

5/27/15

Karnam: 30 copies of The Musket left, go to room 239 if you want a copy

Lee: if you want to help out with Unwind to boost your mind- June 18th contact Sens. Huang, Lee, Zedros, FM

Clive elected honorary Senator for 2014-2015 school year

presentation of gifts to Parliamentarian Tomic, Secretary Karnam, Moderator Blumberg

Blumberg: attendance decent, really important for next year, new Senator meeting next Tuesday in room 827 afterschool, obligation to constituents- homeroom visits

SB: can kick ppl off if you don't come

Blumberg: can say "point of order" if you think a rule is broken, "move to call the question"- vote on whether or not to vote, "question through the chair"- ask a question to someone, start elections of new executive board and tech board representative

start nominations for Moderator

Ryan Lee, Chao Li, Caleb Ng, Elise Pfrommer

potential moderators give speeches

voting begins

Ryan Lee elected Moderator

assistant moderator has to be faculty

nominations- SB, Cardellichio

give speeches

Assistant Moderator= Ms. SB

nominations

Allen Xu, Andrew Wang, Christi Lee, Chao Zheng Li, Elise Pfrommer

give speeches

3-way tie

Andrew Wang, Chao Zheng Li and Elise Pfrommer

tie between Andrew Wang and Elise Pfrommer

Andrew Wang elected Secretary

Parliamentarian

nominations- Josh Kim, Clive Chan

give speeches

Josh Kim elected Parliamentarian

technology board representative

nominations- Andy Quan, Derik Kauffman

give speeches

Andy Quan elected

5/13/15

Cherenson: Ryan Lee's birthday

Karnam: please take down any Senate Day posters

Tomic: policy looked at calendar bill

Ryan Lee: Climate working on unwind to boost your mind

Kauffman: what is unwind to boost your mind?

Cherenson: coupons for local restaurants

Ryan Lee: activities for students in between finals to de-stress

SB: come get copies of bills, informal discussion of calendar bill
Tomic: bill pretty self-explanatory, Senate needs to take care of certain events, feedback-
seconded motion, but approval by Secretary, scheduling- add events at a meeting
Ryan Lee: why can Senators add at any time in the meeting
Tomic: if something comes up during the meeting, shouldn't have to wait a week
Kauffman: maybe we could have a third person approve the event
Cherenson: online or physical?
SB: think it will be online, vague wording so that it will be adaptable throughout the years,
Parliamentarian deemed that we do have quorum, two minor changes to the AP Advice bill
Tomic: point of order, have to suspend the rules to talk about the bill
Ryan Lee: move to suspend the rules
rules suspended
SB: capitalizing, adding "advice", "availability of space"
Tomic: friendly amendment to add "the" to before "availability"
question called, bill passed
SB: move to strike voter registration since Lasa didn't have any suggestions
seconded
Tomic: can we read the calendar bill out loud
Kauffman: replace "seconded" with "thirded"
Tomic: can make a move to reconsider the motion
Kauffman: no
bill passes
SB: move into new business
Tomic: do we want to continue discussion of a cappella on transcript, any official action?
Girma: what constitutes as credit?
Ryan Lee: jazz groups do get credit
Wambe: auditions for a cappella run by students
Wong: I thought that there needed to be teacher supervision?
SB: there is faculty supervision
Cherenson: have to be in a music class, already getting credits
Wong: Mr. I has to improve people for a cappella, he might not know ppl personally if they take
orchestra
Tomic: worth writing something, know that Jazz has strict times, teacher involvement, look at
other gray areas
Cherenson: I think a cappella is the only "club" that receives credit
Kauffman: against credit for a cappella
Christi Lee: shouldn't be our responsibility for the Senate to say if ppl should get credit, look at
how many kids are doing it
Quan: can do independent projects, for example in the Math department, the issue is the
admittance process
Tomic: a cappella is a time commitment but so are other activities, could have a general written
thing, not briefly mention a cappella
Doucette: have administration look at current policy and have it consistently applied
Kauffman: could argue that many clubs should get credit
Cherenson: no assessment for a cappella

Ryan Lee: don't need to look at number of kids who signed up, should be consistent

Tomic: move to confer "Credit consistency bill" to policy committee

pass

Kauffman: how many Senate meetings left?

SB: 1 official meeting

5/6/15

SB: Seniors can keep sashes, others please return

Blumberg: thank you to Sen. SB for helping make these, musical is this weekend

Ryan Lee: climate helped make sashes,

Tomic: discussed calendar bill for next week

Blumberg: e-board talked about homework and a cappella on transcript, overview of Senate-meet after school from 2:30-3:30, probably next year as well, have committees, overview of committees, this year- AP advice room bill, voter registration bill, power- not a lot of legislative power, but a lot of influence, quorum- $\frac{2}{3}$ of Senate needs to be present, raise your hands if you wish to speak, Dr. Murray will talk about Flex block

Dr. Murray: Lex. visited Conval high school- students sign themselves up for meeting with teachers, looking for 2016-2017 school year, logistics still in progress

Ryan Lee: would schedule be open to reschedule during the week

Dr. Murray: not sure for Lexington High School, but Conval does that

Caroline Berger: how often would flex block be?

Dr. Murray: not sure, looking at trial of 3

Tomic: would students be able to run activities?

Dr. Murray: yes, periodically, not every time

Pfrommer: "home base" if there isn't anything to do?

Dr. Murray: homeroom, homeroom teachers become like advisors, access to schedules, grades

Kauffman: how did the extended homeroom relate?

Dr. Murray: some students enjoyed it, some students felt anxious

SB: pushback from faculty- seems like another class for teachers, ex. teachers can't come to Senate, help students, larger study halls?

Dr. Murray: conversation will continue around that, haven't looked at large study blocks

SB: are teachers expected to be in homerooms for every flex block?

Dr. Murray: no

SB: where would students go?

Dr. Murray: on the later meetings, needs to be worked out, on as needed basis

Clive Chan: how would attendance be taken?

Dr. Murray: we're looking a computer program

Tomic: maybe sort ppl by language they study?

Dr. Murray: couldn't any teacher help students for high school issues

Tomic: just might make it easier to approach

Dr. Murray: more time- more of relationship between students and teachers

Blumberg: two more questions

Ryan Lee: mentioned that Conval had free time, would upperclassmen have open campus at LHS?

Dr. Murray: probably not

Blumberg: hopefully next year, Senate's role will be more concrete next year, move into discussion of a cappella on transcript, for the last 5-6 yrs, a cappella on program of studies, get audition, can credit for it as a course, most ppl don't choose to get credit for it, Mr. I is involved but auditions are run by students- shouldn't be on the transcript, PTA discussed recently
Tomic: my younger brother does it, time commitment but after school, shouldn't count for credit because other extra curriculums don't, are required to be in choral class to be in a cappella (only difference)

Blumberg: any music class, not necessarily choral class

Kauffman: question- if for credit, does that involve in school participation?

Blumberg: concerts in school, but not class time, Mr. Leonard's reasoning- a cappella= offshoots of classes

Christi Lee: jazz programs after school get credit, any monitoring of time?

Cherenson: arts credits, don't see a reason not to

Blumberg: not sure if it's for arts credits, might be independent study

Girma: might expand to other groups- hard to manage

Doucette: history- part of larger program, ppl used to not have art credits

Ryan Lee: jazz is more directly led by faculty, if a cappella was monitored more by faculty then maybe, lot of outside of musical groups- like pit

Josh Kim: sports are after school and overseen by faculty but not on the transcript

Wang: foreign exchange programs get one credit

Tomic: a lot of activities that could get credit, from my brother- leadership is student run, jazz is very clearly set time, overseen by teacher

Blumberg: Mr. Leonard says that Mr. I approves every student and final say

Pfrommer: seems unfair that a cappella gets it, other things like musical and play- run by faculty

Zhang: as far I know, past 5-6, Mr. I not really a part, consider ourselves student run

Kauffman: academic groups, NOSB related to earth science class, lot of time after school, shouldn't be just a cappella

Blumberg: what should count for credit? should define whether or not a cappella is a class?

Mehra: what is the difference between a cappella and NOSB?

Karnam: a cappella- student run in terms of practice, students, NOSB- involved faculty member, mostly student run, tied to earth science course

Xu: move to end discussion

passes

Blumberg: idea of flipped classroom, lecture at home, role of homework

Cherenson: in most math classes, hw isn't graded, some ppl don't do it and still get good grades

Christi Lee: sometimes busy work

Wu: more productive to have teaching in the classroom

Tomic: homework checks- when checked consistently, ppl do it, might not be the best way to learn material, random checks are more effective, flipped classroom- with works, ppl work at different rates, lectures keep ppl focused

4/29/15

Karnam: Musket Issue V is here

SB: next week's meeting is in the black box

Chao Li: what are we doing for Senate day?

SB: it's on the agenda

Huang: Climate talked about junior senior dance

Karnam: communications didn't meet, could ppl stay for a couple of weeks

Quan: Policy talked about calendar bill

SB: didn't meet with Lasa but will meet next two weeks, elections needs a blurb for RSAC and tech committee, any volunteers? move into Senate Day- dress up, have had food in past

Christi Lee: Senate gear- dodgeball shirts or quarterzips from this year

Huang: last year Climate made Senate pins

Wong: face paint to write Senate

Girma: should announce Senate Day on Facebook

SB: really liked the pins last year

Wambe: liked the sash, if we are formal, ppl might think we are dressing up for a game

Karnam: communications will be making posters and send out homeroom announcements

Kauffman: should advertise the event to groups like MUN and class council

Huang: food?

Karnam: get leftovers from Panera

SB: Senate gear, possibly face paint and buttons, ppl will see our outfits so they could come, could Climate have a place for buttons and send out an email, anyone have face paint

Aramati: should be uniformity

Christi Lee: sports teams do sashes, maybe someone could make

Karnam: move to defer sash making to Climate

Huang: sure

SB: move into calendar bill

Kauffman: what are Spring elections?

SB: Senate elections for sophomore, junior, seniors, also RSAC, class council and tech board

Gambone: friendly amendment- wording on the last bullet, change to "unnecessary"

SB: will look at all amendments and send to Sen. Tomic

Huang: not sure why Senators could propose at any point

Kauffman: don't think it would be misused, "obviously preposterous" is fine, do we have to know everything the year before?

SB: digital calendar, continually updated

Quan: wouldn't spend a lot of time during the meeting on calendar

SB: move into homework discussion, electronic submission times, should there be a uniform policy

Christi Lee: should not be a uniform policy for homework checks

SB: clarification- question of uniformity of time

Christi Lee: some teachers have it due during class, not all classes meet each day

Huang: teachers check homework less up the grades

Mehra: electronic submissions- should be when the class starts, like paper submissions

Kauffman: I agree, for midnight submissions- if ppl have evening activities

Girma: midnight deadlines are better, class deadlines motivates to procrastinate more

Wang: teachers should decide, midnight is a good time

Park: homework shouldn't be unified, teachers have different styles of teaching

Zang: agree with Sen. Wang, should have time for students to make edits

Xu: should be a range of time, not a specific time, my English teacher said that they are moving towards Google classroom not turnitin

Wang: if there is a range of time, ppl will just choose that later date, with Chemistry- solutions posted and you can ask questions the next day

Kauffman: submit things in history through Google classroom, use iPad, can't leave comments

Huang: what is Ms. Lasa trying to get out of this

SB: improvement plan says that community will discuss homework

Christi Lee: some teachers will have a homework group, not specific assignments on aspen

SB: for Math 1,2,3, there are only solution manuals available students, how often are they used?

Christi Lee: they are very helpful

Park: use it pretty often

Yunus: my math teacher only goes over the harder questions in class, more efficient

Huang: solutions is helpful only if teachers don't check homework

Karnam: for physics, solutions are the day after

Huang: have solutions when doing problems is more helpful

SB: move into new business

Huang: peers have mentioned bike racks

Doucette: Mr. Williams has money from club to get bike racks to put it in more continually

SB: does anyone what happened to the bike racks that got moved

Doucette: still there but inaccessible

Christi Lee: grading uniformity, opportunities for extra credit, re-take policies, could we write anything?

SB: not a bill, but resolution

Wang: two BC calculus teachers have very different grading scales

Huang: ppl say that teachers don't follow 3 tests rule

SB: we could ask Ms. Lasa about it?

Huang: part of the problem- students don't know, teachers might be unwilling, try to convince students to take tests

Kauffman: official policy says that students can talk to guidance counselors or homeroom teachers

Christi Lee: teachers might say it doesn't qualify as "test", some students might feel awkward about it

Zang: some teachers are fine with it, others say that students will be fine

Doucette: when test is announced is the time to talk to teachers, Senators can clarify what the policy is

Kauffman: policy says to tell the teacher as soon as possible, it says to talk to 3rd teacher and beyond

Christi Lee: do pop quizzes count towards the policy?

SB: could Sen. Kauffman re-read it

Kauffman reads policy

SB: my interpretation would be "no"

Girma: which test?

SB: the last teacher

Kauffman: move to adjourn

4/15/15

Ryan Lee: Sen. Delity resigned, chairs- me and Huang

Blumberg: Sen. Delity resigned to help quorum, appreciated that

Tomic: Policy finished Calendar bill

SB: talked to Ms. Lasa about AP advice bill, where it could happen, LMC for after school, some discussion about midterms coming up, another discussion about homework

Wambe: a theme?

Mehra: what is Senate Day?

Blumberg: publicize it, open it up to everyone, get ppl to run

SB: add Senate Day before homework

Blumberg: question called

Karnam: can I make an amendment? - seniors haven't completed courses
question called, passed

Karnam: include completing the course

Ryan Lee: should be restricted to seniors

Tomic: at least one person should have completed the course, don't need to specify seniors

Kauffman: value in currently taking the test

Cherenson: could take out "primarily juniors and seniors"

Blumberg: would like keep that

question is called, passes

Alessandro: can we print this out so people can see it

Karnam: yeah *prints*

Alessandro: move to table until Secretary Karnam comes back

Blumberg: move into voter registration bill discussion

Tomic: reads bill - note that it should read "LHS Student-Faculty Senate's Social Action Committee" instead of general "the Student/Faculty Senate Senate"

Alessandro: move to do that amendment

Blumberg: opposition? then question is automatically called

question is called

amendment passes

Tomic: only 30 days in Sept. can't have Sept. 31, I think not already there

Pfrommer: does the bill refer to all "students"

SB: yes

passes

Blumberg: back into AP advice bill

Wang: I think "J" in juniors is a different color

Kauffman: friendly amendment remove space between "in" and "that" and "course" and "advice"

Tomic: remove apostrophe in APs and parentheses to have, change it to say "including APs, Honors...)

Blumberg: I object, say advanced classes, then "this can..."

Tomic: someone could propose a secondary amendment

Alessandro: why are CP1 classes? seems too broad and goal

Cherenson: advanced vs. honors?

Blumberg: no difference

Girma: why is there an apostrophe in "AP's"

Blumberg: removed

Tomic: friendly amendment to remove s in APs

Ryan Lee: I object to removing CP1, to make a choice, have to understand the options

Zang: could you type amendments?

