

**Houston County High School
School Council
Minutes of October 8, 2009**

The Houston County High School (HCHS) School Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 8, 2009 at 6:00pm. The meeting was held in the Media Center, 920 Highway 96, Warner Robins, GA 31088.

School Council Members Present:

Andy Rodriguez, Chairperson
Cherri Nix, Vice Chairperson
Charla Gregory, Secretary
Angela Fussell
Miriam Spornhauer
Deanna Moore
Alyson Keenom
Rex Lewis

School Council Members Absent:

Sherri Freeman, Principal

Call to Order:

Chairperson Andy Rodriguez

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Reflection:

Chairperson Andy Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was distributed and posted IAW the Open Meetings Act. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously that the School Council approves the agenda as written.

MOTION: Rex Lewis

SECOND: Miriam Spornhauer

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of September 8, 2009 were read and posted IAW the Open Meetings Act. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously that the School Council approves the minutes as amended.

MOTION: Deanna Moore

SECOND: Rex Lewis

Recognition of Visitors:

Chairperson Andy Rodriguez recognized visitors to the School Council meeting:

Dr Brian Christensen, HCHS Assistant Principal

Betty Riley, parent

Patricia Rodriguez, parent

Principal's Report

Acting in Principal Freeman's stead, Dr Christensen distributed copies of the draft School Improvement Plan (SIP) to the membership and visitors. Several areas of interest were discussed. The members were asked to review their copies of the SIP at their leisure and be prepared to discuss it at a coming meeting where Ms Freeman will present the final SIP for the council's review and approval/disapproval. **ITEM OPEN**

Unfinished Business

Chairperson Andy Rodriguez referred council members to the Ongoing and Open Items in the September 8, 2009 minutes:

*Improving communication within our community. The flow of information to/from all stakeholders continues in an outstanding manner: website, marquee, county's legal organ & other print media, public access television, "robo-calls," emails, et cetera. **ITEM ONGOING**

*Increasing parental/guardian, student, faculty and staff involvement & support. HCHS's Student/Teacher/Parent Organization (STPO) held a BBQ for the entire senior class on October 1. STPO members grilled hot dogs & hamburgers, stuffed lunch bags with chips & other goodies, and passed out cold drinks. A fun time was had by all. The STPO's next meeting will be on November 2, 2009 at 6pm in the Media Center. All are invited to join. **ITEM ONGOING**

*Creating more opportunities for student involvement. Continue to look for ways to allow for more student involvement in extracurricular activities in school as well as in the community. A volunteer will be solicited to construct a rubric to capture student involvement within the community and compile data. **ITEM ONGOING**

*School-wide surveys for students & parents. We will continue the idea of parent and student surveys during the academic year. The council members will be solicited for their input concerning the survey's method of employment, formulation of questions, target audience, etc. Additionally, members in attendance were distributed self assessment questionnaires and meeting evaluation forms to gauge our effectiveness as a council. **ITEM OPEN**

*By-laws Review. Changes, additions and deletions to the HCHS School Council's by-laws were reviewed. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously that the School Council approves the by-laws as amended. **ITEM CLOSED**

MOTION: Rex Lewis

SECOND: Angela Fussell

*Election of School Council Vice Chairperson. Nominations to fill the unexpired term (through the remainder of the current school year) of the office of Vice Chairperson of the HCHS School Council were accepted. Those nominated included Cherri Nix and Angela Fussell. The outcome of the election is as follows: Cherri Nix - 5 votes; Angela Fussell - 3 votes. Cherri Nix is the

newly elected Vice Chairperson of the School Council. **ITEM CLOSED**

New Business

The following items were introduced:

*Administrivia. The amended by-laws, updated member information, and meeting dates of the council for the current school year will be forwarded to the Houston County Board of Education's central office. **ITEM CLOSED**

*Annual School Council Training. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-86(b), in addition to initial training of new council members, we will request that the Houston County Board of Education central office provides additional training programs to school council members annually to assist members in the performance of their duties. Training could be provided in, but not limited to, the following areas: required reports, development of council's vision statement & goals, distribution and discussion of school principal selection process, and so on. **ITEM OPEN**

*Establishment of a "Council of Councils." We will request that the Houston County Board of Education central office provide for a "council of councils" whereby representatives of each of the school system's school councils meet periodically to discuss items of concern/interest affecting their respective communities. Examples follow: county-wide student code of conduct, methods to increase parental/community participation, keys to improving standardized test scores, et cetera. **ITEM OPEN**

Comments from Guests and Visitors

*Mrs Betty Riley asked about SAT workshops for underclassmen.

Future Meeting Dates

The next regular meeting will be on November 10, 2009 at 6pm in the Media Center. Following meetings will be held at the same time and place on December 8, January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, and May 11.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chairperson Andy Rodriguez addressed the School Council to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Deanna Moore

SECOND: Alyson Keenom

Respectfully submitted,

//signed//
CHARLA GREGORY, Secretary
Houston County HS School Council

//signed//
ANDY RODRIGUEZ, Chairperson
Houston County HS School Council