

**NORCROSS HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Thursday, May 13, 2004**

**Members Present:**

Mary Ann Charron, Dorothy Lewis, Paula Parris, Chuck King, Harvey Snider, Kevin Case

**Members Absent:**

Bobby Butler

The motion to approve the agenda was made by Harvey Snider and seconded by Dorothy Lewis.

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Harvey Snider and seconded by Paula Parris.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Thursday, May 13 is the final day to vote for parent members of the School Council for the 2004 – 2005 and 2005 – 2006 school years. Norcross High School faculty representatives will be elected before the end of this school year.

Each School Council member received a copy of the approved Gwinnett County Public School's budget for 2005. The budget includes total revenue of \$1472 million. Out of that amount, \$946 million comes from local funding, \$469.6 million is from state funding, and \$56.2 million is from federal funding. The major portion of operating costs goes for salaries and benefits of GCPS employees (68.3%). Some items of interest to the members were the proposed 2% pay raise for teachers and the per pupil allotment for high schools. The per pupil allotment for Norcross High was cut from \$51.00 per pupil for the 2004 school year to \$48.50 per pupil for the 2005 school year. Based on a student population of 2600 students, this will mean NHS will have a shortfall of \$6500. Money from the per pupil allotment pays for copying costs, department costs, etc. Norcross was again allotted \$50,000 to fund the International Baccalaureate program. Ms. Charron voiced a concern that while in the past \$50,000 covered the costs of maintaining the IB program, the program is growing and more money will need to be raised in order to train more teachers and purchase more materials.

School Council members said they would like to see a copy of Norcross High School's budget. With the issue of raising money to "bridge the gap" between the funds Norcross is allotted and money needed to continue various programs, the members believe they

could have positive input. Ms. Charron will share the budget at a School Council meeting the beginning of next school year.

Copies of the Accountability Report for 2003 - 2004 were given to each member. Because the report is based on data from the previous school year, it is showing on old information. The report does, however, show a favorable evaluation of the school. Harvey Snider questioned how the report would be distributed and suggested sending it out on the web site. Hard copies will be given to visitors to the school and to families registering students.

Copies of the Perception Survey that was sent to parents earlier in the school year were also shared. For the most part, the responses to the survey were favorable. Ms. Charron stated that when looking at the results, we should compare the mean score of NHS to all of the other high schools, and that we want our mean score to be higher.

Various members thanked Mary Anne Charron for her leadership this year and stated they were happy with the direction the School Council is going. The suggestion was made that next year the group should pick a couple of projects to focus on throughout the year. Ms. Charron welcomed that idea and said the projects could be tied to the Local School Plan for Improvement (LSPI). It was also suggested that the council meet with department chairs in order to discern needs of the school and then take a pro-active stance to provide what is needed.

Meeting adjourned.

There will be no meetings in June and July.

