
Agenda 3.23.22 / Minutes 3.9.22

Hanover High Council [Meeting #23]

“We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back.”

-- Malala Yousafzai [Pakistani activist and Nobel Peace Prize laureate] --

- Bring a Motion to Council - ANYONE Can! -



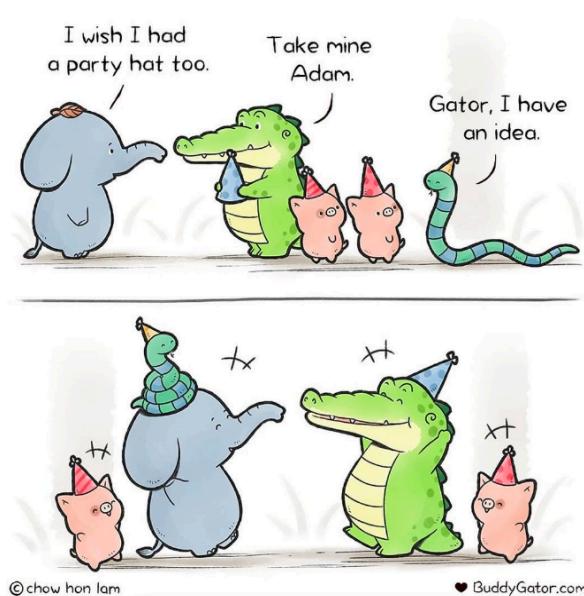
The Bitesize Council Agenda + Minutes

1. Agenda - 3.23.22

- a. Tom Hanlon Cup Committee Nominations - 2021-2022
 - i. Description of Award
- b. Administrative Committee Responsibility Reallocation Bylaw Revisio...
 - i. Admin Committee has struggled with planning MLK Day
 - 1. Less knowledge about covered topics and difficult logistics of a whole-school assembly
 - ii. Moving this responsibility to a new committee with dedicated Council members, administrators, and non-Council members
- c. Microgrant Bylaw Revision - 2021-2022 +
 - Microgrant Amendment: Makeup, Practices, and Applicant Privacy
- d. Course Standardization Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022

2. Minutes - 3.9.22

- a. Volleyball Club Allocation - 2021-2022 RESCINDED
- b. Sports Club Allocation - 2021-2022 and
 - Broadside Article Allocation - 2021-2022 PASS
- c. Course Standardization Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022
 - i. Some claimed that this motion promoted equity, while others claimed that course standardization is the opposite of equity
 - ii. This motion may level the playing field for everyone ... however, harsher policies (lateness, retake, etc) would ultimately prevail
 - 1. Would leave everyone in a worse situation



Agenda [3.23.22]

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Reports
3. Tom Hanlon Cup Committee Nominations - 2021-2022
4. Administrative Committee Responsibility Reallocation Bylaw Revision - 2021-2...
5. Microgrant Bylaw Revision - 2021-2022
- Microgrant Amendment: Makeup, Practices, and Applicant Privacy
- Course Standardization Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022
7. Notes and New Business

Minutes [3.9.22]

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Reports
 - Moderator [*Pierce Seigne*]:
 - We are meeting in the Chorus Room today
 - Need to ask the Pandemic Response Committee if we can meet here permanently
 - Nicer space, more tight-knit, and you do not have to speak as loud
 - 48 yrs and 11 months ago, Principal Bob McCarthy exercised the first Council veto on the addition of a jukebox in the Caf
 - Cited that it would take funds away from a proposed grill
 - Assistant Moderator [*Zane Schiffman*] - No Report
 - Mod, A Mod, and HHS Administration Meeting [*Pierce Seigne*] - No Report
 - Treasurer [*Riley McGuire*]:
 - Council Fund: \$4,549.11 + Co-Curricular Fund: \$9,760.04
 - Dresden School Board Representative [*Kate McCaul*] - No Report
 - Public Relations Person [*Lily Versteeg*]:
 - Submit your mascot designs for the Bear!
 - Committee on Programming and Procedure Rep. [*Sora Shirai*] - No Report
 - Administrative Committee [*Vidushi Sharma*]:
 - MLK Day Celebration was last Friday (3.4.22)
 - Will be sending everyone an evaluative survey for the event
 - Motion coming soon (reallocating the committee's responsibilities)
 - Curriculum Committee [*Alex Rockmore*]:
 - Discussed Retake Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022 (on agenda)
 - Organizational Engineering Committee [*Anna Healey*]:
 - Discussed the existing and new time capsules

