

School Committee Meeting with Student Advisory Committee

Minutes of the February 10, 2022 Meeting

1. Call to order

The School Committee was called to order at 5:03 PM

In attendance via Zoom:

School Committee Members participating remotely: Kerry Ni, Michelle Ayer, Nes Correnti, Liza O'Reilly, Jen Benham, Tim Dempsey, Carlos Da Silva (arrived 5:53 PM)

Administration participating remotely: Dr. Jamie LaBillois

Student Advisory Members participating remotely: Elijah Webber, Nathan Tesler, Lea Viola - Advisor

All Members and Administration participating remotely

2. To hear a report from the Hingham Public School Student Advisory Committee (SAC)

- Heard the results of a student survey performed on how students feel about the mask mandate. The SAC asked three questions and included space for free responses.
 - i. If HHS Were to Go Mask Optional, I Would Feel Safe In the Building
 - ii. If HHS Were to Go Mask Optional, I Would Continue To Wear a Mask
 - iii. I Think Making HHS Mask Optional is a Good Idea
- The survey was sent by email from Rick Swanson to all High School Students. The SAC received 301 responses. The SAC provided the Committee with the results of the survey.
- The Committee and SAC discussed how much information to share. Decided to put out pie charts, the overall summary and some comments from each side of issue. Specific comments from students are sensitive information to put out to public as there are identifying comments from specific students.
- Survey and comments to be sent to students.

3. To update the Student Advisory Committee on School Committee priorities

- Kerry Ni updated the SAC on some SC priorities including. Currently discussing the budget with the Administration and the Town. Nathan Tesler shared the importance of a Fine Arts Director as participation in the arts is down since the start of the pandemic.
- Liza O'Reilly shared that a bylaw was passed at the 2021 Town Meeting to adopt gender neutral terms through town business. One gender neutral issue with the schools is the mascot being a Harborman. Discussed ideas and options of how to go about changing the mascot. Discussed the possibility of the SAC taking the lead on this effort.
- Kerry Ni shared that the Select Board voted to institute a Human Rights Commission (HRC) in the Town of Hingham. The School Committee is tasked with appointing a SC representative and a student representative. Discussed different options to select representatives. The student reps felt a student from the Unity Project may be a group to ask for a representative as that group works on similar issues as the HRC. Kerry Ni to ask SC members for volunteers.

4. Other items as may not reasonably be known 48 hours in advance of the meeting

None

5. Adjourn

On a motion made by Michelle Ayer and seconded by Nes Correnti, the School Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Nes Correnti, Secretary

Attachments:

SAC Survey Report