Alessandro: remove CP1

Quan: should remove CP1, have "can"

Tomic: remove Advanced everywhere, retract

Karnam: idea in second paragraph about Senate's discretion, can combine ideas

Ryan Lee: call the question

hands

passed

Alessandro: someone should remove the word advanced and CP1

SB: friendly amendment for the end., "for volunteering"

Ryan Lee: amendment to remove the word "Advanced", should be course advice room

Kauffman: in favor of keeping CP1

Tomic: point of order, need a separate speaking order, this "can include" and "discretion" mean that CP1 classes don't have to be there, should be open to everybody

Alessandro: propose secondary amendment, leave Advanced in rationale, change an to a

Ryan Lee; accept it

Alessandro: shouldn't have changed "an" to "a"

question called

Alessandro: move to call question

question called

Tomic: there is discussion on whether or not the question is called, there are things like "see later points"

Blumberg: urge to not vote,

bill doesn't pass

Tomic: friendly amendment to remove, see later points

passes

Cherenson: friendly amendment- same text color

Clive: someone should amend 3rd paragraph, 5th line change acquiring to finding teachers

SB: 3rd paragraph, add after Monday- Friday, and may be open at other times at the discretion of the executive committee

Tomic: remove Monday- Friday

no objection

Kauffman: should come back to Clive's amendment

Ng: match first sentence "course selection",

Tomic: shouldn't vote on it this week

Alessandro: limit discussion to one minute of whether or not to call the question

question called

Blumberg: bill doesn't pass

Ng: my earlier friendly amendment
no objection
Blumberg: no more discussion
Mehra: move to call the question

4/1/15

SB: FM's birthday today
Blumberg: attendance low
Ryan Lee: Climate talked about AP bill, no homeroom visit about American pride dance
Tomic: Policy worked on voter registration bill, talked about calendar
Karnam: Communications made gmail account and worked on calendar
SB: silent room-problems with location, Lasa talked about keeping voter registration with school store, ideas for activities during Flex Block
Girma: Seniors could offer extra help
Christi Lee: is it true that underclassmen won't leave school early when they are freshmen
Blumberg: not sure, can confirm, talked to teachers, PTA about AP bill- in support, can address the last couple of questions for bill
SB: Ms. Lasa suggested that faculty should officially be there- but not in the room
Tomic: can't make amendments to the bill now
Blumberg: official bill?
Tomic: no amendments to the bill, but discussions
Blumberg: should be everyday one week after school, every hour, maybe in the evening
SB: Ms. Lasa suggested during lunch, ppl will come if they are already at school, where should it be?
Ryan Lee: not sure about supervisor during lunch- ppl already have lunch duty, should be ½ half after school
Tomic: LMC might not work, could be classroom
Huang: some people can't do after school, so lunch
Ryan Lee: same room shouldn't be highest priority
SB: splitting among teachers for the lunch is fine
Cardellichio: would be willing to help, use room (not sure about next year's schedule)
Blumberg: selection process?
SB: Ms. Lasa said yes to community service
Mehra: process for TAs
Huang: can go through AP teachers
Karnam: not sure if there is a specific process for TAs
Blumberg: can get ppl to sign up for subjects
Ryan Lee: going through the AP teachers might skew the ppl
Tomic: google spreadsheet with times, AP classes, ppl can sign themselves into it
Karnam: should we have multiple ppl for each class?
Blumberg: as many people as possible
Huang: just have AP teachers ask for volunteers, should have students from non AP classes
Tomic: teachers can just announce to class, also general homeroom announcements
Josh Kim: college students on break?

Gambone: homeroom announcements

Tomic: logistically difficult to get college students, a little too distanced from APs

Blumberg: junior and senior opinions would be more realistic

Wang: agree with Sen. Tomic, AP curriculum is changing

Blumberg: talk about honors/level 1

Ryan Lee: test honors classes, get other options other than AP

Tomic: maybe some honors courses, as many as possible

Xu: could have sample material

Huang: could see calendar for a month,

Blumberg: student for all of the APs, at the discretion of E-board, add other classes if necessary

Girma: honors pre-calculus students should be there

Tomic: math curriculum changed, might have to work around

Ryan Lee: for this event next year, everyone will have gone through the system

Mehra: anyway to talk to 8th graders for honors classes

Girma: there was an assembly, Mr. Goldberg talked about classes

Clive: are curricula for classes published?

Blumberg: no, but description in course catalogue

Karnam: Ms. Lasa said more detailed descriptions next year

SB: for Math- syllabi to dept. head not sure if published, this year created a document for level differences

Kauffman: video recording of the class?

Huang: won't get a sense of how material by a video

Ryan Lee: videos could be misleading

Ng: how would this room be set up?

Blumberg: could have booths set up, less of panel, more 1:1

Huang: similar to activities fair

Tomic: the room could be divided by grade

Blumberg: can we introduce the bill and work on it next week?

Tomic: voter registration- doesn't specify dates, specifies that 20 days before election, is this a full Senate thing or one committee?

Blumberg: doesn't really matter

Ryan Lee: doesn't need to be a specific committee, what is the purpose of 20 days

SB: deadline to register to vote

Huang: should have a committee lead the event

Blumberg: could have executive committee do

Tomic: social actions could do it

Xu: yes

Blumberg: why is second one in February?

SB: town elections in March

Blumberg: third for absentee ballot?

Tomic: sure

Clive: open to public?

Blumberg: for LHS students

Karnam: one day or a week?

Blumberg: no less than 5 school days

Ryan Lee: when during the day?

Tomic: during lunch

Blumberg: new business?

Tomic: test transparency?

Blumberg: movement to adjourn

approved

3/25/15

Alessandro: add discussion of dance

Karnam: remaining minutes on website

Blumberg: Pura Vida concert April 10th

Ryan Lee: worked on AP bill

Tomic: policy met yesterday, looked at transparency of tests

Blumberg: AP advice bill, start with questions at bottom, juniors and seniors?

Alessandro: both, juniors just taken certain APs

Ryan Lee: only objection- juniors might be overloaded

Cherenson: also sophomores?

Alessandro: shouldn't worry about overloading

Doucette: online forum in the future

Tomic: agree w/ Doucette, monitored by teachers, sophomores haven't actually taken the AP exam yet

Josh Kim: could give community service hours to students

Ryan Lee: could be similar to NHS hours for learning center, where would the online forum be?

Alessandro: should be community service

Kurt Pfrommer: this is a good idea, worry about details of online forum later but good idea

Cherenson: would it be people who have taken AP exam or taking course

SB: then no one could talk about senior courses, we should create a calendar for things that Senate should do

Tomic: communications or another committee should create calendar for the next year, can leave it open about taking the exam, just course

Blumberg: would faculty serve in a supervisory role?

Ryan Lee: this is modeled after FM's classroom, should be student to student

Park: maybe should also talk about honors courses as well

Christi Lee: guidance counselors could supervise as well, teachers don't necessarily have to be in the room

Wang: harder to talk to a student than a teacher

Kurt Pfrommer: faculty don't have to be present

Tomic: agree, teacher has to reserve the LMC

SB: faculty shouldn't be involved, but can supervise

David: how would it fit in time-wise, teachers have to make recommendations

Blumberg: Senate has questions to ask Ms. Lasa

Lasa: don't have many concrete answers, want multiple Flex blocks for the 2016-2017 year, spend 2015-2016 year figuring it out, homeroom is only time all students accounted for, looking to buy software that other schools use, try out next year, looking to hear from students the most important activities, ideas- not changing blocks, maybe cut homeroom, or all blocks are __ minutes, 3 flex blocks, mid- late morning, homeroom teachers would schedule students for the

week, software lets teachers pre-schedule students, could have enrichment activities, help from teachers, guest speaker

Blumberg: would study halls be counted in 990 hours

Lasa: that would continue

Tomic: would first Flex block just be scheduling? we talked about a “forever pass”

Lasa: not sure yet

SB: things like Senate, teacher couldn’t override

Lasa: one block could be Senate, peer mentors, class council

Karnam: will teachers know who is coming? how many

Lasa: they will know with software

SB: is there a cap?

Lasa: yes

Cherenson: would software just be Flex blocks or for whole schedule

Lasa: probably in the future, not sure

Park: multiple times a week?

Lasa: yes

Quan: is there a way to go directly to place w/out homeroom the first day

Lasa: part of it is more communication between students and teachers and between teachers

Tomic: Senate talked about students running seminars, through teachers or could they access software

Lasa: couldn’t w/ federal guidelines

Kurt Pfrommer: is there a budget for flex block activities? for guest speakers, enrichment

Lasa: yes

Tomic: ppl who aren’t scheduled?

Lasa: can pick an enrichment activity or students can stay in a room after quickly speaking to teachers

Doucette: class assemblies, bus evacuation, less disruption for classes

Ng: could you change scheduling?

Lasa: good question, talk to teacher you were going to see, will ask Convall

Cherenson: could students make requests and teachers approve

Lasa: maybe, not sure about federal guidelines, no info about teacher contracts, not sure about extending school day, if it was, Flex block wouldn’t be added on

Blumberg: move on to the dance

Lasa: the dance wasn’t cancelled, theme wasn’t banned, always a discussion about the theme, with America- would ppl who didn’t wear red, white, blue be considered “un-American” at the dance, classes weren’t interested in national pride, now theme is American pride- can be represented in any way, media spun it- misinformation, admin received hate mail, just wanted it to be inclusive

Alessandro: how was there this mis-understanding?

Lasa: I wasn’t there

Alessandro: I’m wondering who Makeda talked to?

Lasa: I don’t know

Cherenson: planning on talking to the whole school?

Lasa: spread by word of mouth, nervous about assembly

Tomic: Senate could do a homeroom visit to clarify

Blumberg: we can check with to make sure information is accurate

Cherenson: Extent/Effects of media coverage?

Lasa: Calming down, but went national. The message was that the students rallied against the administration to bring the dance back, which is not accurate. Media unlikely to correct it.

3/18/15

Josh Kim: The answer to the riddle is innocence

Allen Xu: The cold

Blumberg: Technically we're not at quorum but May's not here, so rules are off lol

Blumberg: Thanks to Christi and her committee for the sweatshirts

J Kim: policy met Tuesday, drew up draft for giving students greater accessibility to test materials

Blumberg: given to secretary?

J Kim: not yet

CZ Li: Social Action met after Senate last week - reviewed committee purpose / responsibilities - noticed a community service policy

R Lee: Communications and Climate had a joint meeting this morning - discussed questions for the survey

Blumberg: Executive met this morning - Flex Block will start in 2016-2017: will be 3-4 blocks spread out over the course of a week - each student will decide where to go in conjunction with homeroom teachers - possibilities include Senate, lectures, study halls; also talked about quiet room - Kelly had some objections but will try to do it at the end of this year or next; also talked about Move Up Day - elected positions traditionally are not represented, but P. Lasa hopes to provide info about elected positions to rising freshmen in the form of assembly

Blumberg: may need to revise tardiness / attendance policy - esp. 1993 bill: "teachers have to alert students that they're going to be marked tardy" - is the status quo policy-in-effect (stare you down as you walk into class) good?

Wambe: a student-teacher conversation would be good - need more communication

Alessandro: when you're tardy, what happens?

SB: allowed to make it up to 10% of the grade, but no one does that

Alessandro: what about detention?

SB: no school wide policy on detention, though students can have detention

Blumberg: assumes some people could get detention after the teacher communication

Girma: should be excused if there are long commutes

Aramati: what does the communication verify about tardiness policy?

Blumberg: currently unclear on what is tardy and what isn't - need a better streamlined process

Xu: teachers get mad - "what makes that class more important than that class" - need better pass system

Aramati: if a teacher has made clear what degree of leniency there is for tardiness, students should be able to self-manage

Blumberg: reminder: there is a bill that teachers must tell students every time they're marked tardy

Aramati: what then are we discussing?

Blumberg: whether that should be enforced

SB: a conversation would derail class focus further than a student coming in late; also passes from other classes seem disrespectful unless there are rare, extenuating circumstances

Alessandro: don't think Senate will change how teachers run their classrooms - also Attendance Reminders on Aspen and printed out twice a quarter check not knowing

Kaufman: does the bill specify when the convo must take place?

Blumberg: nah

Alessandro: move to limit this discussion to 5 minutes
motion passes

Blumberg: possible proposals - sign in sheet? to let ppl know when they're tardy

SB: people don't remember to sign in - my sheet has not really been used this year

Cherenson: not used much - seems like too much of a burden for teachers

Bozkaya: being reminded to sign in on the sheet could take away from class time

Blumberg: Bill Writing: we need to write something on the AP stuff - poss. something to get more student interaction - will someone take it? main proposal should be the advice room in which alumni of certain courses should help younger students with AP coursework

Alessandro: didn't we vote not to take further action?

Blumberg: only voted not to take action on a limit - we wouldn't be writing a limit bill

Quan: would this be a limit?

Blumberg: no - just a room

R. Lee: Climate will take it

Blumberg: also need a Voter Drive bill - neither NHS nor Class Councils have an initiative like this - registering seniors and juniors, esp. during an election year, would be good

Cartillechio: good idea

Bozkaya: yeah it's a good idea

Blumberg: who wants to do it? Social Action????

Allen: we will do a joint bill with Policy

Alessandro: confirmed Policy will help with this

Blumberg: also need to talk about Bill 590 - cancelled senior classes / substitutes bill - question to the faculty: is this happening? also can policy clean this up?

SB: there is probably a newer form of this bill

Doucette: Sen. J Williams probably has it

SB: "junior-senior substitute bill"? passed by senate last year - might only have been discussed in Executive Committee

Doucette: could also only have happened in Policy? idk where it is

Blumberg: table it

Blumberg: Flex Block: Lasa not sure what it's gonna be yet - we need to be more concrete about activities that could happen (besides extra help with teachers / elected leadership positions) - guest lecturers?

SB: will you start with homeroom teacher and then everyone goes somewhere else?

Blumberg: people will meet with homeroom teachers at the beginning of FB, then go to wherever they need to go - unless they have a scheduled activity every week (ex. Senate every Wednesday)

SB: what about faculty senators?

Blumberg: would have to do homeroom first, then come to Senate

SB: new technology - can it help ppl check in electronically / earlier to ensure faculty Senators don't have to be late?

Blumberg: hopefully that could happen - will talk to Ms. Lasa - what kind of activities would you all like to see?

Quan: club meetings, so long as they'd been vetted to ensure serious value

Cherenson: what kind of lecturers would there be?

SB: not sure - outside people would have to be announced but idk the specifics

Blumberg: would have 3-4 FB's per week - this means we can get Senate faculty and also give them time to meet for extra help

Doucette: it's a volunteer thing but it make sense

S Park: what does that mean for class length?

SB: probs, unless a longer school day is negotiated - this is not yet definite (on the table w/ school district and teachers' union)

Cartillechio: hesitant to volunteer teachers to teach another class - the idea of carrying an extra course could be daunting; how can we extend studies within a teacher's area of study without stretching the teacher burden too much - ex. literature discussions or something

Bozkaya: guest lecturers could be interesting - once a month or every two months could give good knowledge - could also be parents and teachers within the area / community

C Lee: is the extended school day schoolwide? districtwide?

SB: currently discussed on a districtwide level

Doucette: would this impact / replace / adjust Z blocks? will they remain the same length of time? could interfere with student jobs maybe

Blumberg: not sure, will ask P. Lasa

SB: could have collaborative study hall rooms - ex. everyone keeps the tests in one room and people can make them up there - also DEAR (drop everything and read) would be awesome

V Zhang: do we have facilities big enough for all interested parties to be able to see a lecture?

Blumberg: cross that bridge when we come to it

A Wang: would upperclassmen have open campus privileges?

Blumberg: probs no

J Kim: adding a class to the 5-class overload is too much - ensure these FB things only be extensions of regular curriculum

Blumberg: would probably not be a class so much as an informal discussion-with-a-teacher

M Zhang: will senate meet multiple times?

Blumberg: no

Alessandro: seniors can leave during free blocks - why wouldn't this be academic time?

Blumberg: study halls count (kind of), free blocks don't

SB: the state is giving us a pass right now, so we have to walk the line

Cartillechio: volunteer projects?

Blumberg: sounds good but would have to be educational - will ask Ms. Lasa

Yunus: would it be mandatory for each student to have an approved activity?

SB: you'd have to go somewhere but it could just be a study hall / extra help

Blumberg: please stay for the whole meeting

SB: it's nice to imagine people could have a discussion during FB, but it still needs to be planned - will still require work on the teachers' part

Girma: how do you sign up for what extra help you're going to?

Blumberg: either online or through homeroom teacher

Mehra: could you just have a study in your homeroom?

Blumberg: prob no - needs to be constructive - but will check with Ms. Lasa

S Park: study halls could help but idk how they would work

Yunus: would scheduling have to happen every FB or could it be negotiated on a quarterly or every-couple-weeks basis?

Blumberg: could be once a week or every two weeks - but will ask Ms. Lasa

Quan: we need more deets to have a good discussion - right now it's just speculation

Blumberg: Senioritis: discussed last week after Senate - noticed that many senior teachers and senior students are chilling out whereas many other teachers are very sad about senioritis - how can we curb senioritis while also making the end of the year good? people are signing themselves out too much right now - maybe internships instead of class?

