



Harford County Public Schools

HCPS School Uniform Committee Minutes

Tuesday, April 1, 2008

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Mr. Hess gave the group comments from NSBA (National School Boards Association).

- Many vendors have resources that would help facilitate the implementation of uniforms.
- Board of Education members that Mr. Hass spoke with at the conference seemed to support this unanimously.
- Most orders can be made on-line through various vendors.
- Incentive programs for PTA's, Boosters, etc.
- Prices can be kept competitive.
- Mr. Hess met with several consultants who work with school systems who want to implement school uniforms. Would like to follow up with the consultant from New Jersey.

Mr. Volrath shared information about Dr. Phillip Vincent who presented on school uniforms at the NASSP conference. He will forward contact information to the Uniform Committee.

Committee solicited student dialogue on the opinion and ideas of what current classmates were saying about school uniforms. Some of the student thoughts are as follows:

- They are about what the uniforms may look like?
- Students thought uniforms may impact their self expression.
- Others thought it may be easier and faster getting ready in the morning if they had to wear a uniform.
- Students talked about having a choice of pants, shorts, skirts, dresses and possibly collared shirts or vests to wear.
- Some students liked the idea of implementing a school logo on the uniforms.

Managing the fall agenda for community meetings

In order to craft a script we have to answer the following questions:

“What is our purpose?”

“What information will we share?”

We also need to create focus groups questions.

Purpose

- Be transparent; project stockholder participation
- Answer public questions, dispel rumors
- Identify benefits to school community

Decisions Made:

- Will hold focus group sessions at each High School in their cafeteria. We will also invite feeder schools to attend.
- All events will be publicized in case someone cannot make it to their High School event.
- Focus groups will be held in October.
- Each school will be submit a uniform design to the committee and should get their Student Government Association involved.
- Since there will not be enough time for schools to make a presentation of the school uniforms that they have created in October, presentations will be made by the schools in January.

During the next meeting the Uniform Committee will:

- work on the scripts for the focus groups.
- review drafts of the script.
- get the materials from the NSBA.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MAY 16th 6 – 8pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.