

PVMHS Student Council Meeting Minutes

11/9/2021

Attendees: Dante Martiniello, Paul Drilon, Ryan McGrath, Katie Amico, Jackie Scopa, Julianne Faye Gabriel, Lyndsay Lynch, Elijah Swanson, Sarah Lynch, Ava Buckley, Cailyn Buckley, Leah Buckley, Steisha Desimil, Felicia Vincent, Angelina Flores, Kyra Buckley, Kate Bresnahan, Panayiota Nikolouzos, Daniella Laguerre, Ms. P.

- Discuss fundraising
 - Checks for Pep Rally
 - Class of 2023:
 - Snacks and water for sale at Parent-Teacher Night
 - 200 shirts ordered from Nico's
 - Online store is open until 11/14
 - Popcorn sales are going well
 - Store open until 11/23
- Follow up re: 10th grade faculty advisor
 - No one yet
 - Ms. P. will ask Principal Magno and Dr. Meier
- Lead representatives and ex-officio
 - Student Advisory Council/Lead Representatives are:
 - Cailyn Buckley
 - Lyndsay Lynch
 - Ryan McGrath
 - Paige Ritchie
 - Jackie Scopa
 - Alternates are:
 - Steisha Desimil
 - Angelina Flores
 - Arianna Goudreau
 - Will need to meet with Principal Magno
 - Ms. P. reached out
 - School Committee meeting is 11/23
 - Ex-officio vote?
 - Rotation of council members is the most popular choice
- School Spirit discussion and planning
 - No immediate pieces yet
 - Pep Rally!
 - Types of Days for Spirit Week?
 - What does the Spirit Committee say:
 - Planned out
 - Days in discussion
 - Planning on it happening 11/15-Thanksgiving week

- Future events
 - School carnival
 - Food festival
 - Student birthdays over announcements
 - “Tanner of the Day”
 - Shout outs?
 - Student Council members will chat with peers for ideas and feedback
- New business
 - Late policy
 - Students are concerned about the new policy
 - Things are unclear regarding consistency and strictness
 - Policy feels misguided and does not support socio-emotional wellness
 - “A few minutes late” students get as in trouble as later students
 - Being locked out and then moved to the bridge for a full class period can feel detrimental
 - Students may feel more likely to miss school
 - Students are fearful of getting in trouble
 - Could backfire on the intention
 - Strain on school spirit
 - Has caused some mistrust
 - Ideas:
 - Start class at 7:20 but take attendance at 7:35, not earlier
 - Maybe use 15 minutes for “flex time,” check ins, etc.?
 - Detention is not always effective
 - Traffic is very troublesome
 - Drop off lines and parking lot clogging
 - Ask *why* students are late
 - Have a fifteen minute flex block at the end of the day for traffic
 - Staggered dismissal?
 - Consider the variables:
 - Family needs
 - Car problems
 - Personal lives
 - Managing energy
 - Driving others
 - Early start and seven period day--consider changing the schedule?
 - Big shift from last year
 - Action plan:
 - Take ideas to Principal Magno
 - Constructive conversation with administration
 - Change the system to a “strike” system

- Allow for flexibility/trial and error
 - Increase safety
 - Improve understanding and communication between students and administration
 - Change regulation of parking lot traffic
 - Enforce one way parking lot
- Next steps:
 - Meet with Principal Magno with open minds
- Mental health of students
 - Most teachers seem on track; small group of teachers have caused concerns
 - Create and overall check-in for teachers regarding handling of mental health
 - Only select Advisories participated in a survey
 - Is there a way to survey teachers' knowledge of supports?
 - What is the root to address?
 - Some are pushing back against the socio-emotional pieces of Advisory
 - "Mishandling"
 - Friday Check In survey regarding how you are and what you need
 - Consequences are too broad and not about the *why*
 - "Emotional transparency"
 - Action Plan:
 - First steps:
 - Let faculty and staff know it needs to be addressed
 - Address the situation and values
 - Propose a policy
 - Make it clear that it is not to be forced but mental health needs to not be degraded
 - Students "just want to be heard" and understood
 - Spread awareness and prioritize making the classroom a "welcome area"
 - What would it look like?
 - Remember the student's humanity and individuality
 - Embrace the process and building the ideas
 - Increase student interactions
 - Listened to
 - Utilize restorative justice
 - Allow for some freedoms
 - Issues do not need to be presented formally
 - Fewer classes with longer blocks in a day
 - Have some innovative times with teachers

- Things teachers do that make students feel better/welcome:
 - Being treated like a human being
 - Not being strict but have expectations
 - Trust of students
 - “Fun” learning
 - Asking how a student’s day or weekend is/was
 - Be open to feedback
 - Give students autonomy
 - Reduce “formality”
- Reminders
 - Send Ms. P. a photo for the website!
 - Agenda for next meeting:
 - Secretary Reports from the grades
 - Treasury Reports from the grades
 - Old Business
 - Fundraising
 - School Spirit
 - Late policy
 - Mental Health
 - New Business
 - School Committee meeting