SB: have worked at a school that requires senior internships, but required one person to organize only 25 seniors - and we have 20 times that number - I instead propose that seniors can opt out of final exams if they maintain a certain average (this motivates working to the end)

Cherenson: maybe follow the Minuteman organization?

Blumberg: this is a possibility - but note that Minuteman is a technical school so it works different

Alessandro: is the goal to get rid of senioritis?

Blumberg: no, it's to make senior year better

Alessandro: need to fix AP stress

M Zhang: at Weston, all the seniors do internships - they only have 400 but will ask them how it works for them

Cartillechio: my department was talking about how to shift student responsibility for own learning to the individual - this could be an ideal place for it - a final independent project that's a second-semester elective could be good - Mr. Moran is testing this out this year; English thinks it would be good for seniors

Girma: Seniors could be TA's too

SB: in my high school, there was a senior project - could do whatever you wanted - I was a TA - having this as an option would be a good place to start

3/11/2015

Karnam: Musket Issue IV

Tomic: policy met

Park: Climate talked about poster guidelines

Blumberg: talked to Ms. Fenn about freshmen seminars, should talk to students in the resource centers for the AP choices, talking to Ms. Lasa of quiet lunch room, have Senators to come to Move-up day

Tomic: survey would provide concrete data, ppl might not be willing to talk in front the class, homeroom visits just give a general sense, should add general questions to the survey about issues

Blumberg: should focus on larger issues

Tomic: simple yes or no- do you understand weighted vs. unweighted GPA, do you think its important

Doucette: weighted GPA would only compare you to students in LHS, not for college process

Blumberg: faculty can suggest for faculty section of survey

Tomic: not sure if it should be the same survey

Doucette: freshmen, sophomore, junior, senior, faculty should be different sections

Blumberg: move on, send to communications, climate, break into committees

Kauffman: is it a widespread problem of just seeing scores and questions wrong not why

Blumberg: Senate can't tell teachers how to run classes

Tomic: most of my teachers go over tests, should work with teachers individually, should be accessible to students on request

Girma: teachers have time to see it after school

Leung: would be helpful to have the whole class looking at it

Doucette: outside of our purview, test security is an issue

Kauffman: would be helpful to have even the categories

Tomic: if resolution- might say have answer key available during class time

Blumberg: I've experienced that, resolution could be helpful

3/4/2015

SB: origami club- awesome display

Climate: met, talked about de-stress event

Tomic: Policy finalized benches

SB: positive about quiet room, maybe a pilot for certain days, next step- talking to Ms. Fenn, talked about AP, X block in 2016-2017 at least a few times a week

Josh Kim: friendly amendment- add "based on the input of the student body"

Kauffman: addition "of" new benches

Tomic: only changed one bench to grassy area

Ryan Lee: last bullet point of back should be more clear so that potential smoke is not going into the building

Tomic: grassy area past the FL area?

Blumberg: "Senate also requests", change countless to "many"

Tomic: 4th bullet to "past the FL"

passed

hand count- proposal passed

Blumberg: new idea- expand on Senator FM's system with seniors talking to juniors about courses or a week where juniors and seniors in the resource center for younger students to approach

Kauffman: Senate should address since students feel pressure to take classes they don't want to

Delity: for resource center idea 1:1 conversation or panel?

Blumberg: would be more 1:1

Alessandro: not sure how it would work- maybe some teachers wouldn't be comfortable

Tomic: logistically difficult, maybe use peer leaders, ppl already approaching older students

Delity: could have something similar to Activities Fair

Gambone: good ideas, but doesn't help the problem with stress

SB: Ms. Lasa saw it as more of a soft limit, would only be successful if it came from us

Alessandro: pretty reasonable what we have know in terms of scheduling- ex. only 2 in sophomore year

Tomic: don't know where they would be, because wide range of students, would have to have a lot of analysis, look at data

Huang: how would suggestion work?

SB: course catalog, letter

Blumberg: was she in favor of guidelines or overriding guidance counselor

SB: she said soft guidelines

Delity: could ask teachers which AP classes could have a honors course

Alessandro: have descriptions of how many hours a week

Huang: parents might force their students to go above the "average"

Kauffman: guidelines and higher up soft limit

Tomic: reach out to parents directly, can be phrased that the limit isn't the average

Alessandro: parents it is targeted at probably will ignore it

Clive Chan: could we have admissions officer talk about how important APs are

Tomic: there was some event with some universities, maybe try to continue that

Alessandro: limit the discussion to 5 minutes

Blumberg: informal vote on whether Senate should come up with guidelines

vote to not have Senate write something

Tomic: letter should be from parents, maybe Senate could organize an "AP day" and ask Ms. Lasa to do the letter, talk to counselors etc

Blumberg: which idea?

Tomic: more like a fair, not formal, ppl seek out advice

Karnam: Ms. Lasa mentioned that there would be more concrete descriptions in Program of Studies

Delity: some teachers should be at fair

Tomic: open gradebook, maybe a survey, possible negative consequences, is there a committee? maybe Tech Board? maybe combine with counselor discussion survey

Ryan Lee: format for the survey?

Tomic: homeroom survey, many ppl don't take online surveys

Delity: Senate needs information from students- maybe do something similar to the Youth Risk Survey

Aramati: survey for students or teachers?

Blumberg: usually students, but could do teachers

Gambone: should wait a bit, most ppl are against it for now

Tomic: keep in mind

Blumberg: bigger survey would be a good idea

Aramati: add faculty into survey

Tomic: could do a yearly Senate survey, could give legitimacy, probably couldn't get an extended homeroom this year

Gambone: Senate survey every year is a good idea

Kauffman: maybe a couple of surveys a year

Ryan Lee: not sure about extended homeroom, should get version of it out soon

Doucette: think about audience of survey

Delity: 2-3 Senate surveys, one towards the beginning of the year, middle and after finals

Wong: box for Senate suggestions, how often are the gradebooks?

Karnam: like Senate box idea, maybe Facebook, communications could run it

Tomic: could talk to Dr. Murray about surveys since he has experience on how to make the surveys unbiased, could to separate student and faculty surveys
Girma: on survey- ask about grades submitted before getting assignments back
Delity: potentially an ask.fm Senate page, if done correctly
Tomic: maybe assess that in survey- getting assignments back
Karnam: definitely wait a little because there are technological glitches
Ryan Lee: surveys should be same for students and teachers
Cardellichio: giving assignments back first- would be like grading twice
Huang: hear from teachers about number of assignments?
Aramati: many teachers felt uneasy
Blumberg: talk about library media center usage
Josh Kim: could talk to librarians about maybe using water bottles or board for documents
Christi Lee: have librarians expressed concern about food?
Josh Kim: set a good example, ask about board- maybe more willing if we followed the rules
Blumberg: could we use it?
Tomic: might be easier to work with them and borrow laptops
Ryan Lee: anything else we should ask about?
Josh Kim: permission for water bottles
Blumberg: would probably be against the water bottles
Delity: is this the discussion on the agenda?
Blumberg: yes
Tomic: including librarians specifically would help

2/25/15

S-B: move new senator after committee reports
Karnam: new business before adjourn into committees
Huang: climate discussed AP course-load minutes
Tomic: policy didn't meet b/c of sci fair, will meet to finalize benches
Blumberg: election of Mr. Aramati
Ryan Lee: nominate Mr. Aramati
all in favor, none opposed
Tomic: presentation of benches- areas marked by blue stars, any major objections? also ask that seating inside commons increased and benches outside main building maintained year-round, decided not include ones near the commons II patio area and outdoor commons I area
Blumberg: amendments or just suggestions?
Tomic: it's not a resolution, can make amendments as an official Senate document
Blumberg: can we make informal suggestions for now, remove "would like to" from last paragraph, could we also add a trashcan, potentially move the benches further to the street from the tree, outside, loading dock might be fire hazard- move onto grass, benches near CII usually worn out
Tomic: Principal Lasa specifically requested one by the tree, request for shaded areas
Zedros: how would indoor seating options work?
Tomic: not an official request, rough draft
Zedros: will probably need indoor seating, not just logistically, would like Ms. Lasa's feedback
Tomic: more chairs

Blumberg: know that issue has been going around
Aramati: might have a specific number chairs for each table
Tomic: should this be included in the proposal?
S-B: talk to Ms. Lasa first and then make a proposal
Zedros: demand is seasonally variable
Ryan Lee: indoor seating detracts from the rest of it
Blumberg: I agree
Tomic: will strike that part and will add a rationale- maybe just for confusing locations, why not in certain areas
Gambone: rationale just for the benches we are proposing
Aramati: grass area near CII- ppl are there a lot, would be useful, bench for smoking corner would be further into the school property
Blumberg: town doesn't want it on town ground, trying to move it a little out of the way
Aramati: Ms. Lasa knows that people would be smoking there?
Tomic: was skeptical about it working, since earlier efforts didn't work, she was supportive of adding more benches
Aramati: concern of it being closer to school, wonder if they would get pushback and go back to start
Tomic: maybe talk to deans, although technically closer, it's more out of the way, hopefully send this off by the end of next week
Huang: FM was wondering which groups we were targeting
SB: students whose parents push them to take more than they want
Suraj: my guidance counselor said they changed it this year so that they talk to students
Huang: any proposal should be for the whole school and us as well
Zedros: some ppl can do all APs- maybe not- look at other parts of life- sleep
Girma: agree
Huang: shouldn't say ppl who "need help"- should be for the school as a whole
Ryan Lee: I have never talked to my guidance counselor, have additional conferences
Christi Lee: it is new this year, good idea even if you don't need it
Huang: for guidance counselors- paperwork would be more burden than discussion
Blumberg: is Climate's proposal that everyone meets with guidance counselor?
Ryan Lee: yes
Christi Lee: move to table discussion until guidance counselors talk to students
tabled
Ryan Lee: Climate considering a de-stress event in early spring, looking for particular areas
Christi Lee: Q3- standardized tests
Cardellichio: for a lot of ppl, meditation techniques, maybe a room for students to go
Cherenson: scheduling would be difficult
Ryan Lee: this would probably be during homeroom or during lunchtime
Blumberg: talk to extended homeroom committee since those are planned advance
Huang: not sure a dark room is a good idea
Cardellichio: not entirely dark
Aramati: don't think a dark room is a problem if the person is leading is an expert, should be voluntary, should find out how effective the extended homeroom, over loud-speaker- everyone participates

Zedros: SADD club- 2/3 day- serves as a de-stressor, worked well

Huang: didn't realize there would be a moderator

Blumberg: has a lot of potential- some time of lunch

Cardellicchio: Ms. Buttaro does guided meditation

Aramati: Ms. Carey as well

SB: at Brandeis there is a peace room, open all the time

Ryan Lee: will take the suggestions to Climate

Zedros: used 142, not sure if faculty room, ppl would be willing to give up

Blumberg: move to adjourn

2/11/15

Tomic: move to place state of Tech to after teachers overloaded

Ryan Lee: go to Uno's, helps debate team

Tomic: ethical reasoning challenge

Josh Kim: Saturdays for February, training, the date is in spring

Christi Lee:

Blumberg: thanks to those who came to meeting yesterday, budget was passed but will discuss for faculty contract discussion for 2016-2017 school year, Dr. Ash said we can have snow days up until the end of June, if we do then goes from Friday of April break in, proposal for re-doing elementary and middle schools (8)

Quan: welcome Mr. Aramati from Performing Arts Dept.

Tomic: Sen. David thanks students

Zedros: Climate talked about snow day policy

Blumberg: Dr. Ash said teachers shouldn't give extra work on snow days

Tomic: policy finalized bench proposal

Christi Lee: students concerned about consistency in grading- ex. Math 4vs. 5 system, some have re-takes, extra credit

Tomic: if people have written notes from the homeroom, would appreciate them

Ryan Lee: trying to have consistency throughout a level/course

Tomic: Senate can't directly rule on teacher's evaluation of students, not bill

Blumberg: we could work on a resolution or talk to Ms. Lasa, still have not talked to Ms. Lasa about AP limit yet

Alessandro: strongly against limit, some students can handle

Suraj: also against, should be left to students, teachers and guidance counselors

Josh Kim: would put students at a disadvantage compared to other high schools

Quan: would put stress on students to be "exceptions"

Ryan Lee: the proposal isn't a hard limit, just have to talk to guidance counselor to go over 2

Chao Li: talked to ppl

Kauffman: talk to guidance counselor to go over

Mehra: would be a recommendation to take 2, but can go over

Girma: is there a limit currently?

Ryan Lee: don't think so

Mehra: no limit for sophomores, just have to talk to guidance counselor

Tomic: if there is a limit, not enforced

Suraj: parents would just make students talk to guidance counselors

Tomic: shouldn't be a complicated process to override, shouldn't be de-incentivization

Blumberg: proposal, letter and assembly discouraging and then talk to gc
Delity: letter should be sent out during course selection, don't think we can de-incentivize b/c of the LHS culture, already is process for talking to guidance counselor
Zang: for students applying internationally, need to take multiple APs
Josh Kim: teachers have course selection discussions
Ryan Lee: the letters happens, ex. 8th grade, not sure ppl read them, think guidance counselors should talk to all students over 2
Suraj: shouldn't change anything, currently teachers already talk to you about other APs
Mr. Aramati: should look at motivations, could do a survey- do APs make ppl more competitive
Park: get a better idea of what classes
Karnam: could have AP students talk to classes
Ryan Lee: AP students talking to prospective students shouldn't be proposal, but talk to Lasa, students who can't handle it, but try to
Blumberg: our proposal is a safety net, wouldn't affect everyone
Suraj: will look better on resume, would be hassle for students who can handle it, good solution= honors course
Mr. Aramati: shouldn't assume that colleges like lots of AP
Zedros: colleges say that they value APs, but it's not the most important
Tomic: APs good measure for rigor of classes, are misconceptions, could clarify in letter
Alessandro: don't know that sophomores usually take more than 2, isn't an issue
Blumberg: not limit students who can handle, this to help students who need a safety net
Suraj: parents will just tell students to talk to guidance counselor, honors option is better
Cherenson: should decide to write a letter or ask Ms. Lasa to come share her opinion
Gambone: pressure coming from parents- maybe letter should be addressed to them
Alessandro: bill or resolution not necessary, guidance counselors should be having a conversation with students
Wong: can take survey among students, say students should complete form not parents
Blumberg: most conversations will be fast, but students can point to a rule
Tomic: should be a simple process, this could be helpful for many students
Delity: move to table
Blumberg: received messages about concerns about the letter, would like to clarify before next meeting
Ryan Lee: what role will the letter have in contract discussions
Blumberg: contract is for 2016-2017 and the budget for that year not yet voted on
Girma: would decreasing number of classes limit availability for students
Doucette: no, teachers would be able to use time to meet with students, take on Ind. studies
Blumberg: we'll keep discussing
Zedros: what did Dr. Ash say?
Blumberg: didn't say anything, know that 2 members are in favor, Dr. Ash not
Suraj: student population is going to increase, will be more of an impact on teacher
Delity: heard that Dr. Ash and teacher's union is in favor increasing school day (1 more block)
Blumberg: also heard that
Doucette: yes he is interested, easier to get 990- might be looking for a trade-off, also I will send out homeroom assignments tonight
Park: perhaps limit number of preps

Kauffman: if longer school day, would teachers teach more classes

Doucette: not necessarily, just longer blocks

Tomic: there is a limit of preps, but can't be enforced- ex. some foreign languages

Mehra: move to table discussion

passed

Tomic: update on Tech Board- talking about survey for iPad pilot, want it done after vacation, want tech board elections in spring

2/10/15

Blumberg: raise hand if suspending rules so this is official document

Tomic: friendly amendment- everyday to every day

no objection

Josh Kim: change comma to period after "sixth"

Blumberg: capitalize F, comma after importantly and lowercase o

passes

Cherenson: friendly amendment shouldn't have write out numbers

fails

David: in last paragraph, say teachers in core classes, with budget issues, might not be possible for electives, performing arts etc.

