

Watertown High School

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Shirley J. Lundberg. M.Ed. *Principal*

Annmarie Boudreau, Associate Headmaster Brian Brewer, Dean of Students

Watertown High School Site Council Meeting February 26, 2018 6:30 p.m. WHS Library

Present:

<u>Members:</u> Shirley Lundberg (Principal), Hillary Glencross (Teacher), John Bresnihan (Teacher), John Rimas (Teacher), Joe Lampman (Teacher), David Stokes (Parent), Lisa Gabel (Parent), Ann Walters (Parent), Yasmin Daikh (Parent), Hakeem Alhady (Student), Louise Reaves (Community Member)

Non-Members: Kraig Gustafson (Teacher), Alice Holt (Parent)

6:35 pm Shirley Lundberg called meeting to order.

- Approval of minutes from meeting on January 22, 2018 by Lisa Gabel seconded by David Stokes. Unanimously approved.
- 2. Discussion of WHS progress, goals & plans
 - a. Kraig Gustafson, Secondary Social Studies Coordinator
 - i. 3 Year Graduation Requirement: two years of US History and one additional year of world history, law, psychology, or civics.
 - ii. Would like to see an additional part-time Social Studies teacher to help teach some of the Social Studies electives (AP Psychology, Psychology, Civics, Honors American Legal System/Law)
 - iii. Social Studies includes a lot of community involvement, citizenships and civic engagements
- 3. Continued discussion of FY19 Budget priorities
 - a. District update: all departments have made proposals to building principals which has in turn has gone to central office. Jointly prioritizing the proposals and advocating for all (K-12) – big reveal with coordinators of budget on February 27 to continue the discussion of the budget. Town has been generous with the budget (5%) on top of the building updates for elementary and entering the High School into the MSBA for a major project.
- 4. Summer Homework Discussion

- a. Two discussions have happened at coordinator meetings regarding how much homework is assigned to students over the summer have coordinators worked together to see what is assigned in other subjects?
- b. Parent feedback:
 - i. There is no one to ask his or her summer questions to, could there be a page online that would provide a contact person over the subject for each subject?
 - ii. Possibility of more opportunities to explore information relevant to each student (example: looking into family genealogy) with some reading?
 - iii. What is the purpose: Not to lose ground or to introduce new content? Students often feel like it is 'busy work' but can sometimes seem useful, not typically a teacher there to help guide students.
 - iv. Higher achieving students are being punished by being given more homework throughout the year and the summer – a higher achieving student shouldn't need the remedial work to help them maintain the knowledge over the summer
 - v. What about families that join the district over the summer? How do they receive the work so they do not start the year off by being behind?
 - vi. Could students be made aware of what summer homework they would be given when signing up for a course?
- c. Things Shirley will bring back to coordinators:
 - i. What is the purpose?
 - ii. Lack of feedback over the summer from teachers
 - iii. Calibration with each other know what other departments are assigning

Lisa Gabel made motion to adjourn. Hakeem Alhady seconded. Unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Hillary Glencross, Secretary

Handouts: Social Studies - Building Better Citizens

APPROVED: 3.29.2018