

NHSCA Executive Board Meeting
January 24, 2013 4:30 – 7:00pm
gotomeeting.com

Agenda

Board Members in attendance: Charles Langille, Kyle Cote, Amy Jo Muscott, Robin Gregg, Stephanie Collins, Robin Hogan, Mitch Taranow, Becky Russell, Kathleen Hoppa, Lynn Merlone, Barb Geissi, Colleen DesRuisseaux, Gloria Eno, Sarah Jo Merriman, Susan Theberge, Celia Slason

Call to Order: approximately 4:40

Attendance Check

Approval of agenda

Secretary's Report

Approve November meeting minutes

Motion: Gloria Second: Mitch **Approved**

Treasurer's Report

no report

Administrative Liaison Report

no report

President's Report

The North Atlantic Regional Conference took place on November 16 and 17, 2012. State Leaders from the Northeast Region will meet on the campus of Universal Technical Institute (UTI) in Norwood, MA for a day-and-half meeting focusing on Strategic Leadership. Three members from NH Executive Board were able to attend. Celia Slason, Sarah Jo Merriman and Robin Hogan met with members from the North Atlantic Region leadership to discuss issues related to membership and recruitment, consolidating resources, school counselor evaluations, and conference planning. UTI hosted the group with tours of the facility focusing on technical careers for the future.

Mariane Gfroerer, NHSCA State Department of Education Liaison met with Robin Hogan, NHSCA President to discuss issues related to school counselors. The "Rules" committee will be contacted and members will need to commit to a monthly meeting for the year. We are working closely to assemble the committee. Mariane also offered to host a "Meet and Greet" meeting with Commissioner Virginia Barry to update Dr. Barry on the work of NHSCA on behalf of all NH School Counselors. February 14, 2013 is the tentative date for the meeting.

NHHEAF has collaborated on an effort to celebrate School Counseling Week (Feb. 4-8, 2013) with NHSCA. A letter has been sent to all NH School Principals and signed by the NHSCA and

NHHEAF leadership that supports the work of school counselors in the public schools. Governor Maggie Hassan has been contacted to sign the Proclamation for 2013 School Counseling Week.

An invitation to all NH School Counselors was noted in the February President's Message to join the NHSCA Board.

Fall Conference 2012 Budget report has been filed and sent to the Conference Planning Chair.

President-Elect Report

1. Read over the evaluations from the Fall conference. Generally 4's and 5's for overall. Items that stand out; that attendees would like to see the day broken up- preferring break-outs for later in the day and time to network, make sure there are enough handouts. Some participants noted that it was hard to see Karen (our presenter) and hear her. The screens were not big enough. Sylinda Banks was a hit- had we known we could have allotted her more time! Also- attendees were appreciative of Jared's music and theme - they just wanted to socialize during lunch. Food and location were rated highly.

The take away points that will kept in mind for next year:

- a. Have the primary presenter not go all day-
- b. Have breakouts that can appeal to the K-12 interests
- c. Time to network and socialize

2. Celia has begun research on various speakers: She talked to *Ross Greene* (author of *The Explosive Child*) and the NH Psychological Association beat her by 2 days! and they booked him for that last Friday in October. He is also speaking at the MacNamee conference in April 2013, so he may be saturated at this time within the state.

Celia has approached a speaker from the Health, Emotion and Behavior Laboratory at Yale. They have an evidence based programming to develop emotional literacy in students. The program is called the RULER approach. *Mark Brackett* is the main speaker and the author of *Creating Emotionally Literate Classrooms*.

** another speaker that could come with Mark Brackett is John Mayer of UNH who has done a lot of work with both measuring Emotional Intelligence and how emotion skills relate to social, personal and academic functioning.

**I think a theme could emerge - about tying emotional literacy to academic achievement.

** or a mental health theme- Another idea is to have Dan Habib come talk with the film about *Who Cares About Kelsey?* The film is about an hour and he would bring Kelsey with him potentially. One idea potentially is to have a Thursday evening showing as a Pre-Conference- we have never done that before. One question is- has the film also saturated at this time? or are there counselors in NH who have not had an opportunity to see it?

Idea for Introducing the day and inspiration: *Mark Kuranz* from ASCA. He like *Brian Law* and *Sylinda Banks* is a dynamic speaker- who can speak to the model and the direction of the profession.

ideas for breakouts: STEM careers with someone from Universal Technical Institute
Development of professional evaluation tools for counselors

SMILE approach to work with children who are grieving. (Annie MacDonald)

Annie presented at ASCA 2012- this would be an elem level breakout.

end of day - grade level social hour

3. Celia needs to start a Fall Conference Committee: She needs some volunteers to start researching and planning. Also- need to determine the NECAP 2013 testing dates in October.

