

Minutes 10.15.25

Hanover High Council [Meeting #9]

“In October any wonderful unexpected thing might be possible” -Elizabeth George Speare

- Bring a Motion to Council - ANYONE Can! -





Minutes [10.15.25]

1. Approval of minutes 10.8.25
2. Reports
 - a. Moderator: Please take wristbands! The Student Activities Committee outlined the spirit days this week, so please follow them!
 - b. Amod: Ask me if you need to know the designated spots for spirit days
 - c. Treasurer: The Council fund is \$1,925 and the Co-curricular program is \$8,145.
 - d. CPP: CPP had a budget meeting yesterday and thus had no regular meeting.
 - e. Curic: We discussed advisory lunch
 - f. SAC: we are bringing an allocation today
 - g. OEC: Discussed removing duties for Council staff members and for revising how J-Comm terms are allotted
 - a. SL Report on [Hanover Pledge Motion](#): A poll of community members had 65% against passing the motion, but respondents favored the language of the original motion rather than any alterations. We think 35% might warrant consideration, but student life voted unanimously not to recommend.

- b. Staff: The hood museum presented to staff on opportunities for learning. Staff did curriculum work and the four safety committees from each school ran a scenario on reunification with families.

3. [SAC Fall Activities](#)

- a. Brought by: Student Activities Committee
- b. Seconded by: Ingrid Groff ('28)
- c. Allocate \$238 from the Council fund to the Student Activities Committee to purchase donuts, witch hats, candy and pizza as prizes for the HoCo spirit week and the advisory activities. SAC hopes to build community and connect students with support and uniting students and staff in fun outfits. It's necessary to incentivize students with prizes and food to encourage maximum participation.
- d. Question Segment:
 - i. Q: How much money do we have in the Council fund right now?
 - 1. A: We have \$1,925.19
 - ii. Q: Is the Council fund also what funds Spring Carnival?
 - 1. A: No. I will have a report on Carnival in the future. Also, remember that we will be allocating from the Co-Curricular fund to the Council fund in the future.
 - iii. Q: What are the four different donut purchases?
 - 1. A: Each advisory that wins from the grades gets a box of donuts.
 - iv. Q: I really support what SAC does, but do we know what the student body thinks? We allocate a lot of money, and I'm wondering if SAC collects feedback on the outcomes and enjoyment of the student body?
 - 1. A: After every activity we host, we debrief and solicit feedback from the students, staff, and discuss in our committee to see if it is worth continuing. While some people might not enjoy the activities, it's a nice choice to opt into.
 - 2. A: We have sent out forms for feedback after pep rallies
 - a. Q: Can Council be provided that feedback in the future?
 - i. A: Yes
 - v. Q: We previously allocated money for candy to SAC earlier this year, can we have an update on what happened to that?
 - 1. A: The point of the candy is to incentivize a lot of different students to participate and we think it's pretty necessary. Hopefully this is enough for the year
- e. Debate Segment

- i. It does seem questionable that Council will allocate up to \$300 a year just for candy to entice the student body to participate. In my four years of Council that's something we've done often. Candy is quite expensive, and I think the student activities committee should look into more sustainable prizes to avoid losing this money consistently.
 - ii. I agree. I'm wondering if as a Council we can discuss and try to change our school spirit and have spirit without needing incentives as a long term project for Council.
 - iii. We should encourage students to do things for reasons other than candy. It's a significant amount of money. I want to mention that this candy has been bought and this will be a reimbursement to the committee.
 - iv. Q: What are the costume checking requirements:
 - 1. Seniors to Larry, Juniors to the Office, 10th graders to the library and 9th graders to the Counselling office.
 - v. Somewhere out there there is a trophy that used to be circulated as prizes for advisory winners.
 - 1. SAC is going to bring this back
 - vi. Debate Closed
 - f. Motion Passed
- 4. Welcome Superintendent Steiner!
- 5. [Wristband Allocation](#)
 - a. Brought by: Rachel Kohl ('26)
 - b. Move to allocate \$159.50 from the Council fund to Rachel Kohl to reimburse her for the purchase of Council wristbands over the summer.
 - c. Question Segment
 - d. Debate Segment
 - i. We have two motions that are retroactive allocation requests. This is not a habit we should be getting into. I want to urge everyone, club money and Council money to ask for these allocations in advance. I would like to know about this in advance.
 - ii. I don't know if this wristband allocation would have passed if it had been brought before the body. I'm very concerned we are spending this amount of money on plastic wristbands for a limited effect throughout the school body.
 - iii. In the Moderator's defense, she made the purchase knowing that Council did not need to reimburse her. I think at some point we as a body need to just fail these allocations. If you want to do this, it will come from your own pocket. The Council fund is not an open

use debit card for representatives to access. I would recommend passing this but there is a clear point to approving allocations as a body in advance and it is a breach of bylaws to unilaterally spend money like this.

