

**Hudson High School
School Council
Hudson, Massachusetts**



Thursday, January 23, 2020

3:30 PM, Hudson High School Library, 69 Brigham St, Hudson, MA

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of minutes from 12/19/20
- Updates from the Principal
 - Mid-terms 1/16 - 1/22
 - Program of Studies for 2020-2021 presented to School Committee
 - 1/23 - A Night on Teen Vaping, and HHS Curriculum Night
 - Role of School Council during May NEASC visit
- Checking in at the mid-year: How are we doing as a Council on our stated goals/objectives for the year (listed below)?
 - Commitment to meet regularly
 - Explore connections between the town and community
 - How can our students contribute and serve Hudson?
 - Should we explore the role community service has in the HS?
 - What needs exist in the community that we can support through offering programming?
 - What role can the Council have in regards to educating the community about student social media behavior?
 - What role can the Council have regarding Communication?
- Preparing for SY 2020-2021
 - Mapping out a plan for input on the 2020-2021 School Improvement Plan
 - Mapping out a plan to review the Code of Conduct
 - Mapping out a plan for Membership on the Council

Minutes from December 19, 2019

Thursday, December 19, 2019

3:30 PM, Hudson High School Library, 69 Brigham St, Hudson, MA

Jason Medeiros Principal	Julia Stukonis Student	Emily Figueiredo. Student	Emily Genova Student	Nina Ryan School Committee
Carey Napoleone Parent				

AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of minutes from 11/21/19
- Updates from the Principal
 - Thanksgiving Rally & football game were positive experiences and a great opportunity for the school to come together
 - Mamma Mia: powerful show
 - Winter Concert, also a great display of the skills and talents of HHS students
 - Senior Breakfast coming up tomorrow
 - HW-free vacation is also on the horizon
 - Questions for the Principal from HHS Community Council
 - Snow Day Notification
 - Can students be notified directly about the schedule for the next day?
 - Even though ASPEN is updated as soon as a decision is made, Mr. Medeiros can take responsibility for communicating to students what the schedule will be.
 - Feminine Product Dispensers in bathrooms
 - There was a request in previous years and Council was wondering if it can be revived.
 - Other community council updates
 - electronic sign
 - There is an account at Apsley St. Next step is to figure out how those funds match to the current cost of a project.
 - bulletin board
 - Community Council would like to install a bulletin board to consolidate posts regarding student activities/events. Mr. Medeiros will work with facilities on the feasibility of the location.
 - Saturn app

- The students on the Council brought up a web-based application called “Saturn,” which is a personal organizer/planner app for students. It sounds like it could be a useful tool for students but not necessarily one that the school could adopt as a platform for all its work.
- Continuing to reflect on what we do as a school community to communicate what we do to spotlight our work at HHS.
 - Examining our Program of Studies. What do we communicate to the community by way of our programs and offerings? What can we communicate better?
 - The students on the council reported the following about the course selection process:
 - It is a chaotic, stressful experience
 - It is not easy to decide how both to challenge yourself and maintain balance in your schedule
 - Course selection day is hectic
 - In one day, you have meetings with every teacher
 - Students wish it was a little later in the school year
 - Other reflections from students on the process
 - Peer feedback is a huge resource to learn what other classes are like
 - Writing out details about your priorities in the comments section of the course selection sheet is incredibly helpful
 - The AP policy - concern about the grade change.
 - What are the strengths of the program?
 - The number and variety of AP classes
 - Academic electives: World Cultures, Conflict Resolution as examples
 - Electives that offer foundational skills for college, career, and adult life: Personal Finance and Public Speaking as examples
 - What elements of our program aren’t clear
 - The role of Pathways
 - Is the perception that once you are committed, you are in.
 - It is important to understand that you exit a pathway at any point.
 - What is an AP course? Why would you take an AP? What are the expectations?
 - It could be useful to have information to help families understand what APs are
 - What is a Virtual High School (VHS) course? Why would you take one?
 - What do other non-traditional courses look like? (Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) courses, for example)
 - Organizing offerings by a certain grade
 - Even though there are grade listings by many courses, students on the council report how when you show up to courses, sometimes you are surprised that the other students in the class are either a lot older or younger than you. Is there a way to have more specific grade ranges for courses?
 - What are other aspects of HHS offerings do you feel are unique?
 - The access to courses that collaborate with Hud-TV