

# HHS SCHOOL COUNCIL

*December 15, 2021 (5 PM) via [Zoom](#)*

In attendance: Anderson, Cavanaugh, Garland, Hoguet, Laurent, Lee, Lefort, Mathews, Melendes, McPhillips, Pena, Rabinovitz, Struzziero, Sutton, P. Swanson, R. Swanson, Whitlock (17 total). Absent: Ayer, Jefford, Knight (3 total).

## 1 - INTRODUCTIONS

All members in attendance (17 total) greeted one another. Minutes from the last meeting were approved unanimously.

## 2 - OVERVIEW OF AGENDA

R. Swanson shared anonymous responses from the “Safety” Google Form completed by members prior to the meeting. He then opened up the meeting to a broad discussion based on recent events within the school system and community.

## 3 - SAMPLE RESPONSES FROM THE SAFETY GOOGLE FORM

Questions asked:

1. What do you mean when we say “safety”?
  - A. Comfortable being yourself without fear, comfortable and secure in the building, a person's physical being safe from harm, feeling physically and emotionally secure in whatever space I am in, protected from harm and danger, etc.
2. Please describe a time when you felt “safe” in our community?
  - A. When I attend an event where most of the attendees were parents, parent group discussions with principal Swanson, working with peers, at our pep rally because I got to be with my friends, Officer Ford standing in front of the student section at football games, etc.
3. Describe a time you did not feel safe in our school?
  - A. During bomb threats, when I was alone in the building setting up for senior day, recent football game with a fight in the stands, some haven't had that experience, freshman racial slurs on social media targeting other students, etc.
4. To become safer, what do we need to do?
  - A. Listen to the marginalized student body and their allies and learn, be consistent with repercussions and punishments when done wrong, think about safety as a broader

context, be better with Special Ed support and minority students, move forward with equity work, etc.

#### 4 - GENERAL QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Overview of recent racial incidents
2. When can administrators respond to incidents that happened outside of school?
  - a. When the incident disrupts the educational process and/or creates a hostile environment at school
3. What has been done in response to the recent racial event?
  - a. We had several “debriefing” sessions to give students an opportunity to share their opinion on how recent events affected them. We also had a larger student body debriefing, which illustrated a desire on the part of many students to create change in the near future. These sessions will continue on a monthly basis so students can have opportunities to speak on current feelings.
4. Can we give a refresh on proper phone usage in school based on the Student Handbook?
  - a. Yes
5. How do we make kids feel comfortable calling other kids out appropriately?
  - a. Empowerment and leadership trainings
6. What do you think would be most effective in the quality of education regarding these topics?
  - a. Zoom for parents, athletic pullouts regarding inclusivity, bystander training
7. Can call the Anti Defamation League if parents deem necessary
8. HHS Unity Week- characteristics of “spirit week” but themes related to the group’s mission, which is to build a school community defined by respect, inclusion, safety and equity. Leading up to a dance to promote multicultural inclusivity in terms of music and food. Includes the launch of Black History month and Chinese New Year. We hope that flags will be installed in the cafeteria by the end of January.
9. Possibility of having student speakers to speak or read a poem or give a statement in an in-school assembly during Unity Week.
10. RS described the launch of a new “Unity Project” display case.

#### 6 - UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next HHS School Council meetings: 1/19, 2/16, 3/16, 4/27, 5/18, 6/15