- **Student Activities Committee [*Theo Burdick*]:**
 - Revised the Spring Fling activities list to take advantage of the nice May weather [Winter Carnival (February) → Spring Fling (May)]
 - Started drafting an Activity Form for Staff
- **Student Life Committee [*Kavi Patel*]:**
 - Posters for the Caf are being printed
 - Still thinking about doing a Council visit to Kimball Union Academy
- **Scheduling Committee [*Kate McCaull*] - No Report**
- **Council's 50th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee [*Pierce Seigne*]:**
 - Executive Committee members will meet on Zoom @ 7 pm (3.10.22)
 - Start planning the 50th Anniversary Celebration
 - If you want to plan the big party, send an email!
- **Dresden School Board Athletics Subcommittee [*Zane Schiffman*] - No Report**
- **Historical Records Committee [*Patrick Elder*] - No Report**
- **New Mascot Selection and Implementation Committee [*Kavi Patel*]:**
 - Strongly encourages everyone to attend the Design Seminar hosted by Douglas Harp in Room 310 on Thursday (3.10.22) during Lunch
- **Staff Meeting Report [*Marie D'Amato*]:**
 - Following a Staff discussion, Principal Stevenson signed the **Cell Phone Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022** into effect
 - Had a discussion on the Committee on Programming and Procedure (CPP) and decision-making
- **Secretary [*Saia Patel*]:**
 - **Council Recording Disclaimer** | Senior, Soph, and Staff Alts. may vote
 - For Attendance ... use this [form](#)
- **General Report [*Locky McCann*]:**
 - Contrary to the *Valley News*' claim that the HHS Hockey team was the first to compete as the Bears, the girls' Nordic Team were the first to compete as our new mascot
 - Katie Davis ('22), Elsa May ('23), and Meg Frost ('23) swept the podium and led us to our first victory as the Bears

3. Rescinding the **Volleyball Club Allocation - 2021-2022** [*Riley McGuire ('23)*]

- Intent Statement
 - I entertain a motion to rescind \$420 from the Volleyball Club.
 - Submoved by Riley McGuire ('23) | Seconded by Locky McCann ('23)
- Authorship Speech
 - The Volleyball Club was seeking an allocation of \$420 to purchase a new net. After speaking with Ms. Addante and Ms. Hess, they decided that it would be better to allocate the funds to an already-funded club (the

Sports Club). In this way, the money can be used for other purposes, and not just what it was intended to be used for in the previous motion. In this way, the P.E. Dept. and other sports teams can use it. It would be a better use of the money.

- Question Session
 - Does the P.E. Dept. already have an existing net?
 - The P.E. Dept. has two nets
 - They have been lending one net to the Volleyball Club
 - The Volleyball Club wanted their own net
 - In case anything happened to the existing nets, there are no backups (would be helpful to everyone)
 - Is this a transfer of money?
 - It should be a two-step process
 - First, we should rescind the adopted motion
 - Then, we should bring a new motion to put the existing money into the Sports Club ... requires a majority vote
- Debate
 - Intent of this is valid, and the net should be used more widely throughout the school
- Motion PASSES (Voice Vote)
 - *A motion to rescind is debatable and takes a ⅔ vote to carry it*

4. Sports Club Allocation - 2021-2022 [Riley McGuire ('23)]

- Intent Statement
 - I move to allocate \$420 from the Co-Curricular fund to the Sports Club for the purpose of purchasing sports equipment with the first expenditure towards a new volleyball net.
 - Submoved by Riley McGuire ('23) | Seconded by Vidushi Sharma ('23)
- Authorship Speech (same as previous motion)
- Question Session
 - Would the new net be under the supervision of the Volleyball Club?
 - Not 100% sure ... would be under the supervision of whoever purchased it
 - Sports Club would purchase it ... would possibly fall under the P.E. Dept.'s jurisdiction
 - Do you know where the net will be stored?
 - In the P.E. closet (where all the equipment is stored)
- Debate
 - Strongly encourage the next speaker to close debate

- Already passed the first motion (allocating the same money for the same purpose to the Volleyball Club)
- Motion **PASSES** (Voice Vote)

