would not open until 2009.

In regards to the number of students predicted for next year Mr. Zervakos said there would not be much of an increase at NHS. 2500 is the predicted student population, an additional 75 students. He expects to add 6 more classrooms which equates to 3 portables

Mr. Shepherd asked Mr. Zervakos if there were any predictions for the student population between 2007 and 2009. Mr. Zervakos said no. He explained that a big factor in this would be the number of apartments that would be opening in the future. Another factor to consider would be the town home developments. In the past most town home developments had few school age children but this is no longer the case.

There was some discussion concerning students attending NHS but living out of the district. Mr. Zervakos explained that between four students from the 9th grade were found to be out of district and withdrawn as a result of the residency verification program. In addition, twenty incoming freshmen did not show up in the fall which may have been partially due to the affidavit of residency requirement that was piloted. He explained that this is a very sensitive subject and some parents became upset when asked to provide proof of their residency. He also explained that some people have multiple homes and some families are doubling up in houses or two families in one home.

Placement of the new portables was questioned. Mr. Zervakos has not heard from the Fire Marshal concerning a variance he has requested to place the portables on the canopy side. There is still room for 1 portable in the bus area and 2 could be placed in the back of the school. Mr. Zervakos thought that any future portables would be placed near the practice field.

Hardships

Mr. Zervakos said there were 37 hardships renewals. New students seeking academic hardships must take ROTC or German. The time has expired for hardship applications.

Practice Field

Mr. Miller asked about practice field and its condition. Mr. Zervakos said that there was work being done on it now and hopefully by fall it will be in better shape. There was a lot of discussion concerning the practice field. The practice field is now only 85 yards long due to the construction of the Wrestling building. The construction of the wrestling building also contributed to some of the problems with the field. Mr. Zervakos expressed the hope that when the county has the funds to pay for turf that NHS will be able to use these funds to turf a practice field. Mr. Shepherd asked if the LSC committee could review the county process concerning new schools and practice fields.

Mr. Shepherd asked if the wrestling building was open. Mr. Zervakos stated that we do have a certificate of occupancy and now the county is going through its approval process.

Northview Academic Enrichment Fund

Mr. Shepherd asked about monies donated for academic support and what progress on had been made in this area. Mr. Zervakos explained that a letter had been mailed in December with a donation coupon. As of this date NHS had collected \$6,000. Half of the donations had been designated toward specific areas and the rest was to be spent "where needed". Mr. Zervakos speculated that if every family donated \$50 NHS would not have to ask for donations within the departments. Mr. Shepherd asked if there was a committee in place to decide how these funds should be spent. Mr. Zervakos explained that the Leadership Team decides and has specific guidelines.

NEW BUSINESS

Area Superintendent report

This was waived until the March meeting.

Principal Report

SPLOST

Mr. Zervakos handed out a Facility Assessment form to the committee and asked everyone to complete the form and return it to him or email him suggestions by February 22. LSC and the community can provide feedback for this assessment. SPLOST is only for NHS at this time.

Mr. Blanton had one item of concern which was the street/curb paint that is fading at the Abbots Bridge exit from the school.

Ms Upton suggested talking to Chris Harkey about refreshing the technology in the tech labs. Ms Upton reports that in the past when new computers arrive the old computers are removed. Hopefully, NHS will get to keep the old computers to use in different classrooms or for parts. There was some question as to whether the new computers would be laptops only. Laptops can only hold a charge for up to two class periods. Mr. Miller asked if it would be possible to have the county tech person come to LSAC to give the committee an overview of the tech plan for NHS. There was some discussion about the computers at other schools, their computer labs, etc.

Mr. Shepherd also expressed interest in having someone from the county offices come to the LSC meeting. Mr. Zervakos said he would extend the invitation via email and copy Mr. Shepherd on this.

Mr. Miller was concerned about circular areas in courtyard that are lower than the rest of the courtyard and asked if it could be a hazard to students. Mr. Zervakos said that trees were originally placed in these spots and they had been removed. He said he would look into this.

PTSA report

Sandi Rose reported on the current PTSA projects.

- Grades 9 & 10 are working on dates for their class activities.
- Project Graduation is very busy with the event at Jillian's on May 28.
- On March 23rd at 7:00 pm. there will be a community wide program on teen driver safety in the NHS auditorium.

Speakers will include Bill Richardson, a retired police officer, who will kick off the program. Other speakers will include a former Norcross High School student who caused a fatal accident killing one person, and a district attorney who will speak about liability for parents of children in accidents.

Representatives from Driver IQ and Roadwise will also speak about their services and other resources/programs that are available for students and changes in the laws for new drivers.

Mr. Zervakos suggested combining this with a program the administration had been considering for students seeking on-campus parking permits.

Mr. Shepherd suggested that trauma unit doctors be invited to speak. .

QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Zervakos reported that Governor Perdue's visit had a great turnout. All of the principals from NHS feeder schools came. Mr. Shepherd complimented Mr. Zervakos on the great presentation and felt that it had been choreographed wonderfully.

Ms. Gilmore expressed concern about the graffiti in the boys bathrooms and asked David Nakano about this. David has heard that there is graffiti but he does not use bathrooms at school. Mr. Zervakos explained that he has checked bathrooms and is aware of the problems. He said the custodians are working on this problem. The key is to stay ahead of the students. It was also noted that the graffiti was worse on some halls than on others.

Mr. Shepherd asked Mr. Miller to conduct the meeting in March as he will be out of town. Mr. Miller agreed.

Next LSC meeting – March 9, 2006, 7:00 AM

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Comstock, Secretary