**North Atlanta High School Local School Council**

**March 9, 2016 Minutes**

**[Rescheduled from March 3, 2016]**

**Board Members Present:**

Eleanor Brookins, Curtis Douglass, Millie Dunn, Chip Fife, Lisa Jern, Joleen Neel, Stephen Lawrence

**Board Members Not Present:** Mike Everly

**Non-members Present:**  Jill Stewart

**Called to Order**

4:16 p.m. by Ms. Dunn, Chairperson

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2016 (Lisa Jern)**
Motion by Ms. Dunn to approve minutes; second by Mr. Fife; approved unanimously.
2. **LSGT/GO Team, Issues, and Student Member (Curtis Douglass)**The Council discussed the error in the GO Team ballot. Lisa Jern was seeking 3yr., not 2 yr. term as reflected incorrectly on ballot. The error was not at the school or candidate level, but Central Office (Noletha High) nevertheless indicated that they are “unable to correct” the error and apologized for the “inconvenience.” Because this affects who is running against whom, this error seems to be more than an inconvenience.

See Principal’s Report (Exh. A, p. 10) regarding Mr. Douglass’ recommendations regarding three community partners, all of whom the Council members agreed were strong candidates.
Mr. Douglass indicated that the NAHS Confirmation Meeting to confirm community members of the GO Team is on March 29th or 30th.

The LSC discussed generally how the student member is required to, or should, be selected. It is not clear from the materials provided by APS how that student should be selected. Mr. Douglass will confirm whether the student is selected for one year only, as that could impact the decision regarding who it should be (*e.g.*, a senior would not serve a two-year term). The LSC concluded that, because the GO Team will be selecting the student member in some manner, the current LSC would leave it up to the GO Team as to how it wants to select that person. Having said that, the general consensus was that, given the nature of the work of the GO Team, the decision should involve more than simply selecting, *e.g.*, the student body president. Ms. Brookins recommended that the student be required to apply (perhaps with a teacher recommendation) and be interviewed by the GO Team, and the LSC generally agreed.

The LSC agreed generally that the process should be discussed during the confirmation meeting and that a student application should be drafted.

Mr. Douglass indicated that there is also an expanded cabinet meeting on March 17th, at which time he hopes to get more information about how the swing vote should be selected.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **AP Human Geography credit issue (Curtis Douglass; Millie Dunn)**The issue raised by Mr. Everly in his Feb. 18, 2016 email regarding AP Human Geography credit was addressed (Exh. B). Consistent with her response as noted in that email, Ms. Brookins confirmed that there is no change in how the credits for this class are counted. AP Human Geography will “count” as .5 World Geography (and .5 Elective), and the only required social studies course that will still need to be fulfilled by AP Human Geography students is .5 American Government.
2. **SACS Accreditation (Curtis Douglass)**Ms. Dunn initiated the SACS discussion by asking what the LSC can do to assist. Mr. Douglass referred generally to the interview process and to reviewing Exh. B, which includes a draft presentation. Regarding interviews, Mr. Douglass has selected parents and students to be interviewed. The District has looked at the uploaded presentation; Mr. Douglass previewed the draft presentation (Exh. B) for the LSC. Some of those preparing for the SACS review have also looked to the Grady SACS review for guidance. Mr. Douglass also indicated that Yvette Williams did a SACS review at Carver and he went to Hancock. The SACS team is a six-member team. Exh. B, p. 8 is the agenda.

Jill Stewart reminded the Council that she participated in the SACS review five years ago. Ms. Stewart noted: “We’re in a much better place now.”  **ACTION ITEM:** Mr. Douglass asked that members email any suggestions to him regarding the presentation/review.
3. **IB Career-Related Program (Jill Stewart)**See IB Career-related Program Handout (Exh. C)

Ms. Stewart conducted a feasibility study regarding the viability of an IB career-related program at North Atlanta. Central Office paid the application fee. This is an 18-month application process to get authorization; the program would therefore start in the fall of 2017. Mays and Therrell are offering the career path before they offer the DP path.

Regarding Item 1 on Exh. C, we may require one of the DP classes to be DP English. Note Item 2 (“internally assessed”). Regarding Item 3, examples of “external quality assurance” would be AVTF or various business designations (*e.g.*, Microsoft, Adobe certification).
According to Mr. Douglass, one problem is that sometimes tests don’t correlate to the exam.

The Personal and Professional Skills class referred to in Item 4 anchors the career-related program. It is analogous to TOK for the DP program.

The Reflective Project reference in Item 5 occurs in grades 11 and 12.

Ms. Stewart has looked at scheduling and there is room to do the IB Career-related path and still do, *e.g.,* orchestra, or other electives.

**RESOLUTION/APPROVAL:** The LSC voted unanimously to support submission of North Atlanta High School’s application for authorization to offer the IB Career-related program.

**ACTION ITEM:** The LSC recommends that the newly created GO Team look for ways to continue to support the IB program.
4. **Principal Report (Curtis Douglass)**
See attached report (Exh. B, p. 10). Mr. Douglass addressed the science course progression issue. We are proposing that 8th graders be allowed to take physical science. This will be decided “soon.”

Regarding Human Resources, NAHS is getting a 5th school counselor to focus on special projects and important issues (*e.g.*, at-risk students). This is an excellent opportunity to serve our students more effectively.

We are excited that NAHS is getting an IB Coordinator for the Diploma Program.

The LSC discussed discipline generally, particularly afterschool supervision and drug use on campus.

Mr. Douglass reported that our attendance went down some but is still “better than most schools.”

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 5:45 PM**