

## Education Advisory Group Minutes

4/6/11

In Attendance: Cybele Barno, Mary DiRienzo, Daniella Ferguson, Christina Ippolito, Anne Hartig, Jane Hill-Rosato, Sharon Miller, Bethany Summers, Sharon Mooney

1. Reviewed the homework guidelines that are indicated in the Parent Handbook. The guidelines had also been reviewed by the Instructional Committee of the Bd. of Ed. All agreed that the guidelines were appropriate and in general, were the amount of time normally spent by students.
2. Discussed tutoring opportunities at ESU. Mary DiRienzo indicated that ESU students provide tutoring in all subjects at a nominal fee. S. Mooney will contact ESU to see if it is possible for students to come to Knowlton to provide tutoring. Members of the committee also would like to see more tutoring or homework support after school.
3. Discussed offering more parent workshops, especially for study skills. Could the workshop be mandatory for parents? It would be necessary to offer the workshop at various times and dates to accommodate parent needs. Could part of the weekly newsletter be dedicated to study skills suggestions?
4. Members of the committee felt that it would be beneficial to post homework on-line and to give advance notice of chapters and pages that will be covered in order to help with homework support at home. S. Mooney stated that a parent portal will be available in 2011-2012 with the new student information system.
5. In a discussion of the grading policy, members felt that more credit should be given for work shown in class and effort. Some also felt that the percentage of the grades given for tests and quizzes should be less.
6. The majority of members did not like that “detention” was a consequence for missing homework assignments. It was decided to change the name from detention to “Homework Recovery”. The committee also discussed NET and the procedures for assigning NET. Clarification is needed around the assigning of NET. It was suggested that three (3) NETS for missed homework would result in a Homework Recovery. NET would also be assigned for making up or completing tests and for incomplete school work if the work could have been completed under normal circumstances. If a student cannot complete work because of a learning disability or condition, NET should not be assigned; the student should take the remaining work home for homework.
7. Members worked in partners to review various surveys on the topic of homework. A member of each set reported out their impressions of the survey. S. Mooney will put together a survey based on input from the committee.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:00.**