iv. We do have these wristbands, and I think we should show them to more of the school population and meet the goal of the purchase in the first place.

v. We have birthday prizes in the front office, and we could include the wristbands with those.

vi. Debate Closed

e. Motion passed

6. [Curriculum Committee Bylaw Revision](#)

a. Brought by: Curriculum Committee

b. Seconded by: Chris Chor ('26)

c. Changes to the Council Bylaws regarding the role of the Curriculum Committee. In the past years, the Curic Committee has felt it has an unclear role with little jurisdiction in the school. A key role should be to coordinate with the staff committee on programming and procedure, which is not articulated in the bylaws. For example, the Cell Phone policy went through CPP but was not communicated through to the Curic Committee or really to Council, which would be solved with closer communication.

d. Question Segment:

i. Q: What does it mean to be parallel to CPP?

1. A: We will be liaisons to CPP and communicate the proceedings and opinions of Council to the committee and vice versa.

2. A: We need a clear voice that is backed up between this body and CPP to have dialogue

ii. Q: Are you asking that Curic can review the course evaluations about teachers and classes?

1. A: No, just that they can make them more consistent between semesters, not access results.

iii. Q: Given that we have CPP representative, how do they feel about these changes?

1. A: I agree with this change. In previous years there was a loss of connection with CPP, for example with the recommendation for Honors music credits and neither body knew about the other's initiatives.

e. Debate Segment:

- i. I like that this is trying to make Curic more consistent and have a voice. I feel that this is a problem with CPP and we need to make sure we can advocate.
- ii. This was a problem in the past years. CPP makes a report about what is happening, but Council has no way to formulate and express opinions about those proceedings and communicate them. Having Curic be able to address this will be very helpful, while it still maintains its other duties.
- iii. There were times in the last two years where the CPP would mention things like "Heterogeneous grouping" or cellphones that Council members would like to have their voices heard about and now Curic can be a venue to make that happen more easily.
 - 1. CPP meetings are open to everybody already!
- iv. In the past I have attended CPP Meetings when council reps cannot make it. I have sat in both, and thought "what's the point of a report if there's nothing to come of it?" I encourage you all to come to both and discuss here.
- v. Of course curic has discussed what CPP has done, but these bylaw changes will be a good requirement to make sure it happens regularly and with consistency.
- vi. Q: Is the CPP agenda going to be linked to the Curic committee? That would be useful.
 - 1. A: The CPP representative has done an amazing job keeping us up to date this year, but this is a useful change for the future. However, Curic does have other duties and cannot always have time to review the CPP agenda in full.
- f. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes [10.8.25]

1. Approval of minutes 10.1.25
2. Reports
 - a. Moderator: Welcome Lieutenant Ufford!
 - b. AM: Please encourage your parents to become community representatives for Council!
 - c. Treasurer: The Council fund is \$1,930 and the Co-curricular program is \$8,145. We are looking to allocate some money from the program to the Council fund
 - d. PR: True or false, Octopi have 4 hearts? False- they have 3!

- e. CPP: We voted yes to allow students to choose the pass/fail grading option for courses within the drop course deadline. We also discussed guiding principles regarding AI usage.
 - f. Admin: Met with Positive Tracks to discuss plans for fundraising
 - g. Curic: Discussing gap between middle school curriculum and high school curriculum
 - h. SAC: Went over pep rally information and prepared for advisory activity next week
 - i. Staff: A representative from friends of Hanover Norwich Schools with a grant proposal to be filled out by the teacher. CPP discussed a course proposal and how national changes to education policy are disrupting them. The 9th grade teachers debriefed on how to support the 9th grade class.
 - j. Community Report:
 - i. Examining Equity meets on Thursday during study flex in room 154 (behind the pit and to the left). We will discuss Claremont school funding, Black history month and women's history month. We will also be following up on the land acknowledgement motion from the last year. Join us!
3. Motion to approve Lieutenant Matt Ufford as community representative
- a. Brought by: Clare Brauch (Staff)
 - i. Lieutenant Ufford was in 9th grade here when I was a senior ;)
 - b. Seconded by: Joshua Janisse ('26)
 - c. Thanks for stepping up! We're so glad you're here
 - d. I graduated from Hanover High School in 1997, and attended Skidmore College after that. I've been here for the last 24 years now. I've been a coach for the lacrosse team, a detective, a SWAT team member, and now I am in charge of the police division. I am very invested in the Hanover community.
 - e. Debate Segment
 - i. Debate closed
 - f. Motion passed
4. [Resolution of New Hampshire Students in Support of Claremont Students and Fair Education Funding](#)
- a. Cont. from question segment on amendment to create Ad-Hoc committee ([Minutes 10.1.25](#))
 - i. Q: Can the chair of examining equity committee speak to their intentions regarding this motion?

examining equity committee rather than an ad hoc committee, as was the same way with the criticism of the Student Affirmation Resolution.

