**NEWTON NORTH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES**

Sixth meeting Monday February 1, 2016, 6:30pm

1. **Attendees at School Council meeting**

Mark Aronson, NNHS Interim Principal & Co-Chair

Jean Wood, parent representative & Co-Chair

Kathy Baron, parent representative

David Bedar, teacher representative

Sally Brickell, PTSO representative

Albert Cho, teacher representative

Jenny Chou, parent representative

Rex Clark, PTSO representative

Laura Holt, parent representative

Max Kozlov, student representative

Liam Macintyre, student representative

Joanna Mandinova, student representative

Vicki Ritterband, alternate parent representative

Bev Spencer, community representative

Irene Wu, student representative

Jeff Zabel, parent representative

1. **Acceptance of minutes from last two meeting – December 2015 and January 2016**

A motion was proposed and seconded to accept the minutes of the last two meetings. The minutes were then passed by unanimous vote. These minutes will be posted on the School Council website.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**2. Restoration of School Murals—Jennifer Huntington**

At the request of Mark Aronson, retired Newton North Principal, Jennifer Huntington, attended the meeting to tell the School Council about some murals that are being restored. The conservation commission received funds from the City of Newton to restore a mural originally hung in Newton High School.

Below is from the proposal to receive funds for mural restoration:

...a large, three-part mural by Maurice Compris, which was originally installed in

1936 in the library at Newton High School, and which has been seriously damaged over many years in storage. It consists of a large central panel on the theme of “education,” and two side panels, one illustrating “industry” and one illustrating “commerce.” The mural, totaling over forty feet in length, was dedicated to the memory of Lt. Stafford Leighton Brown, Newton

High School Class of 1915, who volunteered with the American Ambulance Field Service in France in 1917 and died in an accident on September 28, 1918, while serving as a pilot with French forces.

When the multi-building Newton High School was torn down in 1973, the mural’s central panel was moved to the new Lowell Avenue Newton North High School and hung in the cafeteria. For reasons still to be researched, the two side panels were rolled up and stored. When that building was demolished, the mural’s central panel was again taken down, rolled up and also put in storage. A space was designed in the new NNHS building on Walnut Street for that

panel, should it be restored. After that building opened in 2010, the two side panels were re-discovered. They would hang across the hall from the central panel.

The main task of the project is to clean and restore these important historical visual artifacts, and to reunite them, although not on a single wall, to hang in the new building for future generations to appreciate…the restoration of this unique and beautiful mural offers the city, and the school, a wonderful opportunity to preserve, and present, an important part of our community’s story. The murals will honor both the man to whom they were dedicated, and reclaim a part of the school’s history that will definitely contribute to our whole community.

It is expected that the mural will be ready for installation in Fall 2016. ***The School Council recommends that when the murals are hung, a plaque be installed noting the contribution of Jennifer Huntington to this effort.***

1. **Recap of Late Start Discussion - Jeff Zabel**

A community information session, sponsored by the School Council, was held the evening of January 26 to inform the community about the benefits and challenges of starting high school later and the process by which the school committee will decide whether or not to recommend a later start time for the high schools in Newton. Superintendent Fleishman and two members of the School Committee who are on the late start working group attended the event as well as a physician who specializes in sleep.

1. **Continuing work on Growth Mindset** - **Kathy Baron**

A plan is underway to have a student discussion at the SFA/SC meeting in February about how growth mindset is/isn’t being implemented in classrooms at NNHS. Irene Wu will moderate the discussion

1. **PTSO Activities**

*Just Think Expo* held on January 21. Introduce parents/guardians and students to the availability of resources in Newton.

*Education Excellence Campaign* raised $37,000 for Chrome Books

Staffing for *Celebration* underway

Sessions planned to meet two finalists for *NNHS Principal position*

Meeting adjourned at 7:35PM

Next School Council meeting:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

7AM in Cafeteria

Joint meeting with SFA