
Agenda 1.13.21 / Minutes 1.6.20

Hanover High Council

If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress. – Barack Obama



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1. [Before the Show Show](#)
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Reports
4. [Examining Equity: Film and Discussion Allocation](#)
 - a. [More information about the film and discussion here](#)
5. [Common Ground Steering Committee Bylaw Notification](#)
6. [Nick Beard Opinion Board Motion](#)
7. [Teacher Absences and Assessments Motion](#)
8. Notes and New Business

Minutes 1.6.21

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Reports
 - **Mod:** Welcome back from break!
 - **A-Mod:** No report.
 - **Secretary:** Sophomore alternate can vote.
 - **Treasurer:** Council - \$2044.83 , Co-Curricular - \$12,058.79
 - **DSB:** No report.
 - **PR:** "Before the Show Show" presentation today!
 - **CPP:** Discussed May Intensive and request that teachers link Google Docs for a schedule rather than as a Schoology post, these calendars have to be public for ed assistants, questions about homework policies set during online learning, class schedule was approved (doesn't need Board approval but will be brought anyway), U.S. History is hoping to phase into two or three different sections.
 - **Admin:** The situation surrounding MLK Day is constantly evolving and we are actively working on a solution in the next few weeks.
 - **Curric:** Wrote questions for teachers to potentially ask on a course evaluation to nudge teachers to give course evaluations.
 - **OEC:** Discussed the Mascot Ad-Hoc Committee that will hopefully pass today, worked on the student referendum motion to come, still working with RMS principal and hoping to start the process to transition 9th grade elections back to RMS at the end of the month.
 - **SAC:** Continued to work on planning for advisory challenges and potential advisory challenges to simulate something like winter carnival.
 - **SL:** Continued talking about how to spread Mel's message of options for those with dietary restrictions
 - **Scheduling Committee:** Last official meeting, talked about advisory lunch next year and how teachers will be using their time, also the next phases for introducing the schedule
3. [Nick Beard Opinion Board Motion Notification](#)
4. [Marauder Committee Motion](#)
 - Maybe there should be an amendment to make sure this committee doesn't have the power to recommend this to the body

- The process will be difficult for the committee to potentially recommend a motion because of questions about quorum and who can vote
- This may not be possible with Robert's Rules as all committees are given the power to recommend a motion to the body
- An amendment like this would be against the bylaws but it is still worth talking about
- When a motion is brought with a recommendation both a minority and majority opinion on the motion can/should be brought with it
- A committee with a fairly abstract composition such as this should not have that power
- With a committee of this importance it is important we follow our bylaws, we can just request that they do not bring it with a recommendation
- Council has done a really good job with this as a body, it would be valuable for it to stay here for us all to discuss it as a body
 - Keeping it here makes sure that it doesn't get lost, this is important
 - When the motion comes back it is important that we still have robust discussions about it
- An amendment to bring the motion back with a report on opinions within the committee could be valuable
- Without an ad-hoc committee the burden of bringing back the motion kind of falls on Exec/Leadership which are fairly closed groups or an individual but with an ad-hoc committee anyone who is interested can join and work on it, it is important that a lot of voices are heard
- This ad-hoc committee really seems like a work group to investigate what needs to be done to allow a mascot change and to cut through that work, then to bring back information to inform the writing of a motion, the wording and the bylaws don't suggest this group's purpose is to make a motion and push it through
 - Their goal is to come through with a motion and not to come out and say "You have to adopt this motion."
- March 2021 seems a bit too far away for it to be brought back, it is important that it doesn't get delayed a lot
 - There are a lot of disruptions to our regular school schedule between now and March and this committee likely has a lot of work ahead of them, giving them enough time is important
 - A deadline that is too early increases the odds that the motion will die
 - March 2021 is going to come really quickly, we should push back the deadline
 - If we are going to create a committee we need to give them enough time to do their job
 - The deadline was set just to ensure that the work doesn't get lost, if the committee needs more time than can bring a motion to move back the timeline
- There is little to no chance that this work gets lost because of weekly committee reports and because of the set latest possible deadline to return to the body
- It would be good if the committee had to bring back two different opinions on the motion
- Drafting the motion will be the easy part of this committee, the real work for the committee will be to figure out the logistics

Motion passes.

5. [Assignment Clarity Motion](#)

- The language in the wording is broad so that major assessments and projects can be posted as assignments or events (the type of post is up to the teacher)
- Is this within CPPs discretion or ours?
- All teachers are currently required to fill out the template, while it may not be too much to ask for teachers to add things to the Schoology calendar, it is not too much to ask for a student to look through the template
 - It seems redundant to have major assessments and projects posted in two places
 - The motion only requires major assessments and tests to be posted on the calendar, those are really important so making sure they are clear is important
- It is really helpful to see things on the Schoology dashboard, it can be hard to find things that are not in the current week on the templates
- It likely doesn't take too much time to post these on Schoology but it saves students a lot of time
- Teachers should make it clear in the beginning of the year in their syllabus where they will post assignments and assessments then stick to that
 - If this were to happen this motion would not be necessary
- The most confusion right now results from templates being updated one or two days before things are due, it may be helpful to add wording to make sure that major assessments and projects are posted (in either the calendar or the template) a certain amount of time in advance
- Some first year students struggle to find everything with the new technology and this causes a lot of stress, knowing that all major assignments and assessments will show up in the calendar would be a really big relief and worth the extra effort on the teacher's part
- The template stemmed from the fact parents trying to help students, particularly freshman or those that depended on what the teacher said in class rather than Schoology, had trouble finding assignments because teachers all posted them differently, the template was meant to be the first step towards making everything more consistent.
 - Many teacher's find the template very onerous to use.
 - Standardization is the problem, CPP has the best handle to fix this given that members of the technology department are there and can help determine what is possible and what is readily available
- On the student handbook, in the assignments and grading section, wording exists mandating that assignments must be posted using the assignment module (which adds assignment to the calendar) and that all assignments must be posted to the template
 - Wording in the handbook already exists requiring that everything be posted where it will appear on the calendar
 - Not clear if this is the correct, updated guidelines
- It is a good skill for students to learn to look to find their work but it would be great to hear from ed-assistants and parents on this because it is not a part of their learning process to find things
 - It is important for these people to find assignments quickly
 - CPP may be helpful in learning more from these people
- Once a motion is moved to a committee it is hard to find it's way back, we should keep it here and pass it
 - Also if the handbook already mandates that assignments be posted to the calendar it should be pretty easy to add major assessments and projects to the calendar
- The template itself needs work and CPP can work on that, this motion is clear cut and easy

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- The end of the semester and midterms are approaching, we should pass this because it could be really beneficial to students now, then talk with CPP about doing more
 - If there is already wording in the handbook requiring this, why should we pass a motion that limits what needs to be posted on the calendar?
 - The issue is bringing what is in the handbook now into practice
 - A notice to the staff should be given with a reminder about the current wording, if issues persist they can be addressed on a case by case basis
 - We need to make sure that website is updated and that we are looking at the right wording of the handbook
 - The handbook seems to have been changed since the writing of this motion
 - This motion should be failed and the process for posting assignments as outlined in the handbook should be made clear to staff
 - We need to work out why the handbook has changed
 - CPP rep will bring up this issue at the next meeting
- Motion fails.

Meeting adjourns