- viii. I don't think the student affirmation resolution has affected the school's impression of the examining equity committee. I want to focus on consolidating resources and ensuring we get things done. I have now doubt the examining equity committee will put this at the forefront.
- ix. I respect the criticism that there is a student distrust of Council initiatives. I think the frustration from the student body comes from a perceived repeated saying of values rather than council using power to make changes and put things into effect. I think a sustained legislature campaign to increase education funding at the state level can help restore credibility. Hey, we are actually taking effort to improve issues that matter to students. I think the student affirmation resolution may be polarizing, but educational funding will prove we are actually committed to these ideals and can make a change. This will help the committee really flex its muscles and have some institutional support for efforts like this, rather than fluff or non-factors.
- x. One of the more successful things the examining equity committee did was raise \$400 to help students afford driver's ed. I know that's a small sum of money, but it's an example of an initiative our committee could do to impact change and equity in our community.
- xi. In my experience with committees, we tend to spend a lot of time on one subject. I don't think it's feasible to give this motion the time and respect it needs giving this to examining equity committee.
- xii. I want to broaden this out. As I wrote this resolution, I was careful with language, I used "equality" and not "equity", not because I don't support equity, but because I want the broadest swath of students to support and engage with this motion as possible. Concerns of "DEI" and "equity" might alienate students or turn them off from this. I felt that when we passed the student affirmation resolution, students were not opposed to any substance in this motion, but instead had strong reactions to some of those words that we should not continue to use.
- xiii. I would urge the next speaker to close debate so we can move. I guess maybe there's two contrasting philosophies here: "There's

polarization over these words and we need to discard them”, but I also think a lot of this negativity is from a lack of perceived actions, a lack of muscles, and the feeling that people love to preach but never practice. I think this will go a long way in redeeming the ideals of people who can see, witness, and take part in a fight for these ideals. In the council form, a student suggested anti-racism workshops for teachers. I don’t think there is any body on Council that could look into that initiative, but the examining equity committee might be able to look into that and address that. That would be a good change. If we can expand this and try to redeem it, I think it’s something that can do a lot of good in the future. I think people seeing action being taken can help redeem things, which was not what the student affirmation resolution did.

- xiv. Debate closed
- c. Amendment passed
- d. Debate Segment on motion
 - i. Motion to amend “ad-hoc committee” to “examining equity committee”
 - 1. Brought by: Martin Mosdal (‘26)
 - 2. Seconded by: Brady Eskilson (Staff)
 - ii. I think have an ad-hoc committee can really get work on this. But I do really believe if we could get up to 10 people in on examining equity, they could give 30 minutes to this and some little bits to the other things the committee must do. I think having enough people well delegated can really get things done. If this can redeem this committee and get stronger for the future to do more things in later years. Right now, it’s in limbo, not really doing well, and the ad-hoc committee would be rendered obsolete, meaning we’ll be left with very little in the future if both of these become defunct.
 - iii. Question Segment
 - 1. Q: How many members does examining equity committee have?
 - a. A: A few come to committee, but irregularly.
 - 2. Q: How long would establishing an ad-hoc committee take?
 - a. A: We would immediately ask council members, and anyone in the school to join. We’d publicize it and meet the following week.

3. Q: Who would be interested in joining the examining equity committee?
 - a. A: *a show of hands deemed substantial enough*
4. Q: What is the process for assigning members to this committee?
 - a. A: Voluntary
 - b. A: Examining equity is like a weird limbo committee. The five standing committees of Council are mandatory, technically they should take attendance and expel council members for failing to make them. We don't in practice. In the bylaws, there are meant to be elections, and students should run for the examining equity committee. That has not happened in the last years. We either need to make it more joined by volunteers or assign council members to keep it going.
 - c. A: I joined voluntarily because no one was running for elections. It was left for a few students to maintain the workload.
5. Q: Would switching to the examining equity committee fulfill our committee duty as council members?
 - a. A: Yes

5. Meeting adjourned