**School Council Meeting – October 2, 2018**

Attendees: May Chiu, Martha Hausman, Deborah Bernhard, Ricardo Gessa, Hema Roychowdhury, Clare Landrigan, Joel Stembridge, Charlie Myette, Jasmine Lellock, Didem Vardar-Ulu, Peter Meyer, Lisa Terrizzi, Xiaoguang Zhen,

1. Welcome and Introductions

-Joel shares the vision of school council acts as advisory role for principal. At times school council gets involved in some political/policy issues if it fits

1. Principal Update:

-HS Schedule – NNHS/NSHS have longest school day in state. While we want to start later, we do not want to go later. Looking into different ways to flex schedules to allow a later start without extending the day. Scheduling Committee will reach out to parents and some Sophomore and Junior students to get feedback. They will then move forward 2-3 scheduling proposals to faculty and students in hopes of having 1-2 options to share with School Committee. Everyone is in agreement that there is no perfect schedule but there are essentials faculty is looking to preserve. Our current schedule was developed twenty years ago.

-1:1 Laptop Rollout – coming in December/January

-Later Start – Joel recapped the history of Later Starter initiative. Last night the Mayor shared they do not have the money to do the later start time without impacting the other schools. The earliest they could implement later start time would be Fall of 2020 and elementary/middle schools would be impacted as well. Joel asked the council if this group wants to stay involved in the conversation.

-Newton South is going to Parks and Recreation committee to request lights on our athletic fields.

1. Recap 2018 Projects:

-Focus last year was on enhancing student and teacher engagement. We did a survey to get more feedback from students. We are sharing this information with teachers

-The other focus was to celebrate all students. The freshman will have an event to share a passion, a proud moment, or a story. It will be a 3-5 minute talk.

1. High School Traffic RFP

-Joel is asking the town for a traffic study for South specifically.

1. Minutes Review – 6/12/18 Meeting
2. 2019 Topics

-Weighted GPA