

HHS SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

February 5, 2020 (5 PM)

In attendance: E. Bienfang, K. Breen, E. Cavanaugh, R. Estes, G. Garland, B. Holleran, L. Jefford, S. Kelly, J. McPhillips, M. Melendes, C. Morley, P. Swanson & R. Swanson (13 total)

ONE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved unanimously.

TWO: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #1- EXPAND ADVISORY PROGRAM

RS provided an update on efforts to expand the advisory program. An Advisory Task Force (comprised of teachers, counselors and administrators) has recommended a daily 30-minute flex block that would enable students to 1) meet in an advisory session every Monday and 2) choose from a variety of options (e.g., get extra help from a teacher, meet with a counselor, make up missed work, participate in a club, etc.) on the other days.

THREE: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #2- REVIEW HHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- The Council reviewed a draft of a survey (developed by EB) for distribution to recent graduates. Recommended changes included: 1) using a Likert scale; 2) adding qualifiers (e.g., YOG, college major, etc.) and a statement of purpose at the beginning; 3) asking whether HHS graduation requirements prevented students from accessing any opportunities; 4) reducing the number of questions that pertain to mentors; 5) limiting the potential respondents to those who graduated in the last five years; and 6) offering an incentive (e.g., raffle prize) for participation.
- The Council examined and discussed a document (developed by GG) that summarized graduation requirements at “benchmark” communities.
- The Council also debated the merits of counting “non-leveled elective courses” toward GPA. HHS does not presently include grades from those courses when calculating a student’s GPA. Some Council members expressed satisfaction with the current policy, while others recommended a review of the policy.

FOUR: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #3 - BOLSTER CULTURAL PROFICIENCY

Several events are in the works, including:

- A performance of “Thurgood” (in-school assembly) for all juniors and select others was held on Monday, February 3rd, as a kickoff to “Black History Month”
- Professional development workshop for all teachers on the morning of Tuesday, March 3rd

- Performances of “Mr. Joy” (in-school assembly) for all students on Thursday, March 12th and Friday, March 13th

Discussion at the next meeting will focus on additional steps that might be taken to address this goal. Members are encouraged to bring ideas to that meeting.

FIVE: SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #4 - RENEW FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Discussion at the next meeting will focus on additional steps that might be taken to address this goal, as well. Members are encouraged to bring ideas to that meeting.

Next HHS School Council meetings: 3/4/20, 4/1/20, 5/6/20, 6/30/20