

SOUTH ORANGETOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

BLT MEETING MINUTES

DATE OF MEETING: November 2, 2011

COMMITTEE ATTENDEES:

	Y/N
Karen A. Tesik	Y
Eric Goldstein	Y
Michael Ryan	Y
Stephanie Stehly	N
Karen Mignone	Y
Alice Buchanan, At Large	N

	Y/N
Richard Neidhart	Y
Vincent Piscitelli	Y
Ron Scherer	Y
Terri Drexler	Y
Tara Shapiro	Y
Elizabeth Scotson, Alternate Parent	Y

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Evan Karzhevsky

1. **Agenda Item:** Approve the May 25 and September 21, 2011 minutes

Key Points:

- Motioned to approve the May 25 and September 21, 2011 minutes by Ron Scherer, seconded by Vincent Piscitelli. The committee approved the minutes from the May 25 and September 21, 2011 minutes meeting as distributed.

2. **Agenda Item:** Review process by which 8th graders are evaluated and placed in 9th grade honors classes; when does the process begin; deadlines; how is this communicated to parents and students.

Key Points:

- 8th graders all get course offering books
- All honors classes same as last year
- Reviewed the process for students to be placed in honors classes
- Students need to fill out an application form, take a skills based honors placement test given by the HS teachers, a recommendation may be needed by the 8th grade teachers
- There are concerns of over testing
- Parents can respond if their child was not placed in an Honors class and that child would be discussed at an 8th grade meeting
- Discussed placement for 7th into 8th Studio Art and Advanced Tech. Students are placed by rubric, portfolio and test

Required Actions/Recommendations:

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3. **Agenda Item:** Application for new club at SOMS: LBGT / GSA Club

Key Points:

- Student driven club
- Students have shown interest in joining the club
- Discussion on changing the name to Creating Tolerance or Tolerance Club
- Phyllis Frank will meet with students to give guidance to students who want to join
- Concern if 6th graders are mature enough to join
- Karen Tesik will meet with GSA Leader to provide information
- Club must follow the application procedure that is in place
- Would like to be discussed more at next meeting

Required Actions/Recommendations:

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4. **Agenda Item:** CTB4 Tests

Key Points:

- Will not be given this year

Required Actions/Recommendations:

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AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2011:

1. Continue Discussion - Application for new club at SOMS: LBGT / GSA Club
2. Honors 9 Update

Minutes taken by:

Vincent Piscitelli

Name

11/3/11

Date