

## NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

November 16, 2010

Northside High School (NHS) held its meeting on Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. in the NHS Media Center at 926 Green Street, Warner Robins, Georgia.

School Council Members Present: Mr. Mark Scott, Mr. Jim Maddox, Mr. Johnny Thomas, Mr. Wesley Walker, and Dr. Carita Walker

School Council Members Absent: Ms. Andee Lay and Mr. Mike Cook

Fulfilling a quorum, five members were present.

### **1. Call to Order**

Mr. Maddox, chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Maddox led the council in the Moment of Reflection and Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. Recognition of Visitors**

Mrs. Vicki Jones

### **4. Principal's Comments**

Mr. Scott gave the report on the fall activities at NHS. He stated that the softball team is runner-up this year in the region. Although the football team lost in the first round of the playoffs, they are region champs. This year's One Act is region champs for an overall total of 44 region titles. They are also the state champions. The cheerleaders went to state this year and placed eleven out of 42 teams. Two softball players signed college softball scholarships.

In addition, Mr. Scott stated that the preliminary FTE count for the month of October was 1796 students. If students do not come to school during the 10 days of the FTE count, the school loses money for those students. He commented that we miss some students, but it is not common. There is a 13.8% special education population. The state average is 11%. Gifted population is 12.5%, and remedial education is 5.9%. Also, there were 400 graduates at the end of the 2009/2010 school year.

### **5. Old Business**

Facilities Update - Presently, we are redoing the fire alarm at Tabor. When we have a fire drill this month, we will monitor the gym at Tabor. It used to be a situation where we had to pull the fire alarms in several areas.

Multipurpose Area – Old industrial art area is being re-purposed since the Industrial Arts program moved to the Career Center. This will provide a place for teams to practice.

Academic Opportunities – Targeted Juniors and other Juniors are utilizing computer labs at the school. On Tuesday and Thursday, teachers are serving as advisors to students during Operation Eagle. Targeted students are working with specific teachers in targeted areas. This includes students who have failed the test and students with difficult schedules. Vicki Jones spends a lot of time working on this task. Additionally, there are two AYP areas – Math and English - in which students are paired with Math and English teachers.

Also, it was noted that in the minutes from last meeting, Mr. Johnny Thomas was voted as Vice Chairman.

## **6. New Business**

Facility Needs Assessment – The county has approved the hiring of individuals to complete a professional facilities needs assessment. Systems that have completed a facilities needs assessment increased the money it received from the state. Mr. Scott stated that if we receive half the money from the state, it is worth completing the study. According to Mr. Scott, the process has already begun. Information was sent out Friday that had to be returned by Thursday. Northside was in the first round. Mr. Scott stated that Tabor was evaluated including the gym that has wood ceilings and walls. He noted that the ceiling tile was put in to hide wires in the ceiling which is an unpleasant look. The gym is used by many teams who need the extra space. Also discussed was the air conditioner situation at NHS. We would also like to see the math and main building connected to keep students from having to go outside during bad weather. It is also a safety issue. Another idea mentioned was building a multipurpose building, which would add 36 classrooms. If this happens, would you need Tabor? Mr. Maddox inquired about the lunch situations if this takes place. Mr. Scott stated that you would have to go to three lunches.

Furthermore, Mr. Scott stated that Tabor is old with an old mechanical system. The original equipment which was installed in the late 1980s had some faults. At Tabor, there are air conditioner units that do not work. In the cafeteria, there are big units coming out of the ceiling. He commented that the Career Technology building is newer,

and the air conditioner was finally replaced. In the main building, even though it has been renovated, the mechanical part was not included in the renovation. Classes have to move because units go out. There were two to three units down at the beginning of the school year in the cafeteria on the main campus.

The bathrooms look like you are stepping back in time, especially at Tabor. Mr. Maddox wanted to know how Tabor compared to Rumble? Mr. Scott stated that Rumble looks better.

Another issue is the fact that Tabor is not connected to our cable system. One problem with this is the fact that sand is in the ceilings at Tabor, from an earlier remodel that involve sand blasting the walls.

Technology – The main issues are connectivity in building, intercom system, and cable TV needs. The county philosophy is a TV in every room. They are in every classroom, but if one breaks it is not replaced. The teacher will use the projector in his or her room. What about the commons areas? Mr. Scott stated that he foresees flat screen TVs that are internet and Wi-Fi ready.

Mr. Scott stated that he is on a committee at the county level that is looking at the present technology policy. He stated that it needs changes. There are concerns about hands-on access for students such as PDAs, cell phones, and Ipads etc. At present, students cannot bring these things to school. Another concern is the school network. Students cannot connect. The only hardware that can connect is what was purchased by the school system. Policy should be more open. The question is “How do we use these devices productively?” We need to produce students that are college ready. How will we if we do not teach them how to use technology? Dr. Walker asked if parents are on the committee. Mr. Scott stated that they are not at the present time. Mr. Maddox stated that all students are in violation of the cell phone policy if you use the current cell phone policy.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 a.m.