4. There was a wonderful turnout for the Monadnock Region Jan. 10 at Keene State. Thanks go to Robin Gregg for organizing a breakfast "meet and greet" for local therapists and school counselors. Help from Becky Russell too! Celia met some local school counselors for the first time! Perhaps this can be an annual event?

5. Celia will be attending the Feb. 8 conference for the NH Psychological Association - which will be a networking event sponsored by NAMI, NH Pediatricians, and NH School Psychologists. Feb. 14 will be a meeting with Marianne Groeferer hopefully with Virginia Barry to attend as well.

Items that Celia would like to talk about: Professional evaluations for NH School Counselors and Work on the State Minimum Standards

Past President's Report

no report

VP LEVEL REPORTS

Elementary Report

Gloria recently attended the NH Association of School Principals Winter Workshop in Meredith, along with her principal, assistant principal and a teacher. During the workshop, she attended sessions on the role of leaders at the district level, and on the importance of literacy education throughout K-12 education. She was also able to participate in a pilot leadership training simulation exercise created by NASSP (National Association of Secondary School Principals) which is being developed to train school leaders in how to handle difficult problem solving situations. The workshop was a great opportunity to increase her understanding of the challenges facing school administrators and how school counselors can use their skills and knowledge to partner with administrators in creating schools with cultures of excellence.

Middle School

no report

High School

no report

Post Secondary

Due to technical difficulties during the online meeting in January the post secondary chair has requested to not post a report for January and will bring the information to the table at the next meeting.

REGIONAL CHAIRS

Seacoast

During the meeting:

Welcome to our new Regional Chair Kyle Cote.

Plans are underway for a Regional meeting to be held during the first week of April at the Dover High School. Representatives from NHHEAF and NH Scholars will be present to speak.

Greater North Woods

no report

Monadnock

On January 10, 2013, about two dozen or so school counselors and regional mental health providers/therapists met at Keene State College. (Several therapists and counselors who were invited were not able to attend but expressed enthusiasm and were very interested in learning about any future meetings.)The school counselors who attended represented elementary, middle and high schools from the ConVal, Jaffrey-Rindge, Hinsdale, Mason, Mascenic, Monadnock, Keene, and Hillsborough-Deering School Districts. Following introductions, during which the mental health providers shared information about their practices (ages of clients, any specializations), a lively Question & Answer session ensued. Following the Q & A session, the attendees enjoyed breakfast (THANK YOU BECKY RUSSELL, REBECCA DUNN AND CELIA SLASON for contributing wonderful baked goods, fruit and coffee!) and informal conversation and networking. All present agreed that the event had been very useful and enjoyable. Plans are afoot for similar gatherings, probably on an annual basis, alternating between Peterborough and Keene. Plans also are underway (in the very early stages) for our spring regional meeting, probably in April. Stay tuned!

Lakes -vacant

White Mountains

no report

Capital - vacant

Dartmouth/Sunapee

A NHSCA member, Katie Kolbe, has expressed an interest in becoming the Dartmouth/Sunapee Regional Representative and will attend the board meeting in March.

Merrimack

During the meeting: An April regional meeting is being organized to have mental health counselors speak with school counselors regarding specific topics.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Nominations and Elections

During the meeting: Looking to nominate members for open positions such as President-Elect. Names of potential members for board positions need to be posted in the May newsletter. All current board members should contact President, Robin Hogan with intentions for serving on the 2013-2014 board. Please let her know prior to the March meeting if you are looking to resign, stay in your current position, or if you would like to fill another board position.

Technology Report

Our forums appear to be under-subscribed and therefore under-utilized. A mass email was sent out encouraging members to subscribe to their relevant forums. Wildapricot cannot track forum subscriptions, nor does it allow administrators to subscribe members to forums. We have submitted feature requests for both of these capabilities.

Public Relations

no report

Professional Recognition

During the meeting: Sadly, Michelle Farrar had to resign from this position due to other commitments. Prior to resigning Michelle had received the nomination packets. Kathleen Hoppa, Public Relations Chair has been filling in for the interim.

Nomination for Kathleen to become the new Professional Recognition Chair

Motion: Mitch Second: Lynn **Approved**

Newsletter

Overview of a message to board members from Beth Harrington the Newsletter Chair. She has moved out of state, but will continue to create the February newsletter before officially resigning from the board. She will give board members until January 24th to submit articles. She is questioning whether the creation of the newsletter can be revert back to a task for the Administrative Assistant.