Tomic: would just introduce controversy, is probably understood

Ryan Lee: limit our goals could be good- would seem less of issue, talked to Fine Arts teachers, don't have to grade papers

Blumberg: question automatically called

amendment passes

letter passes

2/4/15

Karnam: move teacher overloaded discussion to under debrief of homeroom, also for quarterzips- tonight= last minute deadline for quarterzips

Blumberg: thank you to teachers here, please invite ppl next week as well, no food and drink policy in this room

Ryan Lee: Climate discussed homeroom visits, cafeteria

Xu: Social Actions met, talked about homeroom visits

Blumberg: homeroom visits on benches, ideas

Cherenson: Senior homeroom- more benches in the Quad

Quan: seating only bad in winter, maybe classrooms, should be in shaded area

Yunus: front w/ buses, back U with cars

Kauffman: on the roof

Leung: stronger benches to withstand snow

Wambe: benches on patio area of orchestra, dumpsters near Commons II

Zedros: more benches out front

Girma: bench on walkway between FL and Science, also wider door in Science building

Josh Kim: near the field house, entrance to Franklin field trail, but that might not be our land

Tomic: potentially indoor benches in the main hallway

Gambone: maybe not a good idea, so many ppl in the hallway

Blumberg: keep visiting homerooms, important to establish a relationship

Tomic: can we get the list updated? some ppl have homerooms that don't exist

Doucette: will update

Josh Kim: actually near Lincoln

Blumberg: not on land

David: 10 yrs ago, teaching load was as it is now, movement to reduce to 4 classes (except. for Science, with lab blocks), losing to teachers to Concord-Carlisle, put in place, in about 2006, budget issue override with voters failed, so FL, Math, Social studies let go of 4-6 teachers, Science went back to 1 lab, apparently some money in budget, teachers talked about why it was valuable, Dr. Ash talked about issues in elementary with too many students

Doucette: examples- with 4 classes, extra help, test bank, is now resource center b/c it was valuable, would be beneficial for students to speak at hearing on how they would benefit

Alessandro: with less classes, class sizes up?

David: more teachers

Blumberg: where would extra salaries come from?

David: that's what they're discussing, there is some money now, another question is phrasing- how would they change it

Doucette: in contract- when money is available, will try to get it back, apparently money is now available

Blumberg: how is the SC leaning?

David: seem that 2, maybe 3 are in favor, strong sense that this should be done, whether or not it can be done

Tomic: it seems that Senate should be in favor, sometimes forget faculty issues, think we should write a letter

David: Sen Haviland and Sen FM were at the meeting, can give insight, wondering what you think was the SC's impression

Christi Lee: should be in favor of this, will help students if teachers are less stressed

FM: on Saturday, went pretty well, Sen. Haviland and I planning on going on Tuesday, Dr. Ash didn't seem for it, 2 SC members in favor, felt good to be heard, a letter from the Senate would be very helpful and powerful, I talked about the effects on my personal life, said that I am constantly looking for schools with only 4 classes, on the state, admin level, loads getting worse, having a hard time hiring/keeping teacher, extra help with me is crazy this year

David: tried to be objective, would like a letter, but don't want to put pressure, or to be seen as "manipulating" students

Fitzgerald: not sure if students can speak to this, don't know the issue

Tomic: we might not be directly affected, but we have a large stake, impacts everyone, we can talk about how it would impact students, think we can and should do something, are there any concerns besides budget?

Ryan Lee: Student- Faculty Senate, should be written by both, don't know of any negative reason, don't think Mr. David has "manipulated" me

FM: students can't speak to teacher perspective, can talk about what students would gain, Ms. Floerke said that students apologize to her for asking for extra, whether its students or the Student-Faculty Senate, you do have a stake

Blumberg: from the faculty, what would be the improvements

Wambe: is there a committee that would write?

Blumberg: we'll talk about it

Doucette: can talk about teacher's availability to meet with students, after-school extra help times is a zoo, going back to iPad discussion, that money could be better spent, can talk about how this would improve education, could present letter in person at the next meeting

Xu: without understanding cause, can see effects, reducing teacher stress would help us

Zedros: feeling the effects of X Block, could look at FlexBlock as reducing stress

Alessandro: are teachers fired from 4 to 5 classes

David: what would arguments be against? Dr. Ash had a list of improvements- we said causation vs. correlation, achievement gap dropped, better scores for students of color, rebuttal- we had interventions put in place

Park: do most teachers teach 5 classes?

Fitzgibbon: taught 5 US History classes, teaching freshmen- 4, workload significantly decrease, feedback on tests are better, volunteer for more clubs

FM: Science teachers-(3-4 with labs) depends on AP, english- 4, freshmen history teachers-4, rest=5, prep(courses)- most teachers have 3

Ryan Lee: could we refer this to Climate to write the letter and have student input

Tomic: could just vote to confer to Climate

Blumberg: can continue discussion for a bit

Pfrommer: my mom is "part time" but teaches 4 classes, get personal attention from English teachers, it's not just papers but it's 25 more teachers to know

Haviland: Sen. David talked a bit about other arguments against, Dr. Ash didn't bring up stats during SC, I have 4 preps, it's better for students, some students who could take honors who choose to take level I, need time to have creative lesson plans, esp. with technology, for me it takes years

Tomic: when is the next major meeting? when would we present the letter

Blumberg: Tuesday

Tomic: won't have another Senate meeting before sent, can't vote before it's been written, might be complicated, can figure out how to get "seal of approval", we can figure it out

Alessandro: don't think we should write the letter, shouldn't make a hasty decision, what are the concrete benefits with 4 classes

Kaczmarek: first year at LHS, I have 5 classes, go on the road during weekends, less stressed here than previous job, during snow days- was working, tangible difference- "bonus time" isn't used to de-stress

Zedros: does anyone know new superintendent's stance?

FM: students could send individual letters, come to meeting could have digit agreement by signing it

Kauffman: digitally signing is a good idea

Ryan Lee: move to Climate write it, just a draft, anyone else is welcome, will have official

Blumberg: raise hands-pas

1/21/15

Ryan Lee: Climate trying to get a list of stress reduction events at school

Karnam: bfamts, also will be more strict with attendance

Tomic: homeroom visit will start tomorrow, added suggestion box, get another list of homeroom, Ms. Lasa wanted to add talking about Religious Resolution

Ryan Lee: Climate continued discussion from last week

Tomic: worked on homeroom visit points

Karnam: vote for apparel- sweatshirts, let me know if you want to help with design

Blumberg: will be experimenting with Flex block at the end of this year, won't be next year, will start with extending homerooms

Josh Kim: can we tell people for sure that it won't be next year

Blumberg: wait on it for now

Silvia: I'm here to talk with you, more even distribution between CI and CII, heard about more grab & go, created new grab & go (salads, sandwiches, smoothies, burritos), have a person there until 3:00, not sure if students see it (in CI)

Blumberg: two goals of discussion- find a solution for long lines, get info from Mr. Silvia and go to homerooms

Zedros: line is long for deli- so maybe grab & go

Silvia: we have wraps in CII, sandwiches in CI, pushback- ppl want it fresh,

Zedros: similar food to in line- ex. Ciabatta

Silvia: tried a line for hot paninis, ppl want it done particularly, we have audit in March, waiting until after then, thinking of an expansive deli

Bozkaya: is there specific data on sales from deli?

Silvia: out of 950 meals, 180-190 from deli

Bozkaya: thinking about two deli stations, one of the healthy options, why ppl don't take grab & go could be psychological

Silvia: is popular, and Coyote grill, pushing school limits, we are nonprofit

Fitzgerald: maybe have simple items like PB&J, I've seen it as \$3.75

Silvia: everything is \$3.25, except for deli and salad - \$3.75

Gambone: for grab & go- ppl might not be aware that it is an alternative to skipping lines

Silvia: how should we put that message out?

Tomic: one possibility is Senate homeroom, maybe talk to class presidents and post on Facebook group

Cherenson: maybe have more catering, more variety, help businesses in Lexington center

Silvia: we have regulations, have to have 5 components (students have to pick 3), with first legislations- portions were too small, we get a reimbursement from state to help the program, we also use different options than most restaurants- whole grain, no corn syrup, hormone-free chicken etc.

Zedros: add deli sandwiches to grab & go

Karnam: can maybe move the grab & go to where the burgers are, ppl can see

Kauffman: do you run the Vending machines?

Silvia: outside company

Kauffman: see discrepancy in price

Silvia: working w/ vending company

Josh Kim: saw vending machines w/ bagels

Silvia: those in other districts aren't managed well, students here like to see production

Fitzgerald: muffins have gotten smaller

Silvia: we have an audit, we will go back to fresh muffins

Tomic: some ppl have been asking about microwaves available

Silvia: trying to get a commercial toaster, would have to talk to Ms Lasa about the microwaves, not sure where to put it, new stools and shelving were \$80,000, we are now pushing for sustainable salmon- did it last month, again next month, in March or April- sushi, for future, would like to talk to someone about promotions

Josh Kim: should we highlight anything in homeroom visits?

Silvia: grab & go, promotions

Blumberg: move into stress reduction, talked with Lasa, talked about another block added to freshmen counselor seminar and have senior give contact info to freshmen

Tomic: we could have more than 2 ppl, even juniors, don't have to be from an existing program

Ryan Lee: qualifications should probably be more than other groups

Blumberg: will bring this back to Lasa, will talk to Ms. Fenn, there's talk of limiting the number of APs students can take

Ryan Lee: maybe the basis is two, but can get a special note from counselor

Suraj; instead of limiting APs, maybe teachers should limit homework

Zedros: some ppl can take all honors and APs, but some ppl are pressured into it

Blumberg: a base number and simple override process

Tomic: or if ppl want to take more have to talk to guidance counselor, opposed to hard limit, don't think that's the place for school admin, just make its students who want not parents and peers

Blumberg: Ms. Lasa mentioned that it could be "out" for students who don't really want it

Huang: agree w/ Tomic, but also discourage from too many, ppl talk a lot about not taking both WH and Bio, not reasonable, some AP courses are easier than others

Bozkaya: high school students should be learning their limits, some international schools weigh APs more

Doucette: process of dropping down harder, should have a discussion for over 2 APs

Cherenson: Lex offers more APs than other schools

Chao Li: some students study on their own, take exams anyway, and some ppl I know were denied a 3rd

Zhang: my guidance counselor talked to me, process should be in place

Wong: for some, taking more APs in high school can reduce cost in college, maybe for course placements- have question if its really the student specifically

Josh Kim: don't we already have a policy w/ guidance counselors

Tomic: maybe, but not that heavily enforced

1/14/15

Tomic: add New Business to agenda

Karnam: Musket has a website, check us out, also bfamts Jan. 28th (F/S) and Feb. 4 (J/S)

Delity: Climate talked about freshmen drug awareness, and coaches

Tomic: still talking about the bench proposal, no homeroom visit yet, but are adding new information

Blumberg: we are talking about survey for the grab & go, talking to Mr. DeSilvia

Tomic: are all assignments for homerooms yet?

Blumberg: not yet

Wambe: are the hr visits on the Facebook group
Blumberg: we will email out
Clive: last year we started discussion about cancelling class, my teacher had difficulties
Zedros: ppl aren't sure of rules
SB: no rule that you can leave after 15 minutes, resolution about cancelling class at discretion of teachers and dept. head, dept. heads think differently
Clive: is it related to number of hours?
SB: we can ask
Fitzgerald: if there is work, does the dept. head approve?
SB: it depends on the dept. head, probably won't change
Ryan Lee: info about drug prevention for freshmen, possible changes, what are freshmen experiences?
Suraj: health classes already in place
Ryan Lee: wondering if more information at the beginning of the year
Wambe: peer mentors or Senate visit
Christi Lee: maybe an assembly, homeroom visit is too casual
Tomic: maybe we could talk to social and civic action committees
Alessandro: agree with Sen. Lee
Suraj: maybe extended homeroom
Delity: as a freshmen, juniors and seniors came in, potentially do something like this
Cherenson: extended homeroom takes time out of class, agree with Sen. Delity
Christi Lee: helpful to hear from students, could work with SADD
Kauffman: if issue is image, not info (covered in health), maybe posters
Tomic: homeroom visits set every month, but can get repetitive so might be open to change
Zedros: from being on SADD, would be possible, organize events and speakers
Clive: an assembly at the beginning could be intimidating
Fitzgerald: is the idea to education ppl on drugs or on consequences
Ryan Lee: not a lot of messages about drug use, if it isn't common
Zhang: students with previous drug problems
Cherenson: maybe start before freshman year
Leung: beginning of Q2 seems like a good time
Kauffman: look at statistics, when is there most drug use, address year before
Josh Kim: peer mentors go to 5th and 6th grade classes
Clive: are all juniors in 1st semester, freshman 2nd semester, maybe switch?
Pfrommer: yes, maybe more open discussion not scare tactics
Cherenson: maybe not exactly like peer mentors, but how people react
Ryan Lee: want to give realistic impression of what is like for the freshmen, what can we tell freshmen to help them be more comfortable
Tomic: risk assessment survey has actual statistics, don't want to intimidate people
Wong: has to do with family education, can have a video or example
Cardellichio: add information about resources available to students
Suraj: don't think students care that much about what health classes present
Blumberg: group of people between people who will never do and will do anyway, they are the target
Girma: privacy issue- don't know if people would be willing to talk about issues

Doucette: health class, giving information so people can make educated decisions
Christie Lee: root cause is peer pressure
Cherenson: we should emphasis making own decisions
Pfrommer: doing that might just come with time, have a community where people are okay with stating own opinions, definitely people who are willing to talk about drug use
Delity: problem is that info is concentrated, maybe have posters (like in guidance room)
Wambe: in health class, students are self-conscious about asking questions
Zedros: b/c of peer mentoring, ppl have had education about drugs and peer pressure
Tomic: maybe an anonymous ask box for health classes, maybe in class or a blog
Blumberg: was there to some extent, could have peer mentors answer questions w/ discretion from health teachers
Quan: taking health classes hasn't really changed my opinion, don't think there is a huge population of drug users
Blumberg: we are generally looking at the environment for freshmen as they come into high school
Cherenson: the idea of an ask box is important
Cardellichio: not all students have the confidence
Fitzgerald: can't really leave out scary scenarios when educating
Tomic: I think we underestimate drug problems like alcohol use
Suraj: freshmen think that LHS is a very stressful place, reducing stress
Kauffman: agree with Sen. Tomic about making a community of ppl who aren't
Zedros: peer mentors have question box, have answered questions, don't think we need more structures, just utilize existing ones, in freshmen homerooms
SB: move to adjourn into committees

9/10/14

Tomic: one committee could write a list of pros and cons on gradebook discussion
Huang: is it continuously updated?
SB: twice per quarter, for this year
Ryan Lee: Sen. FM concern- more parent emails
Tomic: would any committee besides policy interested in the pros/cons list?
Ryan Lee: we'll do it (climate)
SB: teachers in the school don't have access to grades on a regular access, would guidance counselors have access, would resource teachers? → if more teachers, maybe less parent emails
Huang: Sen. FM- would other teachers be able to see students' grades from other classes?
SB: no
Blumberg: need new members elections committee, ad-hoc
ppl raised hands
Blumberg: next= homeroom visits, first one= this Tuesday, Doucette will send out assignments again, find out what qualities in superintendent they want
Ryan Lee: we are assigned freshman homerooms?

Blumberg: yes

Tomic: plug for Tech Board

Dr. Murray arrival

Murray: Senate is unique, glad to be here

Tomic: last year we passed technology board bill, Senate felt uncomfortable with iPad pilot→ we communicated and got it pushed back, so wanted continuous communication (tech board), goal= discuss issues that students have with technology, policy towards bringing laptops, student access of wifi, elections this fall, need dept. heads to get reps, would you take Mr. Goldberg's role on this committee?

Murray: yes

Tomic: we would appreciate help w/ instructional technology specialists, and process for electing teacher

Murray- Hogan (full time), Baum(half), McEvoy (half), shared 1:4 iPad model w/ freshmen (1/2 the class), Monday will be 1:1 for sophomores (69 kids), smart boards and elmos in every room→ working on training staff, want students to have lexington.ma (google account) to let them collaborate safely with each other and teachers, looking to expand iPad program

Cherenson: freshmen took survey at the end of the year last, will we have access?

