

Agenda 3.22.23/Minutes 3.8.23

Hanover High Council [Meeting #53]

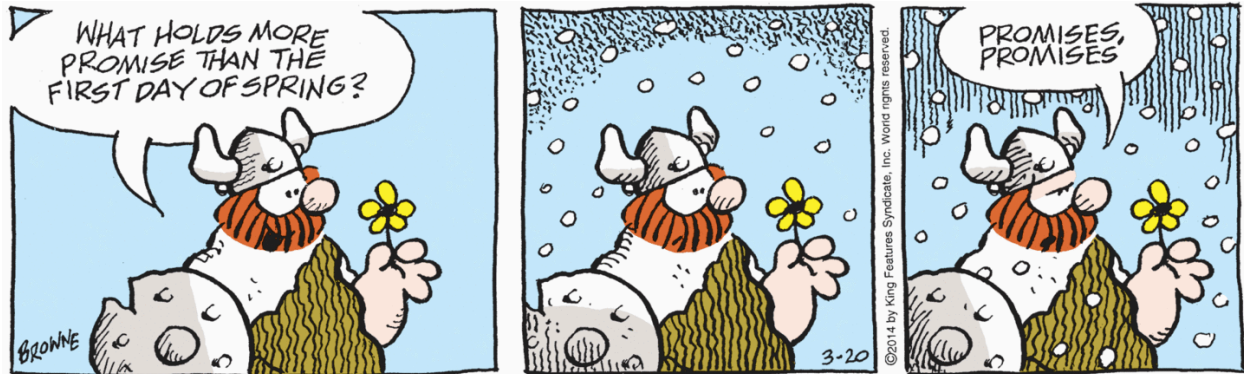
“Without a struggle, there can be no progress” — Fredrick Douglas (a pivotal abolitionist during the Civil War)

- Bring a Motion to Council - ANYONE Can! -



The Bitesize Council Minutes 🍪

- 1) ☒ Change in Representation Statement Bylaw Revision - 2021-2022, 2022-2023
PASSES
 - a) After many language revisions, motion passes!
- 2) ☒ "Teacher has not arrived" Motion IN DISCUSSION
 - a) Requires students to send someone to the main office to access the situation if a teacher has not arrived to class within 10 minutes of its start



Agenda [3.22.23]

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Reports
3. "Teacher has not arrived" Motion
4. Town Hall Motion
5. Land Acknowledgement Motion
6. Notes and New Business

Minutes [3.8.23]

1. Approval of Minutes

2. Reports

- **Moderator [Riley McGuire ('23)]:**
 - Met with Ms. Murray to discuss CPP agenda including the legality of the Chromebook motion
 - A Squirtfest motion is also coming from Mr. Murphy to CPP and the Powerschool motion is still up in the air
- **Treasurer [Kavi Patel ('24)]:**
 - Council Fund: \$3,137.54
 - Co-Curricular Fund: \$2,966.04
- **Dresden School Board Representative [Vidushi Sharma ('23)]:**
 - There was a school board election that included some important articles on 3/7/23 so if you are of age, [speaker] hopes you voted!
 - All of the budget items passed
 - The Town of Norwich left their two candidates off the ballot so there will be a do over election for them
 - All of the running candidates won unopposed
- **Public Relations Officer [Shayna Rockmore ('24)]: No Report**
- **Committee on Programming and Procedure Representative [Skylar Spiro ('24)]:**
 - Met on Monday
 - The Powerschool motion failed
 - A motion was brought to limit and surprise papers, quizzes and tests before exam week which is still in discussion
- **Administrative Committee [Theo Cook ('23)]:**
 - Met on Monday to discuss the Teacher Has Not Arrived Motion
- **Student Activities Committee [Theo Burdick ('24)]:**
 - Met on Tuesday
 - Student spring carnival sign ups should happen the week after MI