During the meeting: Questions arose to whether having the Administrative Assistant create the newsletter will increase her overall hours and pay above the existing contract. Robin Hogan will discuss this with Sharon Nix the Administrative Assistant.

Advocacy

Welcome to our new Advocacy Chair, Barbara Geiss.

During the meeting: Barbara Geiss is working with the Middle School VP on an article for the next newsletter.

Fall conference

During the meeting: See the President-elect report for details on potential speakers for the 2013 fall conference. Celia is looking for volunteers to be on the fall conference committee. She would like to have the committee begin ASAP. Lynn will post on the NHSCA website a request for members to join the committee. The following board members have offered to participate: Amy Jo Muscott, Robin Hogan, Robin Gregg, Gloria Eno, Becky Russell, Barbara Geiss

Scholarship

Members of the Scholarship Committee for 2012-2013 met on December 13 and selected Samantha Massahos, from Keene State College, as this year's winner of the Jo Hayslip Memorial Scholarship. The winner, and the two other applicants, have been notified.

The Committee recommends that the application process be amended to require a current resume.

LIAISONS

Guidance Director's Liaison

Guidance Directors had a meeting in December for the NHAGD at NHTI wherein the Commissioner came and was the guest speaker. She discussed the role/position of counselors and how we can work to help better define that role and let others at the state level know the impact we can have in legislation.

There was also had a presentation from CCSNH about Math and how seniors applying to the two year schools do not have enough math, on average, and have to take a prep course in order to get into their intro math level. They have a program that they are piloting with a bunch of high schools, The Guidance Director liaison believe it is 13, wherein they actually provide the math curriculum and books for students and also provide free accuplacer testing to help see which level of math the students need to be placed into. This program has helped prep these students and raise their accuplacer scores.

We also discussed our next meeting in March at NHHEAF.

Department of Education Liaison

From the President Report: Mariane Gfroerer, NHSCA State Department of Education Liaison met with Robin Hogan, NHSCA President to discuss issues related to school counselors. The "Rules" committee will be contacted and members will need to commit to a monthly meeting for the year. We are working closely to assemble the committee. Mariane also offered to host a "Meet and Greet" meeting with Commissioner Virginia Barry to update Dr. Barry on the work of

NHSCA on behalf of all NH School Counselors. February 14, 2013 is the tentative date for the meeting.

Student Intern Liaison

The graduate student forum is up and running but no one has posted in it yet. Sarah Jo has tried adding topics to see if that would spike activity but so far, no luck. She will be e-mailing out to the college programs across NH about this new feature this week. Any other ideas are certainly welcomed!

At the North Atlantic Regional Leader's meeting she connected with MASCA who offered to have our NHSCA student members attend their spring conference (at their member rate, she believes) so that our graduate student members can hear all about the job search experience, building a resume, etc. This was a topic that the students expressed interest in at our Fall conference. Shawn Quinn and Sarah Jo were thinking of putting together a mini-workshop for this but again, no one has been utilizing the graduate student forum.

Sarah Jo is planning to attend the meet and greet on February 14th.

During the meeting: Susan Theberge offered to get the word out to her graduate students about the benefit of using the forum.

NHHEAF Liaison

no report

New Business

NH Rules for Education Ed306.39 Guidance and Counseling Programs

- Mariane Gfroerer is requesting counselors contact her if interested in participating in this committee. It requires a once a month, year long commitment.

Policy and procedures for Executive Board actions without a quorum present

- Feedback was provided
 - Ease of email request for votes and reporting results in the minutes
 - Desire to have a write-up about conversations during meeting on subjects being voted on and prior review of minutes before vote
 - Request to separate voting items into multiple emails to clarify what is being voted on
- Final decision of what process will be used in the future was not clarified.

Use of technology for discussions and voting purposes

- Feedback provided
 - Members did not participate in the discussions as fully as they would at a typical meeting

- Technology wise it went well, with further practice of gotomeeting.com and it's features there will be an ease and flow to the meeting where people may express their ideas more readily
- It is a nice option for winter months
- Time constraint with the recording of session was a concern

Procedure for discussion of new members while in attendance at Executive Board meetings.

- Topic tabled until March meeting

Discussion about Charter School/Virtual School board participation

- Topic tabled until March meeting

Adjournment: 5:20

Next NHSCA Executive Board Meeting: March 21, 2013 @NHTI Grappone Center, Trulson Room at 4:30pm.