Murray: yes

Tomic: body should conduct surveys, who to contact the dept. heads? first meeting is brainstorming, one student Senator

Murray: I can invite dept. heads and staff there

Blumberg: any more general questions? back to bring a faculty member to Senate day discussion, faculty important but we don't have a lot, we will send out schedule for those days

Karnam: let me know who you want to ask, or who you asked and turned down, also send a letter- more formal

Huang: make letters personalized, also ask in person

SB: agree

Lieberman: go in person, hand them the card

Ryan Lee: still one day per class

Tomic: is Senior next?

Blumberg: senior, junior etc.

Wong: how many?

Blumberg: as many as you can find, move into brainstorm for superintendent search

Tomic: obvious- interested in education, care about student wellbeing, dealing w/ snow days, "microcosm of the world we wish to see"

SB: there is a survey, posters w/ URL→ what are your priorities, what are most important? high standards for all?

Ryan Lee: qualifications seem like job requirements, climate thinks that should be aware of stress problem

Chan: what is the exact role of a superintendent?

Murray: I did survey, small town meetings, interviews in old town, superintendents are big thinkers, overarching ideas become incorporated into all the school, manage the system- hire principals, prof. dev. for staff, budget, programs to bring into schools (ex. Special Education), bus transportation, how to meet needs of diverse population, last line for appeals, deal w/ teacher unions

Gambone: we should tell students what a superintendent does, know what to look for
Alessandro: superintendent- all students reach potential (maybe gifted program in elementary school)

Wong: where was Dr. Ash from?

Murray: was superintendent in Westford

Wong: should be from Lexington

Tomic: large gap between AP classes and mid-level classes

Suraj: talk about superintendent's role in homeroom visits

Blumberg: we'll add it to script

Alessandro: not necessary to be from Lexington- narrow

Fitzgerald: needs superintendent who connects w/ students

Murray: Senate ever asked Dr. Ash to come?

SB: no

Murray: maybe invite him to come speak

Ryan Lee: need ppl from similar school environments

Girma: should be approachable

Quan: question to ask at homeroom- what are the values we have that superintendent should be aware of and incorporate

Murray: leadership qualities you're looking for are transferable

Blumberg: new business added to the agenda

Ryan Lee: update on X Block?

SB: we'll talk to Principal Lasa about it

Tomic: Senate at the activities fair? Friday the 26th B and C blocks

9/17/14

Clive: hack-athon

Blumberg: bring a faculty member to Senate: senior oct. 15, junior 22nd, sophomores 29th, let Sen. Karnam who you are bringing

Karnam: minutes are now online

SB: we should tell Dept. heads about bfm to Senate, teachers will have option to open gradebooks all the time or not, database team is creating screenshots to show us what actual screen will look at, like us to talk about 9/11 moment of silence, we presented pros and cons list

Delity: climate updated pros and cons list, talked about activities fair poster

Xu: social action talked about community service

Tomic: policy went over description for tech board

Karnam: communications drafted bfm to senate letter

Doucette: elections- ppl who expressed interest will get emails

Blumberg: everyone does freshman homerooms tomorrow, discuss superintendent

Doucette: pass around freshman homerooms, sign up

Ryan Lee: talking to other classes about gradebook?

Blumberg: not yet, move into activities fair

SB: can exempt two ppl from class, need ppl to set up

Delity: climate talked about making a poster, FM has quotes and pictures to put up

Pfrommer: candy

Ryan Lee: climate can make board

Huang: handouts explaining what Senate does

Blumberg: gradebook guidelines

Ppl volunteer for Activities Fair

Zedros: how does work when student turns 18?

Ryan Lee: maybe two separate forms- one form for 18 yr olds to leave campus, sign out, one for blocking parent access from grades, technologically possible?, get discussion on gradebook would be good in homeroom, Sen FM says open and rolling

SB: Lasa said that this year, gradebook only open at mid-quarter and end of quarter, going forward, teachers will have option

Alessandro: Senate shouldn't tell kids to or not check their grades

Clive: diff setting for each person? → in terms of when to see grades

Delity: this is going to happen, just proposing changes, concern- that students see grade b/fore getting assignments back

Ryan Lee: what are the benefits of individual teacher progress reports as opposed to consistency?

Karnam: don't actually have consistency now, in my opinion, every teacher's approach to grades is different

Tomic: getting grades before seeing test isn't good

SB: teachers have the option to make grades private or public (ex. keep private until given back)

Ryan Lee: who has access to gradebook?, FM. thinks its restrictive → ppl with extracurriculars, guidance should have access

Zedros: other teachers would like to see grades -like Mr. Walsh

Fitzgerald: choice- in whether to use it or not or just in terms of assignments?

SB: just choice about whether to show, Lasa, ppl working on creating on a report for guidance (didn't say coaches) to show who to worry about

Blumberg: we brought up the grade before assignment issue, Lasa will seriously consider, move into 9/11 moment of silence

Tomic: have seen pushback, some ppl have strong opinion- should acknowledge

Zedros: some ppl have been emotionally toucher

Pfrommer: not necessary to have moment of silence, becoming an event in history, not in the present, important to have the flag at half mast

Gambone: didn't hear ppl complaining about moment of silence, did hear complaints that flag wasn't at half mast for most of the day

SB: Lasa said more negative feedback when we do, need to know what context- if historical, talk to Mr. Eggbert- maybe just in history class

Huang: discuss in history class, can be disruptive in a test

Ryan Lee: if some ppl still feel strongly about it, why not? not just students at the school

Alessandro: what was rationale to not have it?

SB: seems ppl would prefer not to (in terms of community), doesn't want this to be her decision

Girma: should recognize it, because ppl did lose their loved ones

Ryan Lee: why exactly is having a moment silence a bad thing? important to history, important to politics

Tomic: idea of acknowledging the event in a big way, some ppl might see as "giving them what they want"

SB: historically in US after 9/11, lots of anti-Muslim sentiment and violence, reaction still exists, could be a concern

Fitzgerald: ppl should know what happened, talk 5 minutes and explain
Huang: having it in history class- get historical context
Ryan Lee: in history class, could give context to avoid a negative reaction
Zedros: personally- over loudspeaker, sense of unity
Suraj: don't have a moment of silence for other events that Americans died in, would be better in history class
Pfrommer: very emotional issue- over loudspeaker could make it even more so, history- more objective
Huang: classroom setting- students can voice their opinions
Blumberg: X-Block committee starting in October, will be students, Senators, re-instating X-Block as an activities block- clubs, Senate, class council
Suraj: would it be like Z block or a block in the day
Blumberg: everyone accounted for, most likely during the day
Alessandro: how will they monitor where ppl are?
SB: if no activity, sign into something else
Ryan Lee: is there a sign in, sign out system in place?
Park: could turn into a classroom setting for everyone
Pfrommer: could boost participation in clubs
Tomic: logistically complicated, requirement to have same number of minutes in a week
Zedros: places could get crowded
Suraj: ppl could have a homeroom study hall (during the time of X-Block)
Huang: who is on the committee?
Blumberg: don't know- only know its starting October
Huang: using X-Block time will be fine with timing, each club a room- enough space
Clive: how useful is it to have X-Block?- mostly useful to have to not come in
Doucette: time when ppl could come get extra help, make up tests
Tomic: "forever pass" for something like Senate, still concerns about population issue- ppl might not have clubs
Fitzgerald: with homeroom, study hall- teachers won't have time to help other students
Kim: guidelines to see clubs are viable during the block- ex. video gaming clubs, will Ms. Lasa have some rules?
Blumberg: we can ask
Ryan Lee: X Block also provided a break from school, getting extra help, if homeroom not really teaching anything- maybe "fun" clubs are okay
Karnam: idea brought up last year have Senate as a block to sign up for
Delity: having a block for Senate in school- other courses would take precedent→ lower numbers, also not all clubs are classroom size- still have to deal with population
Huang: how to enforce that ppl are in school? would get an N? ex. form a club to skip X-Block , hard to have election with just signing up
Girma: how would addition of X Block at the end of the day? would that limit sports?
SB: school still ends at 2:25
Clive: one block a week classes, seminars
9/24/2014
SB: attendance low, should be higher
David: impressed with team's support for Winchester

Huang: climate committee- made activities fair poster
Wambe: possibilities for bringing X-Block back- potentially in the afternoon, b/fore Z Block, all students will be in school, beneficial for student athletes
Tomic: policy- tech board, plan for running elections and reminder of tech board
Ms. Cardellichio now a Senate Faculty member (aye v. no)
Huang: move to postpone discussion of activities fair until Climate comes back)
Blumberg: student focus group
Fitzgerald: improve stress, benefits of Lex- good tech base
Girma: what improved at the school- certain groups can't express culture -ex. Diwali petition
SB: stress came up as an issue, "servant" leadership (superintendents serve principals who serve teachers who serve students)
Alessandro: what an example not of this?
SB: gradebook, iPad, came from superintendent, w/out principal's input
Tomic: how will student input go, moving forward?
SB: don't know if student on search committee, there is a consulting agency to find ppl, looking for ppl and 5 applicants go to the committee, done by December
Blumberg: Abby Schwartz will be involved as student, maybe more focus groups
SB: search committee picks 3- names become public
Pfrommer: students important, should push to be involved
Wambe: way for students to ask questions about to 3
Blumberg: will be more focus groups
Delity: poster- ppl write quotes about Senate, why you like it b/fore we leave
Blumberg: homeroom announcements- freshman wanted X-Block, school to start later- not practical
Alessandro: more info about freshmen elections
Cherenson: went with Vanessa Zhang to homeroom- wanted someone to talk to students, let ppl know that Senate existed, need to have more awareness
Lieberman: freshmen wanted X Block, some might run seniors want lower stress levels
Tomic: shared ideas about X-Block, ppl were okay with alternate ideas
Doucette: deadline for turning in forms is this Friday, can bring them to homerooms
Alessandro: ppl didn't know a lot about elections- need more awareness
Wambe: homeroom visit for just telling ppl about Senate?
Blumberg: good idea, we'll talk about it
Doucette: Sen. Williams put it in homeroom announcements
Delity: elections should be after the activities fair
Fitzgerald: did you ask Ms. Lasa about the complaints?
Blumberg: haven't met yet
Wambe: what was the general opinion?
SB: mixed, but more in favor
Cherenson: moment of silence, not a bad thing, wouldn't offend anyone
Lieberman: national tragedy, time taken out for picture day
Alessandro: did Lasa get backlash for having it?
Blumberg: yes, biggest complaint was also b/c of potential backlash towards Muslim community
Cherenson: consider other tragedies that have happened
Tomic: if too many moments of silence- choose which ones to honor

Liberman: what about moment of silence for Boston marathon bombing?

Blumberg: don't know, but can ask

SB: usually during April vacation

Fitzgerald: biggest event in American history, Homeland Security because of it, big deal

Tomic: want to have Tech board success like the RSAC, wrote a description of board, anything to add? also, need to work out dates with Elections

Ryan Lee: question (from homeroom visits)- when are meetings?

Tomic: once a month, body determines the date, not set

Fitzgerald: is it making decisions on technology or for Senate?

Tomic: for general student population, one Senator, like Cafeteria Advisory (hopefully more successful), student input on tech related issues and ppl would have background and knowledge, clear disconnect between students and higher up

Delity: what is Senate's role in terms of technology

Doucette: Senate can discuss anything, can still write bills about technology

Ryan Lee: pretty straightforward, easy to understand

Karnam: should be section about teachers

Tomic: got deleted, will add back in

Wu: how are teacher's elected?

SB: dept. determines process

Girma: 2-3 librarians, included as faculty

SB:1?

Tomic: didn't really determine at the end of the year, Sen. wanted a consistent person, librarians wanted to rotate ppl, but we'll leave it open, technically meetings are open to the public

Blumberg: give info to homerooms,

Tomic: check and print out new updated version

SB: make available to teachers

Ryan Lee: where are we at with X Block? when are elections?

Blumberg: not sure, if elections or voluntary

Delity: voluntary

Ryan Lee: who could volunteer

Tomic: announced to every student, send a couple of sentences about why you want to do it

Huang: write quotes for the board, can send out Google Form

Delity: discuss recognition of holidays- sister and I to get Diwali recognized by the school, value in time off w/out homework, at least on calendar, even other holidays as well

Suraj: LHS is very diverse, ppl celebrate a lot of holidays, I celebrate Diwali, ppl go to the temple, comparable to holidays that are recognized

Tomic: increasing number of ppl talking about sports for gym credit, we should address those issues, explain why, just restate concerns

Zang: agree with Tomic, on Facebook, there is a petition going up

Ryan Lee: can get concerns restated and get into homeroom announcements

Blumberg: probably not possible to add to these ones

Suraj: ppl wouldn't just join sports to get out of gym (time very different), gym classes can get big, population will be increasing even more, gym teachers would still have jobs

SB: we can still talk about it if the community wants it, sports costs money

Wu: concerns last week- would incentivize students to join sports not gym, job losses for teacher

Girma: required by state, Lasa already given stance
Alessandro: in favor, scholarships for students, lots of commitment- wouldn't just to get out of gym
Tomic: look at stats- how many students would take advantage of it, Lasa as former PE teacher- probably a lot of pushback, teachers say that there is education, different from sport
Suraj: would decrease student athlete stress
Delity: more than just physical exercise in gym
Ryan Lee: why should just student athletes get time off
Alessandro: gym- half of the time waiting around, not education for healthy lives
Tomic: Lasa and teachers have very strong opinions, should be taken into account, lots of hours for other extracurriculars, why only student athletes
Ryan Lee: Lasa = former gym teacher
Alessandro: not just giving out extra time, just that the activities are redundant
SB: Mr. Sheehan could come talk to us
Tomic: redundancy argument can be applied to a lot of things
Girma: debaters could try to get out of English
Suraj: debate is not the same as English, but tennis is the same as the class
Alessandro: no other activity with such an overlap
Blumberg: Lasa said best way to do this- take an unfamiliar sport
Huang: ppl play sports outside of school- implications? should they get time off?
Ryan Lee: there are activities where you do the same thing (not just sports), ex. music

10/1/14

Cherenson: Oversight drafted Senate attendance bill, will present next week
Zedros: superintendent search, how gradebooks will work without letter grades, and process for holidays
Zheng Li: Social Actions- no faculty, need more faculty, looking at community service
Tomic: Policy-dates for tech board election
SB: delegated X Block committee to Senate, what are top 2 things that students want out, scheduling expert will be on committee (not formalized yet) can advertise and get more people to come, things need to be worked out before January for next year, holidays debate- coming up at other schools in LPS as well
Blumberg: move in tech board discussion
Tomic: hand out information sheets in homeroom on Thursday, 10/9, forms due 10/17, elections 10/28, want to be like RSAC elections, how to do elections with faculty
SB: talked over with Ms. Lasa, send her info (first meeting date, the 10/28 date) and ask her to send out to department heads
Tomic: probably early November
Karnam: campaign statements?
Tomic: not necessary
Blumberg: move into constitutional amendments
Cherenson: our draft says doesn't need to be amended
Blumberg: brief summary of last year's discussion-some things that are against the law in the Senate Constitution, should we change it to reflect our powers?
Pfrommer: most people don't know that we have a Constitution, not a good use of time

Zedros: agree

SB: Oversight's rationale?

Cherenson: not yet

Tomic: main reasons- talks about X Block, things in conflict with Ed Reform, not a bad thing to have the student body get aware

Zedros: Senate is in a temporary situation

Pfrommer: 2,000 ballots, takes a lot of time

Tomic: actually writing amendments is not really time-consuming

Cherenson: elections online would be easy

Doucette: issues with vote security for online, maybe through FirstClass to make sure ppl don't vote 2x

SB: passed by student body, teachers and school committee

Fitzgerald: different numbers of ppl would vote if online, not in homeroom

Tomic: could change it so that it would encompass future situations

Cherenson: would have to do in school, might be difficult

Girma: FirstClass could be an option

Doucette: everyone would get a link through FirstClass, records number that you voted and you can't vote again with that link, could probably see what links have voted or not

Kim: any opposition to our Constitution?

Blumberg: none from the school community, but in the Senate

Gambone: a flexible Constitution seems more counter-intuitive

Wu: hard to vote online in homeroom, not enough computers

Pfrommer: survey sites are easy to act

Tomic: clarification- only the dates would be flexible, doesn't need to be limited, actual changes are minor

Cherenson: can you abstain from voting?