5. **☒ Broadside Article Allocation - 2021-2022 [Vidushi Sharma ('23)]**

- Intent Statement
 - I move to allocate \$1,982 from the Co-Curricular fund to the *Broadside* for the printing of current and future newspaper editions..
 - Submoved by Vidushi Sharma ('23) | Seconded by Locky McCann ('23)
- Authorship Speech (see motion)
- Question Session
 - Does it precipitously reduce the cost if you order more copies or is there a standard rate?
 - It does cost less, but *Broadside* always orders 400 copies (best for their purposes)
 - Is the printer that you are using the most cost-effective? If not, have you looked at other options?
 - Other *Broadside* editors in the past have looked at alternatives
 - Current *Broadside* editors have not
 - There is no viable option other than the *Valley News*
 - What was the size of the allocation passed this year to the *Broadside*?
 - There was no allocation this year
 - There were funds allocated last year that spilled over into the *Broadside*'s account this year
 - Did not know how much was leftover from last year
 - From 2020-21, *Broadside* only received \$190
 - The previous year, they received \$1,000 or \$2,000
 - They typically ask for funds (they just did not request funds last year ... making up for the past)
 - Where does the *Broadside* usually get its funds?
 - From Council
- Debate
 - The work that the *Broadside* does is one of the most important features of the school that Council supports
 - The school newspaper is an integral part of any high school
 - Fully support passing this allocation so they can continue doing their important work
- Motion **PASSES** (Roll Call Vote ... above \$500)

6. Course Standardization Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022

[Alex Rockmore ('22)]

- Intent Statement
 - I move to add the following to the Grading heading of the Assignments and Grading clause of the Academic Policies and Procedures section of the HHS Handbook:
 - “All sections of the same course must operate under the same grading system. This includes grade weighting, retake policies, and lateness policies.”
 - Submoved by Alex Rockmore ('22) | Seconded by Shayna Rockmore ('24)
- Authorship Speech
 - Curriculum Committee has discussed this motion a few times
 - Came to the conclusion that people have experienced this issue
 - One section under one teacher had a lateness and retake policies that was significantly more lenient than the other section (taught by another teacher)
 - These courses taught the same material, did the same activities, but one class was significantly easier to get a higher grade in
 - Directly because of more lenient classroom policies
 - Differing Policies
 - One section could only retake a test up to 80% (only once a quarter) ... other section could orally retake any assessment up to 100% (as often as the student would like)
 - One section had strict deadlines while another section's assignments were all due at the end of the quarter
 - Understand that each teacher has their own systems
 - However, it is unfair for students to be assessed at different levels, depending on what teachers they end up having
 - Every section of the same class would have the same policies
 - Making sure that students are getting equal credit for equal work
- Question Session
 - Sometimes there are teachers that use the same rubrics, but one teacher grades more harshly than the other. This motion does not necessarily fix that problem. Could you talk about that?
 - It is not feasible or morally fair for teachers to be held to the exact same grading standards
 - Would be impossible to enforce and standardize ... teachers follow the rubric to the best of their ability
 - Teachers generally teach the way that students want to respond during their assessments

- There is intentionally no standardization of already standardized essay rubrics
- This language does not specify how individual assignments would necessarily be graded
 - Only standardizes the overall architecture of the class' grading scheme
 - Would still allow teachers to use individual discretion for individual assignments (best practice)
 - Would standardize between sections how these assignments are weighted against each other
- Was there any discussion with the HHS Administration about this motion?
Is this something that Council has jurisdiction over?
 - Will find out when the motion passes
- *** Point of Information * ... *This motion comes with a recommendation from a committee, so it only needs a third of the body to pass it.***
 - Some teachers who are teaching the same class/course will teach a section completely different from another teacher (different content, textbook, etc.) Would this also extend to curriculum?
 - No, we specifically do not have jurisdiction over that
 - Is there an expectation for staff to vote in favor or against this policy, if they are in support of the motion but are unsure whether it falls under Council's jurisdiction?
 - The Principal usually makes the call before the motion is brought to the Council meeting
 - Cannot cite jurisdiction as a reason to veto the motion
 - You can veto this motion, with the explanation that this motion needs more staff input to accurately reflect the actual intent of the motion
 - The recognition of Staff voice in the shared decision-making process is now formerly codified by Staff vote
 - Has yet to go to the School Board, but it is recognized that this body has power, but not absolute power
 - This motion deserves airtime with Staff and airtime here
 - Administration has been discussing this motion recently
 - A first-born child (or someone with no connections to HHS) with almost no knowledge of HHS practices and policies would not have access to the same information as a second-born child (or someone with connections to HHS)
 - Friends and family members can recommend that you not take a class with a certain teacher (leg up)

