**NEWTON NORTH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES**

Fifth meeting Tuesday January 5, 2016, 7:00am

Joint meeting with SFA

1. **Attendees at School Council meeting**

Mark Aronson, NNHS Interim Principal & 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

Vicki Ritterband, alternate parent representative

Irene Wu, student representative

Jeff Zabel, parent representative

Jean Wood, parent representative, Joanna Mandinova, student representative, and Bev Spencer, community representative did not attend the meeting. Thank you to Irene Wu who took attendance and notes at the meeting for School Council.

**2. SFA Projects**

This fifth meeting of the School Council was held jointly with SFA. The purpose of the joint meetings (two of which are held during the school year) is to share projects that each group is undertaking and to determine if there is need for assistance from each other.

After introductions, SFA reviewed the priority projects they are currently pursuing. This list is below:

**Installing water bottle fillers** (Jonathan Halpern)

**Making locker rooms and physical education curriculum more LGBTQ friendly** (Ranen Green)

 **Researching different hand dryers** (Sophia Ly)

Principal Aronson commented on the profound impact that the recycling club has had throughout the school. There is an increased understanding of the technology involved. Thanks to David Meshoulam who is the recycling project advisor.

1. **School Council Projects**

**Delaying Start Times for Newton North and South** (Jeff Zabel)

A community information session, sponsored by the School Council, will be held the evening of January 26. The purpose of the session is to inform community members 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 members of the School Committee who are on the late start working group will be attending the event as well as a physician who specializes in sleep.

**Continuing work on Growth Mindset** (Kathy Baron)

A summary was given on the three events that have been held at NNHS concerning growth mindset: an introductory session with parents and guardians, a book club focusing on Carol Dweck’s book, and a “hands on” event in which parents/guardians and students participated. Plans are still shaping up for further activities but will likely include a panel discussion with faculty and students discussing how growth mindset is being used.

1. **PTSO Activities**

Just Think Expo scheduled for January 21. Introduce parents/guardians and students to the availability of resources in Newton. This is an important event and all are encouraged to attend.

Next School Council meeting:

Monday, February 1, 2016 6:30PM Room 103