Blumberg: yes

Suraj: ppl might not care enough to hack, many people wouldn't vote

SB: move to table

passed (aye vs. no)

Blumberg: move into attendance policy

Cherenson: summary- amount of time at meeting ($\frac{1}{2}$ attendance), certain amount of absences before getting kicked out, have to get notes from teachers if late, tell execs before

Tomic: could be note from parent?

Cherenson: whoever was organizing, probably not parents

SB: need to make a commitment, opposed to passes, yes if sick

Tomic: only if arriving late not if leaving early, passes similar with sports, maybe not a bad idea

Girma: if X block re-incorporated, would attendance policy be more strict?

Blumberg: should be coming

Cherenson: be proactive, tell ppl they might be late, arrive late with a pass= a full absence

Clive: attendance for US Congress?

Blumberg: probably less stringent than what we want

Fitzgerald: maybe if you get kicked off, couldn't run the year after

Tomic: pretty serious penalties in terms of student rights, maybe if you get kicked off before a certain date, can't say you were a Senator

Cherenson: some ppl haven't shown up at all, can discuss penalties

Pfrommer: careful about too many consequences for being late, rather 1/2 Senate than none at all

Zedros: maybe take something else away, like a vote

Tomic: taking away voting rights is serious, especially considering idea of representative govt.

Christi Lee: for students or faculty members?

Doucette: for Mr. Williams and FM- they are still actively involved even if not at Senate meetings, professional and other responsibilities

David: Senate is pretty self-selecting group, ppl would take it seriously if strict attendance policy, will show up, if it was a class, then ppl would get detention, and would go to study hall instead

Blumberg: probably not a class, block at the end of the day

SB: actually, would probably be on schedule, someone would be taking attendance

Cherenson: what do ppl think about student Senators at committees but not general meetings

Xu: some coaches don't let you come late to practice, will be angry, hard to choose between the two

Suraj: student Senators can be involved in committees- bulk of work, attendance at committees can be worked in, some sports have games during this time, some coaches will think you say sports are lower priority

Tomic: talked about this last year, but full meetings are different and special and necessary, with sports- know that going late is not the same as on time, hard sacrifice to make, also this policy is only for one year, doesn't have to be too complicated

Fitzgerald: attendance issues with Senate doesn't help the rest of the student body- focus on X Block

SB: agree, students and teachers should be equal, but reality, many less teachers interested, so should be more flexible, if ppl don't come to meetings- no quorum, can't vote

Ryan Lee: teachers have to facilitate meetings, value for what we do in meetings

Cherenson: agree that we should talk about different things, we should set a deadline

Huang: attendance policy is more for this year, committee meetings should be mandatory, being Senate requires sacrifices

Tomic: move to table discussion, until we have bill passed

Karnam: personalize

Tomic: edit document and print out and physically hand in?

Karnam: yes

Blumberg: seniors 15th, then junior, sophomore, try to do two weeks in advance

Huang: can we post dates on facebook group?

Blumberg: yes

Cherenson: we don't have any science teachers

Wong: teacher at homeroom visit would have been good, but said he didn't like Senate, how to convince?

Tomic: past teachers?

Blumberg: yes

10/8/2014

Link to resolution-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sy4XpUpf0WXzvyMhDux3SXAQVR1uO31KhAulz9Hyp_M/edit?usp=sharing

FM: move to insert resolution on religious respect after X-Block committee advertising

Karnam: move attendance policy to after resolution

FM: welcome students and teacher from Lycee Descartes

Blumberg: picture day for clubs, next Tuesday after school, bring a faculty member senate days, starting next week with Seniors

Wang: next week is ½ of alphabet

Blumberg: we'll check

Doucette: elections committee collected votes, ties

SB: excited that FM is here

FM: description of Senate- students work with faculty, discussing issues of concern to multiple constituents, resolution= suggestion, bill= rule when signed

Tomic: tech board info out next Tuesday, forms due next Tuesday, election on the 28th

Karnam: communications talked about platforms other than Facebook, advertising

Delity: climate drafted bill on observing holidays

Blumberg: possibility for Senate to get more people to come, advertising campaign, most important parts of X-Block

Tomic: time to seek out teachers

Wang: time to relax, prepare for tests

Delity: clubs like Senate

Huang: agree, Senate

Cardellichio: one block a week, don't have to be stressed

Girma: in the schedule, convenient for students and teachers

Zedros: time to breathe

Doucette: students who overbook- can make up tests, quizzes

FM: now there is no unscheduled time for students

Huang: sleep in

Tomic: general suggestions to discuss- framework, plan

Girma; homeroom visit to talk about X-Block, get advice

Park: look at what other schools do

Blumberg: move into resolution

Delity: diverse communities, list of holidays, students can get excuse from homework

FM: don't need administration to create a list- provide a list to faculty, we've provided lists, teachers are obligated to excuse homework, students encouraged to be proactive

SB: is part 2 already a policy?

FM: yes, should be repeated

Fitzgerald: what holidays are we missing?

Ryan Lee: Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Taoist traditions

FM: Diwali, Kwanzaa, Eid, Ramadan, awareness that people are celebrating other things

Tomic: family-specific holidays, ex. Serbian- every family has saint, is the list static?

FM: avoid discussion of what holidays make the list, spirit of the bill- teachers should be respectful, students should be initiative, list would be practical and symbolic

Park: ambiguity for teachers excusing homework- for the whole class or just student?

FM: individual student- the current policy

Alessandro: call the question

Blumberg: needs to be a week

Karnam: amendment insert "of" between respectful and holidays

Tomic: friendly amendment

no objection

FM: spell out the word homework

no objection

Tomic: more accurate word than "excuse"

Alessandro: spirit of the rule is clear

Doucette: resolution, specific wording doesn't make a difference

Fitzgerald: parent signature required?

FM: against the spirit of the bill, resolution isn't adding to the policy

Karnam: amendment- change word major, to more important

Delity: numerous smaller holidays not widely celebrated, didn't want to add more and more, with list increasing

Tomic: could be used to get out of homework assignment, major is debatable enough of a word

FM: agree with Delity and Tomic, important to leave it there, list provided should be major holidays, teachers are doing this for the most part

Alessandro: call the question on amendment

question is called, amendment fails

Huang: amendment- "a comprehensive list of major holidays observed by the world's religions and/or cultures"

amendment passes

FM: amendment to second point- "accommodate students" instead of excuse HW, accommodate is ambiguous- good in this situation, work with students

amendment inserted

Zedros: homework not excused, not at all

SB: gets rid of the word homework

David: should include non-homework assignments

move to call the question, passes

David: friendly amendment to point 1- "administration should provide to faculty"

Huang: objection- list should be provided to students and school community

David: why?

Tomic: people should already know what their holidays are, should be accessible, but maybe not sent out to students

Delity: point of bill= cultural awareness, everyone can see- shows LHS are diverse and accepting

Ryan Lee: it's resolution and "provide" is vague

FM: standard- people are posting on website, in favor of it being available to anyone

SB: agree with Delity, students plan things at school, should be aware

David: should be deliberately provided to teachers

Fitzgerald: not teacher's responsibility, students should bring it up with teachers

Tomic: not in discussion of the amendment

Ryan Lee: amendment- provide to faculty that is also availability to community

Blumberg: friendly amendment on Sen. Lee's amendment "the admin should provide to the faculty and community at large"

2nded

Delity: friendly amendment "as well as post it on the website calendar"

Tomic: finish discussing this amendment, shouldn't have to say on the website, sufficient

Zedros: agree with Sen. David, should be on school website, giving it out isn't practical, more important to faculty

Cardellicchio: petition for a board in the hallway, post info about holidays, what the holidays are about

Ryan Lee: "provide" is intentionally vague
amendment called and passes

Blumberg: adjourn

10/15/2014

Blumberg: welcome to Senate for freshman, senior bring a faculty member to Senate not good, needs to happen, juniors next week

Tomic: point of order- open comments- write down list of people, announcements- want to share with the Senate at large, open comments- people can't respond, list

Karnam: The Musket first issue coming out soon

Lee: RSAC looking for ideas on how to reduce stress, improving Peer Leader

SB: nominations for Tech Board open, due next Tuesday

Zedros: photo is next Tuesday

Blumberg: some teachers will let kids out early

Delity: discussed freshman dance, potential bills, ways to improve yearbook photos in terms of organization, homecoming dance possibility

SB: Exec met w/ Ms. Lasa, talked about X Block replacement

Tomic: policy put up tech board posters, good number of nominations

Karnam: wrote homeroom announcement to advertise Senate

Xu: looked at freshman community service

Blumberg: freshman selection, chairs give brief description

Delity: take down posters, unwind to boost your mind- during finals week, anti-stress,
Wednesday mornings 7:15 in room 615

Tomic: bills, Tech Board, cell phone policy, meet in 520 after school on Tuesday

Xu: Chao is supposed to be head, we did turkey compliments, community service, meet in front of main office or math office 7:20 Wednesday before school

Karnam: Senate day, communicating what the Senate does to the student body, 7:15 Wednesday before school, room 802, Mr. Doucette

Wambe: Oversight, review bills, put forth bills, Mr. Williams, 7:15 Tuesday before school

Blumberg: move into holidays resolution

Delity: want to promote awareness about holidays school doesn't recognize

Alessandro: it's a resolution, specific wording doesn't matter

Tomic: bill= if passed goes to principal, if signed, becomes school policy, resolution=passes, sent to principal, not binding

Pfrommer: give teachers a calendar and also the resolution

Alessandro: call the question

roll call, passed

Wambe: Senate will officially start at 2:40, with halfway at 3:00, $\frac{1}{2}$ meeting= $\frac{1}{2}$ absence, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ = absent, should arrive within 5 minutes if less than 10 minutes if pass, tardiness excused, after 2 unexcused= warning, another= expelled and replaced, if aware days in advance, tell Secretary, if miss meeting and excused, tell before Friday after (unless extreme circumstances)

Alessandro: friendly amendment "conflicts with sports counts count as excused absences," passed

Tomic: friendly amendment- Senator should be capitalized, #2 should be ballot, remove second "after this time" in last one

Delity: what is current attendance policy?

Blumberg: at Senate for 80% of meetings before December

Pfrommer: potential holes- what if no more ballot candidates, or what if ppl leave at 3:15 or 3:20 not 3:05

Ryan Lee: amend #2, move ten minutes phrase to second part of sentence

Pfrommer: ten minutes phrase should be moved to after example

Tomic: can't propose and speak to it, so it fails

Ryan Lee: amendment as Pfrommer

Tomic: objection, same problem

SB: conflicts with sports, should only be sports contests, not for practice

Fitzgerald: agree

Alessandro: amend to make 2:35 start time

discussion of amendment

Tomic: agree

Huang: 3:00 still half-way mark, leave it

question is called

amendment passes

Delity: what constitutes a full meeting, if leave early, absence?

SB: current policy is unclear

Tomic: #3 doesn't seem to be enforceable, #4 is

Suraj: conflict with sports- will it be okay if athletes arrive at 3:45, later in the season, games 2-3X a week

Doucette: December date is there to provide for fall sports, is December onwards, if no other people on the ballot- we can seat fewer students and if a person wants to be in, can join

Gambone: if push start time up, end time up too

Blumberg: Senate extended

Fitzgerald: friendly amendment, add word contest after sports
adjourn

10/22/2014

Blumberg: move tech board to when policy chair returns

Alessandro: attendance bill?

Karnam: first issue of The Musket

SB: welcome to Ms. McEvoy

Blumberg: next week, Seniors, Juniors and Sophomores

Zedros: Climate committee talked about new smart boards, making compliment posters, freshman dance and attendance policy

SB: how was the dance?

Zedros: not that many freshman, intermission- most of them left

Karnam: communications met this morning, typed up homeroom visit talking points

Wambe: oversight revised attendance bill, Sen. Tomic helped in, we want to table it until next week

Zedros: if attendance policy, some form to appeal absences, ppl should know their attendances

Pfrommer: bill is unconstitutional, section 9, bill goes against 20% rule, 3 absences in conflict

Suraj: should leave part about Athletic Director out, 20% is simpler, what does this solve?

SB: trying to solve ppl coming late and leaving early

Cherenson: attendance bill doesn't affect anyone except Senate, why whole student body?

Blumberg: not allowed to amend constitution unless school vote

SB: it is clear through Ms. Martin and Ms. Lasa that student athletes are allowed to come 3:45 to practice, director could give another reminder to students, and people coming late and keeping early is important, can amend the bill to pass it

Huang: amend definition of absence

Doucette: Dec. 1 or any day after

Alessandro: disagree that bill conflicts with Constitution

Karnam: why pass if no consequences in coming within first ten minutes

Pfrommer: propose to strike last two sentences in point 2

discussion of amendment

Girma: if Sen. expelled from Senate, would that prohibit them from other positions

SB: no

Tomic: is there a new copy of the bill from last week? we were planning on taking it to policy and revising

Alessandro: if we strike those, doesn't seem like it does much

Huang: how many absences is 20%

Doucette: 1/3 of meetings we've had

Wambe: clarify- amendments made to old bill

Karnam: move to call the question

passed

aye vs. nay- unclear

hands- amendment fails

Pfrommer: we can amend what I said to make it constitutional and redefine what an absence means to have 1/2 absence, can't have 3 and 20% rule

Alessandro: don't conflict, two requirements

SB: move to send bill back to Oversight

discussion tabled

Blumberg: election of liaison to tech board

Tomic: lots of candidates for Tech Board, one member of Senate nominations process

Alessandro: restatement of responsibilities

Tomic: go to meetings, once a month, facilitate the meeting, after not running meetings, make an announcement in Senate

Suraj: what day
Tomic: will be chosen together
Huang: nominate Sen. Alessandro
Wambe: nominate Sen. Zedros
Xu: nominate Sen. Suraj
Zedros: nominate Sen. Fitzgerald
Kim: nominate Sen. Tomic
Wu: nominate Sen. Lee
Lee: nominate Sen. Cherenson
all seconded
Lee: can't accept
all give short speeches
Not a majority- Alessandro and Tomic- re run
2nd vote- Sen. Tomic elected
Clive: can non-liaison people come to meetings
SB: open meetings
Wambe: main concern was that 990 hours weren't met, Sen. Williams- students can stay in school, can participate in activities
Lee: if approved by Senate- how will this distributed
Blumberg: shown to Ms. Lasa
Tomic: does this have a method for taking attendance?
SB: no
Suraj: students assigned to a specific room
Wambe: no, option of going to list of rooms
Alessandro: seems impossible to make sure people are doing things- b/c of attendance
Blumberg: discussing w/ Ms. Lasa- looks like a block where students are assigned to one dept. and every week of quarter or 1/2 quarter, stay or be signed out to leave
SB: students on leadership would be assigned there
Alessandro: would make Senate attendance policy obsolete
SB: yes
Blumberg: would just be in place for one year
Huang: process if someone wants to leave?
Blumberg: passes
Tomic: people should be allowed to make amendments
Lee: why extra help time is important- sleep, stress
SB: not administration, but the state to convince, not sure its realistic to discuss as a bill, take parts of it to Ms. Lasa, doesn't make sense to take the whole thing, everyone needs to be assigned somewhere, work with current attendance system
Tomic: is it a discussion w/ administration or formal proposal
Blumberg: understanding that discuss each week, can think about writing a document
Lee: tone could be more concrete, remove first point
Fitzgerald: what's the event in the room?
Blumberg: each student would be assigned to a dept., for extra help
Fitzgerald: like intervention?
Blumberg: not necessarily, extra help

Fitzgerald: specific class
Blumberg: multiple teachers in room, anyone can help
Tomic: crowding issues

10/29/14

Tomic: insert attendance bill before x-block (passed)
Blumberg: freshmen bring faculty next week, will adjourn to committees at
Wang: Flynn is coming
Wambe: Policy finalized attendance bill
Tomic: joint meeting
Wong: Communications committee made posters about x-block
Pfrommer: posters are about coming to senate
Delity: compliments posters
Chao Zheng Li: social action got a new advisor
SB: executive committee met with Ms. Lasa, talked about the holiday resolution - she was positive but had some suggestions – specifically asked for faculty involvement in the X Block discussion
Tomic: please read the attendance bill before the next meeting and bring suggestions – we'll try to vote on it then
Blumberg: the plan so far: every half quarter, each student is assigned to a "home" department – after homeroom you'll go to your department and either study or get signed out to go elsewhere
SB: what would faculty and students be doing – specifically what are our priorities for responsibilities?
Zedros: will the gym be open?
Blumberg: possibly, but probably not if it's just stuff like open basketball courts
Gambone: what is "signed out"
Blumberg: we'd be using the pass system – this'll be effective for the quarter or half-quarter
Pfrommer: making club time count as education is weird because of advisors, but Senate could totally meet and guided study halls would probably still work
Tomic: let's not with the clubs – people who are in leadership positions in multiple activities would be forced to make hard choices; and the pass system could encourage overcrowding in certain departments (math)
Fitzgerald: how are we going to split up teachers to oversee homerooms / meet with students?
SB: people wouldn't be in homerooms – they'd be in large groups of students interested in certain departments (Sen. Williams' list provides a number of feasible locations) + there'd be a cap on the # of students who could participate in each group
Delity: we could model this after Diamond MS – students can sign up for an elective activity at the beginning of each quarter – caters to needs and interests better
Blumberg: clubs and activities still don't count though
Zedros: a lot of clubs will want to use this time if they're allowed to + are clubs academic?
Ms. Kaczmarek: signing up for a certain department seems like a proposal with more direction

Wambe: what's the brightline for "academic"? do you have to be in a classroom?

