

Stonington High School
SBIT Minutes
January 19, 2010

Members Present: C. Moore, J. Norcross, E. Collette, M. Gillick, J. McCurdy, K. Borenstein, T. Farrell, M. Devine.

Meeting started at 5:04 p.m.

I. Reports: A. Minutes from November 4, 2009. M. Gillick gave an overview of the joint meeting from her notes.

B. Student Report Emily Collette's report follows:

The Student Government ran another successful Reindeer Games, with the \$320 profit benefiting the Global Playground Foundation.

The Stonington High School Law & Government Forum is continuing to prepare to compete in the 2010 Connecticut Mock Trial Competition. Students are also preparing to visit Washington DC in March for Stonington High School's annual "CloseUp! Washington" study trip.

Unified Sports Basketball is underway. Mr. Morrone and Coach Phaiah are starting off with practices and soon they will be playing scrimmages with other teams both at home and away. The big Special Olympics final tournament will be at Norwich Free Academy in March. Unified Sports Basketball is an opportunity for students with and without disabilities to play a sport together in a fun and non-competitive environment. They are thrilled to be in their third year of competition.

On Jan 21-23 SHS Band students are participating in the Thames Valley Music Festival. This festival, held at Connecticut College, consists of students from the Thames Valley area. Participation is based on teacher recommendation. Congratulations to Renee Sajedian, Sara Scott, Ryan Kalinowski, Erika Towne, Russell Towne, and Kade Gerlach.

Also, on January 30, sixteen SHS students will audition for the All State Music Festival. These students are eligible to audition based on their high scores in the Eastern Regional Music Festival.

Finally in music news, on February 6, SHS will host its first coffeehouse. This is an evening to showcase solo and small groups. It will consist of bands, guitarists, pianists, singers, and other small combos.

On February 3 50 SHS art students will be displaying architectural, decorative constructions in the ACGOW windows at 7 Canal Street in Westerly...3D works from clay and studio classes are exhibiting for the month.

Finally, the National Honors Society held their January Blood Drive today. Many students, as well as teachers and people within our community came and donated blood. It was a very successful event

C. November 4 Cross District SBIT: M. Gillick stated it was well attended. We broke into small groups with SHS, MMS and PMS reps. altogether. Discussed the prepping of the 8th graders more before they come to the Activities Fair using Link Crew. J. McCurdy stated this is the current junior class (Student Government) project. The juniors will present their project at our next meeting in March. Good brainstorming and sharing of ideas on parent involvement and fundraisers.

D. Plans for February 8 joint SBIT at SHS with SHS, PMS and MMS at 4:30p.m. This meeting will be to discuss further the transition from the middle schools to the high school. Ideas discussed are to have a Student Government and Link Crew student go to the middle schools prior to the Activities Fair to show a video and then answer questions in small groups. Link Crew could be used more for mentoring such as attending games and plays with MMS and PMS students. Giving students set questions to ask at the Activities Fair. Parent involvement and communication issues. J. McCurdy thinks involvement has increased over the past few years. College Night very well attended. She feels publizing early helps. Dr. Murphy concerned the responsibility of the transition will all fall on the high school. The middle schools need equal part in the transition. T. Farrell agreed. M. Gillick stated that school spirit is lacking at SHS. A student, J. Moore, discussed this issue with her. This will be discussed at our March 16 meeting.

II. Visitors' Comments: None.

III. SBIT Comments: M. Gillick spoke with a student from RHAM High School about their establishment of a "Principal's Counsel." It is a group of students that meet with the principal twice a month with ideas and concerns. This would be students other than Student Government students. J. McCurdy stated she and Dr. Murphy have lunch with Student Government Executive Board. This counsel could be used to advocate for each other. M. Gillick to get their policy and more information to discuss at our March meeting. K. Borenstein had a concern that was mentioned in the letter that went home about the "pot brownies" D. Stewart stated there is more heroin in the area. J. McCurdy stated there is still a lot of ongoing talks with the police and administrators about this. Discussed how to get the information out to students and parents about this danger. J. Norcross stated how Human Services workshops did not work.

IV. Action: None.

V. Agenda: Principal Counsel. Student Government Junior Project. School Spirit.

VI. Adjournment: 6:02 p.m.