

High School Council Meeting Minutes

For January 05, 2010

Students: James and Erin Espinosa

Teachers and Staff: Frank Hoek, Dot Pearl, Mr. Pearson

Parents: Sue Fasoli, June Miller and Sue Rorke

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 2 at 3:30

Agenda: Graduates Seminar on Thursday, Jan. 7 “From the Eyes of a Graduate”
Jimmy had 6 yeses, and anticipates having enough students. Mr. Hoek is doing the schedule for attendees – required for seniors with a study hall. Jimmy planned to send out another reminder on Facebook to seniors. Suggestions for discussion: How did grads choose college; what, good and bad, was a surprise; Roommates; No parents; Time management; social life.

Agenda: Program of Studies additions and changes

- ◆ Next year’s freshman class is smaller, and the plan is to make changes to reduce class sizes for the sophomore class.
- ◆ The changes to the Program of Studies were distributed. The next step is for the School Committee to discuss and approve the changes.
- ◆ NEASC (accreditation) may be moving in the direction of some heterogeneous classes as opposed to leveling all.
- ◆ Mr. Pearson did not want the expense and paper of printing the entire program for all of the freshmen and other students. We suggested abbreviated class descriptions, and directing students and parents to more complete on-line information... hopefully cutting printing costs in half.
- ◆ The council stepped through the POS and discussed the various changes.
- ◆ We spent some time talking about AP courses with some discussion as to whether they should be as pervasive as they are... One person was concerned that the students are moving through the material too fast, and they may not be really absorbing it. Another concern is when a class is only offered as AP, it means that that subject is completely unavailable to some students.
- ◆ Other discussion: consistency about class/course expectations; possibility of student end-of-course surveys

Cancelled Agenda: 21st Century Skills

Mr. Pearson was unable to get the movie “2 Million Minutes” at the January meeting.

We hope to see it at a future meeting.

Other: Apparently last year’s graduates were not listed in the newspaper. Mr. Pearson will look into it and plan to post them this year.

Minutes by Sue Rorke, January 22, 2010