- Makes it more fair and equitable to have the same class policies across the board
- Debate
 - The harsher policy will prevail
 - If two teachers are teaching the same class, the harsher policies (lateness, retake, etc.) will prevail
 - The teacher with that policy will not budge or negotiate with the “more lenient” teacher
 - Fear for the students if this will happen
 - In our effort to be fair, we might be losing what makes teachers be able to be themselves and follow their values
 - I move to table this motion and bring it back to the Curriculum Committee for further discussion with the HHS Administration
[Kavi Patel ('24)]
 - Seconded by Theo Burdick ('24)
 - Authorship Speech
 - The Curriculum Committee should work more closely with the HHS Administration ... conversation has been started
 - Administration has some great ideas
 - Need to clarify Council’s jurisdiction on this motion and to include the equitable lens
 - If applicable, a more refined motion can be brought back to Council
 - Debate [on referring the motion to the Curriculum Committee]
 - Strongly disagree with this motion
 - Curriculum and HHS Administration has already discussed this motion and overall idea
 - Not sure what it means for Curriculum Committee should add an equitable lens
 - This motion defines “equitable”
 - Strongly encourage Council to fail this motion
 - Strongly disagree with this motion
 - In terms of jurisdiction, the HHS Administration was given the ability and opportunity to call jurisdiction while it has been on the agenda
 - They have not done so ... therefore, it is within Council’s jurisdiction to debate
 - They may ultimately veto it (if they do not feel it is within jurisdiction)

- Forfeited their right to veto it during the meeting
- Would encourage the body to fail this motion
 - Should bring it back to the Staff meeting, as it is primarily affecting them
- We should at least have time to debate this motion as a Council before we move to table this motion
 - We can get valuable input from Staff and students
- Motion Fails (Voice Vote)
- Debate (on original motion)
 - Previous speaker brought up how the harsher policy would prevail
 - However, within harsher policies, you can still talk to the teacher
 - If you did not go home until 11 the night before, you can recognize the teacher's lateness policy and ask for an extension (teachers can still say yes)
 - While it may feel harsh, it does not set policies in stone
 - There is wiggle-room
 - We should prioritize having fair classes and students taking the same classes (regardless of what section they are in)
 - Also relevant to a lot of the points discussed on the  Honors Social Studies Resolution
 - Really appreciate the point brought about the inherent privilege that younger siblings have
 - Having older siblings was extremely helpful (especially with advice on teachers)
 - Privilege that younger siblings have (older siblings do not)
 - Older siblings struggled more in high school
 - When older siblings filled out their course selection forms, they did not have that advice
 - Not a perfect solution ... some teachers might be very set in stone about their policies
 - Some policies may shift in a harsher direction
 - Would be a better situation than the one we have now
 - We should trust our teachers that they will be reasonable adults in their ability to compromise
 - Have a really hard time with a cultural aspect of the school
 - Unofficial badge of honors that teachers either put on themselves or get a reputation for because they are really "hard"
 - Idea of a teacher not accepting late work or denying a student's request to retake a test is draconian and inappropriate

- Directly aligns with the  [Cell Phone Policy Handbook Revision - 2021-2022](#) and how teachers interact with students
 - If you have a relationship with your students, your students should be comfortable telling you about their situation
 - Teachers should be focused on their students actually learning the material and succeeding
 - Should not punish students because of their individual circumstances
- The harsher punishment will win ... disregarding the fact that we are all humans
 - Look within yourselves and treat others the way that you want to be treated
- Teachers should move away from the concept of associating being a good teacher with giving more homework or having a lower average grade in their classes
 - Not teaching ... it is punishing
- Conflicted on this motion
 - Have been in the position where [speaker] is in the same class as their friends (but different section)
 - Friends can retake assessments with a lenient retake policy
 - [Speaker] can barely retake an assessment, and only up to a certain percentage
 - Frustrating to be in a class where they are putting in the same amount of work, but having a totally different outcome based on which teacher you were randomly assigned to
 - The best classes are when teachers are understanding and have a more lenient retake policy
 - More focused on you learning the material
 - Would agree with this policy in a perfect world (all adopting the more lenient policy)
 - Will probably never happen ... very conflicted
- This policy benefits everyone ... Administration, Staff, and students
 - Staff read a book about equity that said that the school could adopt school-wide practices so that ...
 - Students could know what they were getting into
 - Staff could know what the rules of the road were so they could figure out how to navigate the school
 - Very challenging as a new teacher to be told that [speaker] could determine their own policies when [speaker] did not want to