SB: we're not sure – depends on what the state decides

Kaufman: what is the purpose of switching home bases every quarter?

Blumberg: hopefully people won't be stuck in the same department for the whole year – possibly work with your counselor to determine the best place for you

Girma: how will you excuse fitness training?

Blumberg: probably not an academic option but it's a gray area as of now

Christi Lee: how do home departments help if we're not with the specific teacher we need?

SB: there'll be someone who teaches the course you're taking, so someone will have the necessary expertise

Suraj: departments are confusing + 45 minute X Block is inefficient we should use existing infrastructure in small groups in order to make learning more efficient

Tomic: why have home bases if people will be signing out of them? knowing what you need at the beginning of the quarter is not always possible – perhaps we should extend homeroom and have people sign out if need be?

Pfrommer: having everyone who needs history help in one big room sounds like a nightmare – it's not going to be very productive for anyone; also homeroom infrastructure is good now but it's a hard sell as "educational time"

Blumberg: hopefully you'd have rooms separated by course and level so that it's not as hectic as it sounds

Gambone: teachers might be forced to prioritize who to give help to and run out of passes

Clive Chan: MIT Educational Studies – a group of teachers should pick a topic they're interested in and make up a class on it

SB: what if students could choose the course? Isn't how they do it at MIT

Cherenson: could each teacher set up his/her room as an extra help room?

Park: would practice rooms be allowed?

Fitzgerald: are frees ruled out?

SB: yeah (at least for this block)

Robin Armstrong: is it possible to have a permanent pass system

Ryan Lee: what happens to people who are not seeking extra help?

SB: everyone needs to sign up for something – other stuff that could happen includes makeup tests, labs, etc.

Christi Lee: if students are good at what they do and a teacher could recommend them, maybe they could be peer mentors / TA's

Wong: can study halls count toward 990?

SB: no but "guided studies" do so...

Doucette: most teachers are by themselves in a homeroom – we'd need to have a lot of people covering homerooms if there will also be stuff like Senate

Suraj: the next easiest thing after homeroom is signing up for a teacher – ex. my English class – some classes are in really high demand

Wambe: students-as-teachers is a good idea – could make it an official LHS position probably; would people be able to come to the library if there's overcrowding?

Blumberg: we'll ask Ms. Lasa

Zedros: the library will definitely be popular – also students-as-teachers is nice, maybe it should have some sort of community service incentive

Tomic: our different ideas are not incompatible – we could have options like extra help / peer mentoring / sit in the library / optional additional classes (like Extended Physics works right now or AP test prep) – Senate would fall under this umbrella

Kaufman: X block can be like IE block in the middle schools – people can make up stuff but the default should be a choice between mini-classes that are still educational (intro to physics, et cetera)

Delity: it's not flexible enough – if people feel they need help in a certain area, they should be able to excuse themselves from their default activity

Quan: it's unfair to rule out all clubs – many could be more productive than sitting in a study hall – let's have a certification process for academic clubs

Wang: can we allow choice by week?

SB: in terms of attendance, we can't really do that reasonably

Fitzgerald: if we had actual gym classes to get credit for, perhaps this time could make up stuff – people would skip an open gym class

Pfrommer: we're very dedicated students here but those who aren't might try to cut corners a lot – we need to assure better accountability

Ryan Lee: its good that Senate can meet, but faculty members might have another obligation that comes before Senate – if we do have extra help, we should have a teacher per course and level, but obligating every teacher will detract from every other option

Josh Kim: maybe we should go through the hassle of making another peer tutoring program

Suraj: if every student has a class, they could be accounted for

Wang: pass

Clive Chan: if Aspen can handle it, we could have a general check-in in which you could be marked present by anyone

Leung: if anyone could go to the library, it'd become overcrowded – not a feasible default

SB: pass

Tomic: Senate meetings are meant to be open to all students and previous rules dictate that no other activity can occur simultaneously

Christi Lee: pass

Cherenson: people will be essentially teaching another block – responsibilities problems

Delity: pass

Girma: pass

Doucette: when X Block was done away with, teachers lost 45 minutes of planning time – if we carve out a new time, we'll be moving back in the direction of the original situation

Clive Chan: if there were a general check-in, students could just count as "here"

SB: maybe we could have student-taught workshops with one faculty supervisor – the only question is whether students would step up

Tomic: some demographic of students will just skip a class – we need incentives to come to class because otherwise they'll come to the minimum without getting an N

Zedros: ask Ms. Lasa about extracurriculars and the distinction between academic and nonacademic

Delity: we don't need to have workshops on rocket science – our peer-taught stuff doesn't need to be related to school curriculum so long as an educator approves it

Tomic: there are a lot of people who have multiple big-time-commitment clubs – robotics, Senate, debate, NOSB, etc.

Suraj: this would open a choice of meeting time for clubs

Alessandro: pass

Huang: pass

Ng: could we have credit for student-taught classes?

Blumberg: adjourn, thanks to teachers

11/5/14

Blumberg: would be great to have more faculty, freshman please have nametags

Delity: climate talked about climate posters and posters that need to be taken down

Li: social actions talked about pat on the back

Tomic: policy didn't meet, no school on Tuesday

Cherenson: couldn't meet on Tuesday, no school

Blumberg: election of Ms. Jezak

Li: nominate Ms. Jezak for Social Action faculty member
elected

Blumberg: move into X-Block discussion

SB: good ideas about students teaching, do people have ideas about how that could work

Tomic: did Lasa say that this isn't happening this year

SB: change getting rid of X Block last in year, haven't confirmed

Girma: X Block after homeroom- easier

Doucette: needs to be out before program of studies, Mr. Kelley needs time to put things together, need to include what students would be doing, by December, unlikely

Ryan Lee: for Foreign Language, there is only one teacher that could offer help

Clive: post a list of classrooms and rooms, and choose where they want to go, attendance will count there

SB: there isn't a way this will work with teacher help, peer tutoring easier

Zedros: maybe similar to how professional development is done, online

Fitzgerald: can be done through aspen, more people on aspen accounts

Tomic: universal check-in, no matter where they go or on aspen, there are classes people sign up for each week/month

Ryan Lee: what qualifications for peer teachers

Blumberg: wouldn't be teaching, just one on one

Doucette: wouldn't want to go through entire student body, to find the small number of students

Tomic: can use Learning Center system, recommending by teacher, always a teacher present

Karnam: Learning Center system, also process for TAs

Cardellichio: the learning center is a good model to follow, peer tutors are referred by NHS, teacher, is it feasible

Robin: design Aspen to search bar for students name

Wong: might already be there, quarterly- attendance more manageable

Suraj: study hall block, change, people who are tutoring permanently sign up, weekly is difficult

SB: is there a pilot on a smaller scale for next year? what would happen for everyone else

Delity: weekly basis makes more sense than quarterly, but attendance would be difficult

Alessandro: seems to be unfeasible- especially logistic

Park: X Block on Wednesdays would be better than after homeroom

Girma: a student wouldn't forget to sign up for a class, weekly is better

Laad: would students still be able to make-up tests?

Blumberg: teachers and students working simultaneously

Fitzgerald: for learning center model- junior and senior tutoring could be awkward

Clive: pilot X Block on the last Wednesday of the year?

Tomic: could get people to sign up for the X Block pilot, right after homeroom, would have single block yearlong class, seniors tutoring each other, works well

Pfrommer: a variable idea, need people to commit for longer periods of time, weekly is difficult, want a variety of students for the pilot

Gambone: would peer tutors be in one area?

SB: spread out throughout the school

Alessandro: move to table discussion until next week
motion fails

Ryan Lee: extra help is essential in X Block, pilot should include everyone, schedules released soon to when school starts, wouldn't know when they would have a study or a free

Leung: sign up at the quarter, change if you want, or stay

Doucette: needs to go through the state, could do one/two X Block a quarter, needs to work for whole school, attendance,

Wong: pilot in the middle of the year, wouldn't need help at the end of the year, people who are tutoring may not want to be committed for the whole year

Cardellichio: do students need to be scheduled or just counted for attendance?

Blumberg: has to dedicated learning time

Suraj: study halls will be logistically easier

Alessandro: do we know what students need to be doing, tutoring- not getting learning

SB: don't know exactly

Blumberg: more flexible

Huang: not possible to talk to teacher about grading, test

Zedros: has Ms. Lasa responded on whether clubs are academic?

SB: haven't met, "time on learning" is pretty broad, not necessarily academic, extended homerooms (ex. meditation) count

Tomic: TAing already counts for credit, already approved by state, study hall would cause logistical difficulties to write passes every week, should have structure, ex. forever pass to Senate, for tutoring (should be the default), study halls currently count towards 990, but might not work in the future

Delity: attendance- students report to A1 - G1, get diverse, not an extra attendance system

Girma: aspen is more efficient, each week

Zedros: could you sign up for a class for a quarter or year for the year, Physics, Gym, Senate could be class?

Suraj: study halls wouldn't be a lot of logistical problems, for library- teachers can control number of passes

Ryan Lee: Delity's proposal would be confusing

Alessandro: move to table discussion until next week
passed

Blumberg: move into religious respect, Ms. Lasa likes the idea, wants to switch points 2 and 3

Alessandro: friendly amendment to switch 2 and 3

resolution passed (hands)

Blumberg: move into attendance policy

Tomic: re-worked policy, temporary for this year, ½ absence not rigidly defined, up to discretion of Secretary, 2:35 is official start time, no tardy, just absence or half absence, no tardy, 8 excused, 2 unexcused= resigned, per year, Secretary would issue warnings

Pfrommer: still concerned about constitutionality of bill, Constitution says 20%, this bill overrides, what if 9 unexcused, isn't 20%

Huang: bill is too vague, rigid definitions is good for consistency

Suraj: with 20% rule, 7-8 absences, numbers work fine, if its too rigid, Secretary can use judgement

Ryan Lee: 5th sentence, Secretary will make attendance available to Senate, should be continued for future years

Tomic: the bill is just for this year, should be more flexible than more rigid

Blumberg: this policy might be in place for two years

Alessandro: secondary amendment- "the Secretary will make attendance records available to all Senators"

Huang: move to call the question

Zedros: will there be an appeals process?

SB: already there, from Constitution

Suraj: flexibility better, also in terms of appeals

SB: the attendance portion for Constitution does contradict with the bill

Tomic: how is it contradictory?

Alessandro: redundancy isn't contradiction

Pfrommer: if 2 unexcused absences, but less than 20%, can't resign

Alessandro: Constitution doesn't say you will be Senator if not 20% absences

Girma: Constitution applied to X Block

Tomic: just another way to get kicked off Senate, constitutional

11/12/2014

Tomic: Tech Board had first meeting, next meeting is December 16th, people can stop by

Ryan Lee: put up free compliment posters, took down other posters

Tomic: policy will meet next week

Karnam: updated Senate board, come to committee meetings

Blumberg: chairs include freshmen, tell when and where meeting

Wambe: what was said last week?

Blumberg: whether or not we need a policy and the specific numbers?

Tomic: concerns- policy is too lenient, is a good thing

SB: move to table the policy, we might not need an attendance bill, just communicate the existing policy is followed, chairs take attendance, Secretary give warnings

Ryan Lee: suggestions can be used for following years

Tomic: should pass something, or amend the bill down

Quan: do we plan to follow the December rule?

Blumberg: will follow Constitution, warnings are not in Constitution

SB: move to table

not passed

Tomic: take out 2014-2015 and items 1-4, rationale should be fine

Blumberg: why take out 2014-2015

Tomic: could go on longer, also cross out attendance

Blumberg: 2nd?

Tomic: should keep the ideas

SB: the third- already in the Constitution, the Friday provision could be good to keep

Ryan Lee: why isn't there an identification of meeting, amendment to Constitution wouldn't work

Tomic: urge friendly amendment SB suggested

Ryan Lee: what part of the first 4 part is objectionable?

Tomic: too many small details

SB: friendly amendment- keep the Friday part

Blumberg: question called, amendment is passed, urge people to look at things cut- maybe want to add back in?

Ryan Lee: add the Secretary will make attendance available

SB: already passed

Blumberg: in Constitution- excused absences can't lead to dismissal

Tomic: could excused= 1/2 unexcused?

Wambe: agree

Ryan Lee: propose an amendment that says that

Blumberg: friendly amendment- see Constitution for December details

Tomic: not necessary

Ryan Lee: add "towards the December resignation deadline"

SB: object, not the deadline, beginning of when you could resign

Tomic: not sure why clarification is necessary, just the 1/2 part, can you constitute a value?

SB: friendly amendment "one excused absence shall constitute 1/2 of one unexcused absence"

Doucette: comes down to the exec committee talking to the person, to see whether person is dedicated

Tomic: should be more lenient, but guidelines should still be there

Ryan Lee: call the question of the amendment

Suraj: summary of changes?

passed

Kauffman: what happens if not enough people run?

Tomic: empty seat that members of the class can petition

Ryan Lee: move to call the question

passed

Blumberg: any last thoughts on X Block?

Tomic: would like guidelines on what we can and cannot do

Wambe: mention students and teachers idea

Blumberg: two ideas- peer tutoring and students teaching

Wambe: tutoring

Mehra: what are we proposing?

Blumberg: present discussion and any next steps for Senate

Tomic: don't think the ideas are mutually exclusive

Fitzgerald: what would the process for TAing be?

Wambe: teacher should decide

Doucette: peer tutoring now, application process, signed off, classes would be the same thing

Fitzgerald: what if like basket weaving?

Doucette: art teacher would sign off

Ryan Lee: peer tutoring system wouldn't need supplies

Cardellichio: could follow model for Learning Center, but not connected, don't put a lot more on teacher's plate, peer tutoring should be more feasible

Wambe: students as teachers- students wouldn't take it as seriously

Blumberg: probably won't be a credited class, more unofficial seminar

Kauffman: not on the transcript, but if you want to learn about it

Blumberg: any new business?

Josh Kim: complaints about smoking corner, moved?

Tomic: policy would like to do some more research on the existing policy and unofficial actions

Kauffman: description of smoking corner?

Blumberg: trash can near FL building, question if sidewalk is school's property, have to walk through

Josh Kim: rule now?

SB: not on school campus

Josh Kim: possible to expand school territory?

Doucette: where it is now is on campus, used to be a corner off campus, deans are aware of the issues and the students and have to handle other issues they have

Tomic: thought that sidewalks are town properties

Blumberg: to be clear, nodded- on speaking order

Josh Kim: trash can maintained by school janitor, have some power in that place, no sidewalk on the other side

Royer: smoking corner established by students?

