

HHS SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

April 3, 2019

Members Present: K. Breen (Gr. 11), S. Cyr (Parent/Community Rep.), R. Estes (Parent), A. Fennelly (Gr. 12), K. Haughey (Parent), E. Larkin (Gr. 12), C. O'Connor (Teacher), P. Swanson (Community Rep.), R. Swanson (Principal) - 9 Total

Guest: C. Da Silva (School Committee Liaison)

1: APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND REVIEW OF LAST MEETING

Minutes of the last meeting (Feb. 6, 2019) were approved unanimously.

2: SCHOOL SECURITY

Mr. Swanson reported that the HHS Security Team has decided to postpone tentative plans for a full-afternoon training session that would divide the student body into three groups to rotate through stations: 1) lockdown procedures in the cafeteria; 2) a presentation in the auditorium about how to barricade doors in a classroom; and 3) a discussion in the gym about how to handle an emergency situation that happens during an after-school event. This idea will be revisited next year. We will need to determine whether the exercise would yield sufficient benefits to justify the loss of two hours of instructional time. In the meantime, HHS plans to hold a lockdown drill during passing time at some point after April vacation.

3: SOLAR ENERGY

Peter Swanson has organized a site visit to Plymouth North High School on April 29th at 10 AM. Members of our School Council and the HHS Green Team will meet with Plymouth's business manager, Gary Costin. Principal Swanson will lead the group that visits PNHS. Mr. Cyr, Mr. Estes and Mr. DaSilva also hope to attend. They will bring a set of questions that was developed by Peter Swanson and reviewed by the full School Council. Among other things, we will explore the relative merits of parking-lot canopies vis-a-vis panels on the roof.

4: CIVICS EDUCATION

Ms. O'Connor shared information about recent state legislation that encourages school districts to increase civics education. Our Social Studies department is exploring alternative approaches to satisfying the demands of this legislation. The HHS Student Council is already at work on a voter registration project. Members of the School Council were unanimous in endorsing the importance of civics education. In fact, most members would like to see civics become a graduation requirement. Other suggestions included: 1) incorporating civics projects into club activities; 2) combining a civics component in the ongoing effort to expand our school's advisory program; and 3) scheduling more school-wide assemblies that address civics-related topics.

NOTE: Next HHS School Council meetings: 5/1/18 & 6/5/18