- Multiple teachers (including speaker) taught the same class and students were assigned pseudorandomly
 - Hard to navigate different policies ... had to have discussion with other teachers to institute overall policies
 - A consequence might be that harsher policies might be prioritized
 - Will have to figure out how to address that
 - However, consistent policies across the board in many ways (cellphone, retake, etc) will be to everyone's benefit
- Agree with the previous speaker (as a recent new teacher)
 - Came from a more regimented school
 - Notion of having to form policies that were reflective of [speaker]'s values
 - Able to develop a policy that worked for [speaker] and that students have benefited from
 - Look at this motion through the lens of fairness and [speaker]'s impact as an educator
 - [Speaker] wants to be fair to the students in the room
 - Wants to help those students to build their understanding and build mastery of a skill, in any way the [speaker] can
 - Ultimately too narrow of a scope for [speaker]
 - Have just as much of a commitment to a student in their room as a student in a different room
 - This policy would allow [speaker] to work with a team to develop core policies to benefit a broader set of students
 - Would give [speaker] more of an impact from space-to-space to work with [speaker]'s values and knowing that the experiences of students that the [speaker] might not know would be shaped by best practice
- Strongly disagree with this motion
 - When teacher first came to HHS, [speaker] liked having students take charge of their own learning
 - Conversations between teachers and students
 - Right now, there is a divided view of what equity is
 - Speaker's View of Equity
 - Giving people what they need to succeed
 - Other People's View of Equity
 - Setting a bar for people to reach (without individual resources to succeed)
 - Against standardizing any policy ... can be discussed

- In the English Dept., if teachers teach the same class, teachers meet with each other and grade-weight
- Does not want to be forced to have a no-retake policy while some kids have home situations that nobody would want
 - To be paired with someone who has an iron fist with a no-retake policy (some teachers do have that view), that would prevent [speaker] to help their students
 - Not [speaker]'s goal to be the harshest teacher at HHS
- The idea of standardizing everything to claim that we are all the same is a false premise

Meeting Adjourns

- Past Council Agenda + Minutes -

Agenda + Minutes of 3.9.22

Agenda + Minutes of 3.2.22	Agenda + Minutes of 2.23.22
Agenda + Minutes of 2.2.22	Agenda + Minutes of 1.26.22
Agenda + Minutes of 1.12.22	Agenda + Minutes of 1.5.22
Agenda + Minutes of 12.15.21	Agenda + Minutes of 12.8.21
Agenda + Minutes of 12.1.21	Agenda + Minutes of 11.17.21
Agenda + Minutes of 11.10.21	Agenda + Minutes of 11.3.21
Agenda + Minutes of 10.27.21	Agenda + Minutes of 10.20.21
Agenda + Minutes of 10.6.21	Agenda + Minutes of 9.29.21
Agenda + Minutes of 9.22.21	Agenda + Minutes of 9.15.21
Agenda + Minutes of 9.8.21	Agenda + Minutes of 9.1.21

- Council Links -

HHS Handbook	Council Bylaws	Council Website
Roll Call Record	Meeting Attendance	Council Members
Broadside Archives	Council Feedback Form	Council Instagram
Email us at HHS Council		

<u>- HHS Clubs + Organizations -</u>		
<u>Clubs + Organizations</u>	<u>Links</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>
<i>The Broadside</i>	Instagram / Website	Library on Thursday (Activity)
DECA	Instagram / Website	Room 118 on Thursday (Activity)
Environmental Club	Instagram	Room 226 on Tuesday (Activity)
Fashion Club	Instagram / Join / Email	
French Club	Instagram	Room 246 every other Friday
The Hot Take	Instagram	Room R11 on Thursday (Activity)
Houseplant Club	Instagram	Room 233 on Monday (Lunch)
Mokagraphia Club		Room 107 on Tuesday (Activity)
She's the First	Instagram	Room 124 on Thursday (Lunch)
Please email hhs-council@hanovernorwichschools.org to add relevant info!		

<u>- Resources to Build Community + Well-Being -</u>		
<u>AAPI Resources</u>	<u>BLM Resources</u>	<u>Change Resources</u>
<u>Crisis Hotlines</u>	<u>HHS Support Services</u>	<u>HHS Climate Action Plan</u>

<u>- School Counseling Meeting Links -</u>			
<u>Tom Eberhardt</u>	<u>Laurie Harrington</u>	<u>Wendy Kares</u>	<u>Elizabeth Keene</u>
<u>Chris Seibel</u>	<u>Kyle Storey</u>	<u>Devon Voake</u>	<u>Sara Wilmot</u>

Skip to Agenda