- Discussed SAC merch
- **Organizational and Engineering Committee [Sophie Wise ('24)]:**
 - Met on Monday
 - Still working on the time capsule
 - Finished our circle
 - Please talk to your school affiliated groups and submit items for the time capsule!
- **Staff Report [Linda Danilek (staff)]:**
 - Met as departments
- **Examining Equity Committee [Vidushi Sharma ('23)]:**
 - The Land Acknowledgement motion will be coming back soon
 - Please come to meetings on Monday
- **Secretary [Vidushi Sharma ('23)]:**
 - Senior, junior, freshman and staff alternates may vote

3. Change in Representation Statement Bylaw Revision [brought by Vidushi Sharma ('23)]

Continuing discussion of amendment:

- I move to amend the motion to read
 - ~~If the accused~~ When a Council officer can no longer serve, ~~is removed,~~ the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.
 - a. The statement should read: “[new Council officer] will join Council as a/an [at-large/class of XXXX] representative”
 - b. The statement should not mention the reason for the removal of the Council officer
- Ms. Addante recommended that we change the language to say Council member instead of Council officer because it would make more sense
- This motion wouldn't apply to people who leave but don't fall under the category of “can no longer serve”
 - Language should be added to include an announcement for new Council members
- The more restrictive the Bylaws the more the need to make revisions
 - It is good to keep the bylaws flexible so that they can be adapted in practice

Debate Closes

Amendment Fails (Hand Count Vote)

Discussion on Original Motion Continues:

- If the accused Council Officer is removed, the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.
 - a. The statement should read: “[new Council officer] will join Council as a/an [at-large/class of XXXX] representative”
 - b. The statement should not mention the reason for the removal of the Council officer
- I move to amend the motion to read [brought by Mr. Brennan (staff)]:
 - When there is any change in membership or role ~~If the accused Council Officer is removed~~, the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.
 - a. The statement should read: “[new Council member officer] will join Council as a/an [at-large/class of XXXX] representative”
 - b. The statement should not mention the reason for the removal of the Council officer-member
 - Authorship Speech:
 - This change reflects our discussion
 - Question Session:
 - Is it your intention to change the language to include members that are leaving Council?
 - Yes

Debate Closes

Point of Information

- Will this language be moved to a more appropriate place? (not under the removal of a Council member section)
 - Yes

Amendment Passes Unanimously

Discussion on Amended Motion:

- When there is any change in membership or role, the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.
 - a. The statement should read: “[new Council member] will join Council as a/an [at-large/class of XXXX] representative”
 - b. The statement should not mention the reason for the removal of the Council member
- We should include a template for the PR officer to use when a Council member is changing role to keep the Bylaws consistent
- It would be valuable to give the PR officer guidance but it is better to keep the Bylaws open and not restrict the Bylaws

- We should then take out A and B - to allow the PR more wiggle room

Motion to Close Debate Fails

- It is not appropriate to announce the removal of a Council member unless they are moving

****Point of Information****

- This language does not require the statement of removal
- Does this motion imply that the PR officer has to announce the removal of a Council member? Or do they only announce the addition of a member?

****Point of Information****

- It lists the announcement of a new Council member under the language most likely implying that no statement is made until a new member is added
- If we take “a” out we will no longer have that language
- I move to move this language to Article III: Membership E: Removal of a Council Member [brought by Vidushi Sharma ('23)]:
 - Seconded by Kavi Patel
 - Authorship speech:
 - This broadens the language to include everyone not just Council leadership members
 - [Speaker] urges the closing of debate

Debate Closes

Movement Passes

Discussion of Amended and Moved Motion:

- The student body should know when a Council member is leaving
 - Constituents should have a right to know if they are no longer being represented by the person that they voted for
- We need to protect student privacy
 - This follows with the privacy of executive sessions and limits questioning and the harassment of removed students
- I move to strike point “a” [brought by Mr. Brennan]
 - Seconded by: Ms. Ryan
 - Authorship Speech:
 - The PR officer should be trusted to interpret and articulate language that is useful in the moment on a case by case basis
 - The PR officer should not be limited by particular language
 - Debate:
 - If we strike the statement then it is unclear as to which member, the new or old, should be announced

