



STONY BROOK SCHOOL

9 FARMER WAY • WESTFORD, MA 01886 • 978-692-2708

Ms. Allison Hammer
Principal

Mr. Richard F. McElhinney, Jr.
Assistant Principal

School Advisory Council 2022-2023

The Stony Brook School Advisory Council collaborates respectfully and efficiently while developing and assessing goals towards a common objective in a fun environment that fosters listening and sharing, and encourages feedback.

Date of Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2023

Time: 2:10-3:10

Location: Remote Google Meet meet.google.com/ixb-ykta-yxs

Council Members :

Principal	Allison Hammer	Present
Faculty	Michele Dulczewski	Present
Faculty	Mary Larkin	Present
Faculty	Helene Orvoen	Not present
Faculty	Mindy Schnare	Present
Parent/Co-Chair	Seema Pusalkar	Present
Parent	Ramya Soman	Present
Parent	Karen Wiczynski	Present
Parent	Tom Hinkle	Present
Community Rep	Jean Forrester	Present

Agenda:

This will be a joint meeting with the Blanchard School Advisory Council.

1. Approve [December, 2022 minutes](#) for Blanchard and Stony Brook Schools individually
2. Member introductions from each school
3. Share and discuss updated 4 priority areas of Strategic District Improvement Plan from Superintendent
4. Share and discuss draft of combined goal

Discussion:

- ☐ Welcomed Jean Forrester as our new community rep
- ☐ Introductions, combined with Blanchard.
- ☐ Approve the minutes from each school's previous meeting
 - ☐ Blanchard - Minutes are approved as is
 - ☐ Stony Brook - Minutes are approved as is

- ☐ Sandra H. -- Good Pickin' Farm (Picking Gould farm) Town formed a public/private partnership so land will not be built on. Still a working farm. Town owns about 65 acres, 25 acres owned by an individual and the rest is leased. Farm does a lot of work with the community.
 - ☐ Farm will pair with the middle schools and talk about food insecurity programs.
 - ☐ Mootilda bus picks up middle school kids to bring them to the farm and work on specific projects after school.
 - ☐ USDA grant, farm to school grant to connect kids to their food sources. Opportunity with greenhouse to grow food.
 - ☐ Priority 1 -- Mill City Grows, work with both middle schools and kids in Lowell
 - ☐ Priority 3 -- Balance mental health, release pressure through work on the farm, with animals. Work with staff at school to create programs.
 - ☐ Priority 4 -- Working with the town as they saved the property.
 - ☐ Program at the farm for field trip, during the school day.
 - ☐ Any ideas for work with the farm, share with Allison or Tim.
- ☐ Latest draft of Strategic District Improvement Goals
 - ☐ Objectives: See document, priorities similar to schools.
 - ☐ 1: Equity and diversity becoming a regular part of our curriculum/learning
 - ☐ 2: Assess the structures of the districts- use of buildings, schedules, etc.
 - ☐ 3: Prioritize mental health and wellness of students and staff. SEL, ways to release pressure and stress. How can we look at schedules and standards, as well as communication with families and looking at restorative practices
 - ☐ 4: Work with town partners around Westford's Climate Roadmap. Age appropriate for middle school? Ways to be energy efficient and sustainable?
- ☐ Shared Goal: Stony Brook and Blanchard will collaborate to identify opportunities to achieve increased alignment in programming and practices while still allowing each school to maintain their unique identities.
 - ☐ What kinds of things to collaborate on. Curriculum? Schedules? Events? Resources used?
 - ☐ Do have similar curriculums and joint department meetings.
 - ☐ There are obvious differences: Theater Arts (SB) vs General Music (B), Guidance Program at Blanchard but not at Stony (class vs push in)
 - ☐ Share a handbook, review every spring and examine proposals
 - ☐ Family events like Open House and conferences
 - ☐ Student transitions (Grade 6 in from Day for both, Crisafulli to B and Abbot to SB)
 - ☐ Conversations around progress reports and report cards. Examining types of comments being used. Focusing on Effort and Conduct. Clarify where showing growth and need to progress.
 - ☐ Interventions. How it is done at SB and B. Looking for ways to share best practices.
 - ☐ PTO is working together to bring the same events to both schools, programming that they bring in is brought to both schools. Arts and

Enrichment, end of year for 8th grade, staff events, school vs school volleyball game.

- ☐ Potential combined after school activities, way to increase the offerings for enrichment and clubs.
- ☐ Feel free to add to the document, add in any ideas, feedback.
 - ☐ [Link to document with shared goal](#)
- ☐ Chris Chew has a lot of ways for parents to provide feedback.
- ☐ Perhaps we create a shared survey to see parent ideas/interests.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Decisions: