**NEWTON NORTH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING – MINUTES**

Fourth meeting Monday December 7, 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

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

1. **Acceptance of minutes from last meeting – November 2, 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. **Proposals for School Council Focus in 2016**

Prior to a discussion about potential projects for SC in 2016, Principal Aronson commented on some of the projects—including clarifying the role of SC.

1. A *Student Bill of Rights* should be proposed to the Student Faculty Administration (SFA). SFA (not SC) would be the group that would decide whether or not to have such a document. Irene agreed to contact SFA about this proposal.
2. Revising the *Anti-bullying program* is outside the scope of SC. This is a curriculum and SC does not have authority to modify existing curriculum.

*Accessibility to rigorous coursework* is an important precursor to the post-secondary planning process. SC engaged in a discussion about how they might be involved in increasing the participation in advanced courses to groups that are currently underrepresented. This would begin with an examination of data and best practices. After a discussion, SC agreed that this may be a project that may be taken up next year when a permanent principal is in place.

The project that garnered most support was to *continue work with Growth Mindset and to expand our work to include the concept of strengths.* A subgroup was formed to determine how best to proceed with this topic. The group includes: Kathy, Irene, Sally, Albert and David. Interest was expressed on the following: hearing what faculty are doing with growth mindset; having a panel discussion in which both sides of the growth mindset debate are presented; putting GM in the context of best practices.

1. **PTSO Update**

Sally gave an update on PTSO activities. PTSO supported the successful Transitioning Together grant application for $10,000. The Educational Excellence Campaign is underway. The goal is to raise money for more Chromebooks for NNHS. JustThink Expo is scheduled for Jan 21.

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

No other business was rained.

Next meeting is a joint meeting with SFA. It will be held on Tuesday, Jan 5, 2016 beginning at **7:00 AM in the cafeteria**.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.