- Urges the passing of this amendment but the addition of an amendment that protects both the removal and name of the removed Council member
- A and b should stay because it is important to protect whoever is removed from Council and the addition of the language does not hurt anything
- No PR officer will be penalized for saying slightly different language
- We are talking about a broader thing then point “a” so we should take out point “a” and then discuss the issue of letting people know who their representatives are
- Should we attach a list of the current and new council members to just remind people of who their council members are without calling out any one person

Debate Closes

Amendment Passes (Hand Count Vote)

- When there is any change in membership or role, the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.
 - a. In the event of removal for cause the statement should not mention the reason for the removal of the Council member or their name
- Brought by Kavi Patel ('24)
- Seconded by Kai Doron
- Authorship Speech:
 - This addresses the concern of a lack of point “a” while protecting student privacy
- Debate:
 - This would sound better if you say “In the event of removal for cause, the statement should not mention the name or the reason for the removal of the Council member.”
 - Change Made

Debate Closes

Amendment Passes

Debate on Motion Closes

Motion Passes and reads:

Article III: Membership

E: Removal of a Council Member

8. When there is any change in membership or role, the Public Relations officer should release a statement on Schoology or on another school-sponsored platform (such as *The Broadside*) announcing the change in representation.

- a. In the event of removal for cause, the statement should not mention the name or the reason for the removal of the Council member.

4. "Teacher has not arrived" Motion [brought by Mr. Hirshhorn]:

- I move to change the final bullet point of the Attendance Policy→Lateness section of the handbook to:
 - If the teacher has not arrived ~~fifteen~~ ten minutes past the scheduled start of the class, ~~may leave the classroom~~ students will send one person to the main office to explain the situation to an office staff member. All other students will remain in the classroom or in the hallway by the classroom. Students will use this time to work on whatever they choose, and they will wait in the classroom/hallway until an office staff member returns to the classroom/hallway and/or provides further instructions.
 - Authorship Speech:
 - When teachers mark students as “absent” after fifteen minutes, they communicate important information with the main office (i.e., a student is not where they’re supposed to be). The main office uses this information to check on the well-being of the student.
 - I believe students should be similarly invested in the well-being of their teachers. What if something happened to their teacher? How else would the main office be put on alert to look into the situation?
 - Furthermore, it is not a serious imposition for students to be expected to “work on whatever they choose.”
 - Finally, if something that’s supposed to be happening (i.e., a teacher showing up to a class) isn’t happening, as members of a caring community, the right thing for us to do is to take responsibility and try to address the situation. Simply “leaving” (the current language in the handbook) is taking the easy way out and abdicating our responsibility to look after the well-being of others.
 - Motion comes with a majority recommendation from the admin committee (4 votes in favor 1 vote opposed)
 - Question Session:
 - Why did one member of the admin committee oppose this motion?

- This kind of situation should not be legislatures
- We should treat this kind of situation in the same way as you would in a work situation
- We should be responsible community members and shouldn't need to be told to do so
- Why was 10 minutes chosen?
 - Admin changed it to 10 minutes because 15 seemed too long to wait
 - Notifying the administration after 10 minutes would allow the situation to be accessed sooner
- Debate:
 - What would happen if the students didn't send someone to the office?
 - There has been a lot of peer pressure to just leave class after 10 min, there is no consequences if a teacher messes up attendance or if a student leaves the classroom after 10 minutes
 - It is easier to do the right thing when there is a guideline to be followed
 - If students choose to leave then they could be shown the handbook language and have a discussion about why the language exists
 - Not being an effective member of the community is punishment enough
 - Students are urged to think beyond their own wellbeing
 - Having language in the handbook supports people who may be afraid to advocate for their teachers
 - Adding language to the handbook will not limit our community
 - It is important to have guidelines in place for things like this

Meeting Adjourns

<u>- Council Links -</u>		
<u>HHS Handbook</u>	<u>Council Bylaws</u>	<u>Council Website</u>
<u>Roll Call Record</u>	<u>Meeting Attendance</u>	<u>Council Members</u>
<u>Broadside Archives</u>	<u>Council Feedback Form</u>	<u>Council Instagram</u>
Email us at HHS Council		

