

# **BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**1/5/2010**

**ATTENDANCE:** Karin Wetherill, Chris Barton, Laurie Lennon, Mary Mainella, Ruth Fain, Zoe Alley, Wendy Zucker, Patrice Benoit-Franco, Kathy Sanford, Meg Ramsden, Kate Brody, Paula DeSisto, Lois Teitz, Tracey Ruzzuto, Camilla Hemingway, Penny Herchen, Tracy Hoyt, Stacie McLaughlin, Kristin Rojas, Denise Javery, Stephanie Edwards.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by co-president Karin Wetherill.

### **Minutes:**

The December, 2009 minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Paula DeSisto reported that the current balance is \$7175.59. We received the invoice for the picnic tables and paid \$2000. for them.

### **Guest Speakers:**

Joe Hurley introduced our guest speakers: Kevin Blanchard, English teacher and NEASC coordinator, and student Jack Ryan who will give a power point on the ILP (Individual Learning Plans).

NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) will be visiting from March 14-17<sup>th</sup> for the accreditation visit. This is a 15 person team that evaluates the school every 10 years. The NEASC team consists of teachers and administrators from other New England Schools. Kevin Blanchard discussed the process of evaluation from the visitation team. There will be opportunities for parent volunteers on Sunday 3/14 and Monday 3/15. The NEASC website [www.neasc.org](http://www.neasc.org) has current and 2011 standards. Students will be informed of the visit through the Sunrise Show. Students will be involved in the visit and the team will be very visible and will talk with students as part of the evaluation. Joe Hurley presented the new Mission and Expectations poster that will be hung in every classroom.

Joe Hurley introduced the ILP and Jack Ryan presented a power point presentation on the ILP's and demonstrated some of the features in the program. Guidance Counselors will meet with each student 2 times a year to work on updating their ILP's.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership:** Anita Chiulli reported that no there were no new memberships this month.

**Publicity:** Mary Murphy was not present. Karin shared an idea of Mary's that we pitch some positive news to the Barrington Times.

**School Committee:** Pauline Groetelaars reported that the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting was about PBGR (Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements).

**SEAC:** Tracey Ruzzutto reported that the next meeting will be on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and will take place at the High School. The topic will be "Life after High School for students with special needs".

**Directory:** Mary Mainella reported that the online directory has been sent out. Extra copies of the directory are in the office. Anyone who desires an electronic copy should email the Parent's Association.

**Bay Team Liaison:** Wendy Zucker reported that Kathy Sullivan and Kristen Westmorland are willing to attend any local book club meetings to facilitate conversations about parenting. They are looking for members of the marijuana subcommittee. Anyone interested should contact Kathy Sullivan. They are also interested in running another zero fatalities program and interested parents should contact Kathy Sullivan.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chris Barton reported that BHS will be administering free H1N1 vaccinations for parents on February 9<sup>th</sup> from 4-8PM. Also Barrington High School will be hosting a Parent /Community forum on February 8<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 8:30 PM in the auditorium. The topics will be Professional Learning Communities, District and State Assessments, Differentiated Instruction and Response to Intervention.

### **Principal's Report:**

- Joe Hurley reported that the budget was finalized this week. The High School budget is looking at maintaining all staff and programs that we have with no cuts to positions.
- Joe reported that they are also working on finalizing the program of studies for next year and that parents of 8<sup>th</sup> graders are really focused on the science curriculum and the choice between physical science and biology.
- Staff are formulating one new course for next year called Conceptual Physics. In the next few years the school also hopes to offer AP Physics I and II. Conceptual Physics will incorporate physical science and is less math oriented than the regular Physics class. A potential course of study that includes this class might be Biology, Chemistry, Conceptual Physics and Anatomy and Physiology.
- The school is introducing an online tutorial to help students get ready for NECAP testing. This will be available next year.
- Midterm exams and MAP testing are being coordinated by Nicole Varone. Exemptions are still in place for English, Science and Math. MAP testing was

taking place for all 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This test shows growth over time and is used to inform instruction in reading and math.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.