**NEWTON NORTH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES**

Third meeting Monday November 2, 2015, 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

Joanna Mandinova, student representative

Vicki Ritterband, alternate parent representative

Bev Spencer, community representative

Irene Wu, student representative

Jeff Zabel, parent representative

From Newton South School Council:

Chris Steele and Risa Shames, co-chairs

From the School Committee:

Ellen Gibson

Liam Macintyre, student representative, did not attend the meeting.

1. **Acceptance of minutes from last meeting – October 5, 2015**

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

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

No one attended from the general public.

1. **Late Start Times for Newton Schools**

Chris Steele and Risa Shames, co-chairs from Newton South’s School Council attended the meeting and gave a brief overview on the work that South has done regarding late start times. The science is clear that more sleep for teens (implying a later start time for school) is beneficial in a number of ways. The real issues involve implementation.

Ellen Gibson from the School Committee also attended the meeting and gave an overview of the Committee’s process for examining later start times for Newton schools. A small group has been formed to conduct research and involve local stakeholders to examine the lost list of practicalities and logistics involved in moving school start times. This work will continue throughout the current school year with a recommendation scheduled to be made to the School Committee by June 2016.

An evening meeting will be scheduled at Newton North to introduce this topic to the North community. Jeff and Sally will be involved.

1. **Growth Mindset Oct 28 event**

A “hands on” Growth Mindset (GM) even was held on October 28, 2015. Although we had nearly 120 people sign up to attend, we believe that bad weather limited attendance to about 50. There were three stations: an art project, a physical challenge, and development and presentation of a rap/limerick. All sessions were rated highly in feedback forms.

Feedback indicated that most attendees would have liked to have had a short intro about GM before going to the first station. Many attendees had not come to prior GM sessions so really didn’t know what it was all about. Although we made a conscious decision not to have introductory remarks (due to time constraints), this should be added in the future to all GM events.

Principal Aronson would like School Council to continue with GM activities this year. This will be pursued in the coming meetings.

1. **PTSO Update**

Sally and Rex gave an update if PTSO activities. Northside Dining Adventure is coming up. A good way to meet new people and raise money for PTSO. The Educational Excellence Campaing is starting. The goal is to raise money for more Chromebooks for NNHS. JustThink Expo is scheduled for Jan 21. More to come.

1. **Any Other Business & Date of Next Meeting**

A short discussion was had about SC projects for this school year. As mentioned above, Principal Aronson would like further work on Growth Mindset. Several other topics were raised but no decisions were reached. A small group was formed (Jean, Sally, Kathy, Irene, Max) to develop proposals to bring to the next meeting in December for the Council to review.

Next meeting is Monday, Dec 7, 2015 beginning at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.