

School Council Meeting

Feb 14, 2023

Attendees:

J. Butler (t), D. Fan (p), H. Galante (a), D. Hudder (a), N. Myles (t), T. Scott (p), Shreyes S. (s), J. Stark (t), J. Stewart (p), J. Wysokowski (t), Druthi Y. (s)

AGENDA:

I. Minutes

- [January Minutes](#) Approved

II. Security Cameras at BHS

- Admin team has been advocating for years. Many incidents would have been prevented or addressed very differently, e.g., thefts, racist graffiti
- Incident on 2/6/23 prime example - thankfully was resolved despite the lack of cameras
- Working with Pathways to Restorative Communities to repair and move forward
- Open for input:
 - (Teacher) Many schools today across the state received false threats, as today is the anniversary of Parkland. Without cameras, we are limited in our ability to disavow the threat.
 - (Student) I fully support it. I thought there were cameras in the middle school.
 - (Teacher) What does it mean to have cameras in a school? In classrooms?
 - Hallways, stairwells, cafeteria, entry points - not classrooms.
- Regarding the 2/6 incident, is there any feedback on how it was handled?
 - (Parent) Superintendent should have communicated out with the community
 - (Teacher) That can still happen - beyond just the weekly update
 - (Student) Most students in my Advisory didn't really want to talk about it. I got the sense that people wanted to move on, and maybe we should have talked more.
 - (Student) I think people generally still feel good about being here in Bedford.
 - (Teacher) I still don't know how to manage situations when students of color use the n-word casually in class. That would be helpful for future training.

III. Finals Schedule

- We talked previously about bringing them back for the end of the school year.

- Some feedback from students about challenges when exams are embedded in the regular schedule
- Not midyear exams
 - Looking at potential moving “Q5” plans to “J term” in January.
- When announcing to teachers
 - Do all teachers need to give exams? Consistency within different sections of the same course
 - It does go into Q4; otherwise, messaging about weighing the exams

IV. Community Conversations

- Ways to engage the community other than conferences and open house - for future discussion

V. Eighth/Ninth Grade Transition

- Came up in the student groups during the superintendent search process
- Future First Years Information Night - March 8
- Have done Step-up Day previously - some issues
- Perhaps integrate it more with the scheduling process? Work with counselors?
- Shadow day?
- Build in a class? Combine with post-secondary planning as you get older

VI. Post-Secondary Planning - tabled until March meeting

VII. Meetings date

- Next meeting: Tuesday, Mar 14, 2:30-3:30 PM
 - Post-secondary planning
 - Student Handbook changes - first conversation

BHS School Council

Meeting Agreements

- End on time
- Share the space and the air - no voice dominates
- Engage in open and honest discussion, where disagreement is welcome and all opinions are considered

- Assume positive intention
- Be mindful that we are all here as representatives, not individuals
- Respect confidentiality - not single out individuals
- Be task oriented; stick to the agenda

Attendance key:

s: student

p: parent

t: teacher

a: administrator

v: visitor