**NEWTON NORTH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES**

First meeting Tuesday September 15, 2015, 7:00pm

1. **Attendees of School Council members**

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 Clarke, PTSO representative

Laura Holt, parent representative

Max Kozlov, student representative

Liam Macintyre, student representative

Joanna Mandinova, student representative

Bev Spencer, community representative

Irene Wu, student representative

Jeff Zabel, parent representative

Vicki Ritterband, alternate parent representative

We had 100 percent participation for our first SC meeting of the 2015/2016 academic year. Co-chair and Interim Principal Aronson welcomed all members including new School Council members David Bedar, Albert Cho, Jenny Chou, Liam Macintyre, Joanna Mandinova and alternate parent representative Vicki Ritterband. Mark suggested that we begin future meetings at 6:30 rather than 7:00. Input will be sought from members prior to the next meeting.

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

A motion was proposed and seconded to accept the minutes of the last meeting—in June 2015. The minutes were then passed by unanimous vote. These minutes will be posted on the School Council website – action discharged.

1. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

No members of the public attended this meeting.

1. **School Council Business for 2015/2016 Academic Year**

Interim Principal Aronson began the meeting by first stating that there is a positive school culture in the building and that Jen Price left the school in great shape. NNHS has amazing programs and staff. In this interim year, one of his main goals is to make the transition to the next principal as smooth as possible.

To this end, there are several issues that he has requested be taken up by various parties this school year. A faculty driven initiative will address homework and the accompanying stress. His goals for the School Council are to continue our work on Growth Mindset and also to work with others (Claudia Wu and Terry Yoffie as well as Ty Vignon) on the Center for Civic Engagement and Service (CCES). This Center is still in its early stages of development. Members of the SC are eager to work on this effort. Principal Aronson will invite Claudia/Terry to our next meeting in October.

1. **Growth Mindset Events**

Jeff gave a recap on what has been done concerning the growth mindset and what is underway this school year. A number of events were held last school year including an introductory workshop to the growth mindset for parents/guardians. By request, this was also held at Bigelow. A book group was also held at NNHS, discussing the book by Carol Dweck.

On October 28, 2015 the plan is to have a “hands on” growth mindset event including three stations—potentially a physical activity in the SOA, an art project, and watching a student-led video. There is currently some debate about the growth mindset and members discussed incorporating this into the video. (Sally will work with Irene on this.) The next meeting of the growth mindset subcommittee is on Friday, September 25 at 7:00 AM. All who are interested are welcome.

1. **Update of PTSO business to School Council**

This item was delayed to next meeting due to time constraints.

1. **AOB & Date of Next Meeting**

Next meeting is Monday, October 5, 2015. Time to be determined (either 6:30PM or 7:00PM).

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.