SB: yes

Kauffman: it is legal to smoke on town sidewalks outside of school property- could be wrong

Girma: wait until down with smoking corner

Fitzgerald: solution- school could say don't smoke within a radius of the school

Christi Lee: could still have complaints about kids walking through, could move it

Suraj: issue is that it's very close to property, govt. buildings prohibit smoking within 200 feet, schools are govt. building

Tomic: not sure if we have say about those areas, only a problem because so close to school

Huang: not really a good solution

Girma: part of Science Olympiad and Christian Club- don't have a teacher monitoring, can't meet in school, maybe a resolution to allow clubs to meet without teacher supervision

Ryan Lee: started a club w/out faculty member with classroom, used Mr. Wilson's room and it was fine

Doucette: have ~200 adults to be an advisor, depends on the specific club, I would approach lots of teachers, go on FirstClass, could just ask a teacher to use their space

Suraj: teacher provision means it is approved by school

Tomic: maybe make rules regarding teachers is too strict, ex. teachers always there- not necessary for every club, suggest that some committee look at existing policy

Cardellichio: know that Dean Caniff can't authorize a club w/out advisors, but willing to help
Josh Kim: no quick fix- find a teacher

11/19/2014

Karnam: objection to minutes- insert smoking corner discussion after resolution on religious respect

Tomic: origami club bake sale Friday after school

SB: sophomore class selling things like sweatshirts, \$30, t-shirts are \$12, dri-fits \$18

Josh Kim: club collecting food

Blumberg: no Senate next week

Tomic: policy met yesterday

Lee: climate met, talked about compliment posters

Li: Social Actions cut up papers for pat on the back, if NHS- community service hours tomorrow and Friday after school 807

Blumberg: one small change to the resolution, for X- Block, probably not next year, gives us more time, Ms. Lasa thought that some of the solutions weren't that feasible, smoking corner situation is complex, it is technically on school campus, unlikely that there will be a sidewalk across the road

Fitzgerald: shouldn't there be something done if it is on school property

Doucette: analogy- Obama and immigration policy- don't exactly have to actively enforce it

SB: could be true, if Senate wants to push this issue, then we should

Karnam: Ms. Lasa said that it would be impossible to enforce, tried having someone there, didn't really work

Pfrommer: don't really see the smoking corner as a problem

Wong: isn't smoking illegal on school grounds?

SB: it is, it is against the rules

Kauffman: not just school rules, state as well, the issue isn't at all times, just when students are coming and going

Christi Lee: we represent the individuals who use it as well

SB: don't think that every student who smokes has a lot of issues, maybe the school should take a proactive stance

Cherenson: it is also a social event, could be defying authority

Tomic: wouldn't be a penalty to move it or discourage it, because it is an illegal activity

Fitzgerald: smoking on school grounds is illegal, probably not common ground

Zedros: doesn't reflect well upon the school, if people are smoking during frees or after school, can move it

Wong: police could get involved, whoever Ms. Lasa asks will probably deny

Blumberg: Ms. Lasa is going to find out if its possible

Ryan Lee: getting people help maybe? trying to move smoking corner isn't going to work, boardwalks instead of sidewalk- also community service hours

Gambone: smoking corner, keeps smoke away from the inside of the school

Pfrommer: agree, if move the corner up, won't be illegal, no trashcan so littering

Josh Kim: are justified, should be looking for another place

Girma: look at state law

Huang: a no smoking zone wouldn't help, another sidewalk- people might use both

Tomic: not feasible to build another sidewalk. could move it back a little bit, shouldn't be punishing, just don't condone- maybe other resources, nicotine gum, because it's closer to the school, should do something about it

Blumberg: her main concern with students there, but also uncomfortable

Wang: ex. many French exchange students smoke- not smoking for those addicted, could affect school performance

Zedros: smoking corner not good for our image

Cherenson: agree with Pfrommer and Gambone, not a big concern, smoke is everywhere in public places

Wong: is the objective of moving the trashcan to push the smoking corner back?

Blumberg: what they tried to do, didn't work

Li: boardwalk could be feasible

Kauffman: could put posters to show that school doesn't condone smoking, it is illegal to give cigarettes to minors- quote from Massachusetts law

Josh Kim: by letting the smoking corner be there- is condoning, with a designated smoking corner- would seem like condoning, but moves it farther away

Huang: anti-smoking in health class, won't work that well

Tomic: Senate isn't really addressing anything else, anti-smoking campaign is symbolic, in addition to boardwalk/sidewalk, could push it back into wooded area, Senate could do the campaign, not necessarily the administration, it's the Senate's job to look at small issues like this

Pfrommer: students smoke there mostly for convenience, it is legal for students to smoke- those providing them would be in trouble, wooded area- conservative land

Ryan Lee: LHS has good reputation already, main problem is the people walking through, second hand smoke, we have the time and money to do something

Delity: could have an announcement board there or alternatives, with the boardwalk, could work with E-Scape or freshmen environmental stewardship project

Karnam: is the boardwalk idea on the other side of the road or pushed back? need to decide what issues we want to tackle- secondhand smoke or smoking in general

Mehra: agree with Sen. Tomic, campaign will help

Zedros: why right there after school?

Josh Kim: who should we contact? Rep?

Blumberg: selectmen, zoning, school committee

Gambone: convenience- moving the trashcan could cause a domino effect- students might be late to class

Doucette: back to Sen. Karnam's point, need to break down we're interested in accomplishing, if goal is secondhand smoke, could put a trashcan and bench where the bike area is, not condoning it, but not condemning it, if stopping smoking is goal- much bigger issue

Kauffman: seems like the school allows it

Wong: does the sidewalk now conflict with conservation land

Pfrommer: would need to cut trees, that would conflict

Tomic: think goal= move it, a committee could go out and look for an area, campaign could be symbolic to show we don't allow it, even if we are doing something

Zedros: there is also littering near the trashcan

Gambone: could create a more appealing area, but only allow other options

Girma: agree with Sen. Doucette, should still abide by the state

Huang: first step, admin. should say that smoking corner is on school property, maybe in beginning of the year assembly

Ryan Lee: concrete sidewalk on other side of the street, boardwalk on other side of the street, or moving smoking corner somewhere else

Delity: often smokers sitting on the curb, could provide seating somewhere else, not official, but more appealing

Fitzgerald: we're not trying to condone behavior, shouldn't put in bench

Tomic: policy or another committee, best we can do= benches, w/ campaign

Josh Kim: can't really control smoking behavior, support the bench area, could also talk to the people who smoke there

Blumberg: two weeks from now, Senate in black box

12/3/2014

Karnam: insert Ms. Lasa discussion about smoking corner after committee reports

Girma: policy met, talked about where to locate smoking corner, detention slips

Lasa: summary of concerns Senate has- students going to the center from school have to breathe smoke, cross over, but no sidewalk (can't b/c of conservation), concern about student health, and why isn't the school doing anything

Tomic: one proposal was putting a bench in the grassy area near the FL building biggest concern is students walking through

Lasa: so, people would move?

Tomic: along with a trashcan and a sign

Lasa: in previous experience, people don't move with the trashcan, if that doesn't move it, what would motivate students to move, we have choose where to spend time (it would be necessary to have someone there)

Tomic: student Senators could talk to the people there

Lasa: so moving to a no-smoking area, would reduce smoking?

Tomic: not sure, thought would just move it, and the sign would be clearly not condoning

Lasa: smoking happens near public buildings, is the issue just about smoking or the general atmosphere at the smoking corner, what you would like to happen might not, might just get a new group of people

Kauffman: what are current school, state, federal laws on school property, who is responsible for enforcing?

Lasa: can't smoke on school property, when we see it, we address it

Kauffman: is there a certain distance around the school?

Lasa: not that I know

Zedros: litter, even with trashcan, the issue is partly behavior

Lasa: moved trashcan where the students were, trash is about the same as trash in lunch, but I agree that it doesn't look great, students can walk around or if you feel uncomfortable, you can go to a counselor, dean, etc.

Zedros: the main problem is the atmosphere

Suraj: that is the most convenient spot to smoke, but a lot of people walk there

Lasa: near corner and far corner, both have to walk through, smoking corner is where disenfranchised group of students have been year after year, open to comments and suggestions, want to know what are the issues students have

Fitzgerald: it is legal issue

Lasa: shouldn't be able to get away, do the best when it's brought to our attention,

Fitzgerald: what about the police?

Lasa: we've tried that, police can't commit to someone there, unless cigarette in students hand, I can't do anything, same issue with freshmen and sophomores leaving campus

Blumberg: if anyone has concrete ideas, please share

Cherenson: in my experience, I walk there, I haven't had any issues, is there really a solution?

Lasa: not really, students tend to go to familiar places, looking at a very small percentage of the population

Pfrommer: part of the problem is the rest of the school body doesn't treat those students well, we haven't talked to any of them

Tomic: bench idea is worth trying, different from older ideas, approaching from trying to benefit everyone, have students approach them, main question is how, is the issue funds? Senators would be willing to spend some time organizing this

Lasa: funds aren't an issue, think benches in general is a good idea, in a couple of places, could help E-Board figure out how to ask them to move-- delicate situation

Josh Kim: could admin have a consequence to make people fear smoking there?

Lasa: students aware of suspension, some students addicted to nicotine, unlike other schools, students don't smoke in the bathroom, it might change for some students

Alessandro: the smoking corner is off school property?

Lasa: it is on school property

Kauffman: there is no limit off school property, possible fine for allowing smoking, some students aren't addicted, but are there for social aspect, maybe nicotine patches or gum could help or maybe placing a closer camera

Lasa: is this about anti-smoking, would support that school-wide, not just for a small group, drinking problems are bigger than smoking at our school

Girma: would near the loading dock work?

Lasa: the same things would happen there? it's still school property, we can't be there 24/7, less visible there, would be worried about smoking near dumpster and cardboard

Girma: students walking home don't usually walk that way

Lasa: still issues with resources, would need someone out there to ask people to move

Zedros: it's a social group, can't really ask them to move

Lasa: glad I'm here to talk about it, but it is a slippery-slope, need to separate smoking issue from hanging out

Cherenson: move to table the discussion

Tomic: can we take a vote on adding the bench in some form

Alessandro: I think we should continue this discussion to clarify our goals

SB: can postpone discussion until we have a proposal

Blumberg: vote on tabling/continuing discussion→ continue

Alessandro: this isn't causing a serious issue for people, smoking in city areas, school shouldn't do anything

Wong: can ask people to spread the word about moving to the benches, can slowly the bench

Tomic: informal poll on the bench option, tied

Ryan Lee: refer issue to Policy committee

Pfrommer: people haven't agreed if we want to do something about these, shouldn't be a formal, not our place, more with the administration

Lasa: I'll support your process and be open to ideas, not sure if you guys know what the main issues are, have other people on other areas of the campus that can be more disruptive, shouldn't be singling out a group of students

Christi Lee: school doesn't need to necessarily take further action

Kauffman: should look at official mission statement of the Senate, second-hand smoke outdoors is not a major health issue, don't think it's the Senate's job, the law says the school should enforce it

Girma: have to acknowledge second hand smoke and people walking through

Cherenson: move to table the discussion
discussion tabled

12/10/2014

Tomic: move to insert policy smoking corner report after finals uniformity

Karnam: Issue II of The Musket coming out soon, also buy coffee for Robotics fundraiser

Delity: Climate met this morning, talked about Pompeii

Zedros: following rules went well, no intermission period, people left by 9:15, dancing still grimy, 250 bought tickets, seemed like only 100 people went (seems like people just wanted to support class), DJ played some questionable songs

Tomic: policy talked about smoking corner

Li: social actions discussed what to sell to raise money for charity

Karnam: Communications talked about Secret Snowflake/ Santa, would people be interested?

SB: exec. committee met w/ Dr. Murray

Tomic: discussion of detention slips, usually a mistake, difficult for classes that only meet 1 or 2 times a week → propose extending deadline to one week, probably a resolution, but want feedback

Ryan Lee: possible to clear with dean?

Tomic: believe it's the teacher

Kauffman: instead of a week, should be one day after the next time the class meets

SB: why is this an important issue?

Josh Kim: extending deadline, clear faulty absences

Pfrommer: Dean's secretaries already have a lot to deal with, without getting lots of slips at once, if you saw a teacher, they could sign it as well,

Tomic: should be a set time, too complicated for when the next class, this isn't a major concern, found it very inconvenient, or at least study hall teachers should give students a room they would be at, since already set date, don't think this would increase workload

Fitzgerald: teachers/deans are pretty understanding

Huang: never heard of people complaining, could just email the teacher

Suraj: could only help students, wouldn't give deans' secretaries more work, doesn't happen that much

Zedros: move to table discussion
discussion tabled

Tomic: Wall of Rejection- in reason years, letters have been taken down soon and no sign on top

Zedros: in favor of it, I would want to have it

Wambe: agree, as a Senior understand the stress, makes people feel better
 Suraj: have never seen a negative comments about the people
 Zang: my brother put up the letter, hearing nice things helped him
 Delity: how do we know it isn't being continued?
 Tomic: we don't know for sure, last year, letters taken down quickly
 David: administration has been offended by past comments
 Gambone: is there a certain period that it can stay there because other things have to go on the wall
 Tomic: don't think there's anything particular about that wall
 Wong: no reason to not have it, Seniors could make homeroom announcement so people know they can post things
 Clive: who is "they", who puts up letters?
 Blumberg: past- Class Council, not sure if official?, could have a banner, so that letters in the title don't get switched
 David: one fake letter up for a few months
 Pfrommer: teachers might have a problem with expletives on the letter, maybe it's teachers who are taking them down, not sure if its the administration, would like to know what the admin thinks
 Ryan Lee: only opposition would be the comments, the collage before had inappropriate comments as well
 Cardellicchio: heard faculty say that it's a negative thing, what is the benefit of a Wall of Rejection over a Wall of Acceptance?
 Delity: should find out who is in charge of taking the posters down, might be Class Council, it is a part of the LHS culture, Wall of Acceptance would definitely anger students, builds community
 Tomic: could be seen as negative, insulting universities, maybe not representative of student body, every student thinks it's funny, not inflammatory, would ask exec. committee to ask Ms. Lasa about this, when you get accepted, don't really need community support, might lead to bragging
 Blumberg: with MICCA, with 80+ schools, seen multiple students and teachers, everyone has liked it
 Girma: maybe a poster up there
 Blumberg: used to be a banner
 Wambe: Lexington has a very competitive image, WoR, rejection doesn't have to be all sad, community between Seniors

12/17/2014

Tomic: move policy committee report on smoking corner to after committee reports
 Delity: Jazz and Choral concert at 7:30 tonight
 Blumberg: another concert Friday, if you did Secret Santa, please get gift at end of meeting
 SB: object to faculty not in Secret Santa, and generally Facebook announcements
 Kauffman: is there another communication platform that's not Facebook
 Blumberg: will move to doing announcements on email
 Delity: climate met, talked about Pompeii and cafeteria food
 Tomic: discussed smoking corner
 Karnam: communications talked about Senate apparel, will send out google form

Tomic: asked people at the smoking center about putting a bench, think it's a good idea, place to sit, should be discussions about benches in general, where else should we put them?

Kauffman: are current and new location swapped?

Tomic: new location is closer, but is more out of the way

Delity: purpose/name of bill should be changed to more into bench discussion

Tomic: I agree, doesn't necessarily have to be a bill

Blumberg: move into discussion of Wall of Rejection, we will talk to Class Council

Delity: saw a couple of people putting up letters, didn't see a banner

Pfrommer (Kurt): saw a sign yesterday (but smaller), saw only two letters, one fake

Tomic: did we talk to Principal Lasa?

Blumberg: not yet

SB: we haven't met with her yet

Cherenson: could have a Facebook group

Delity: should ask Class Council to put up banner

Kauffman: opposed to Facebook group, could have a set policy for what would get taken down

Leung: I agree with Kauffman

Blumberg: Dr. Murray proposed a midterm week, also finals uniformity across department

Ryan Lee: what does uniformity mean?

Blumberg: finals would count the same percent

Delity: midterm week would be too stressful

Pfrommer (Kurt): midterm week came up before, voted down b/c of stress, classes w/out midterms would have to create them, already not meeting 990 hours,

Gambone: proposed final percent?

Blumberg: just all the same percent

Ryan Lee: midterm week might not be more stressful, also you could not take midterm if no test (like with finals), climate committee could focus on this week

Pfrommer: wouldn't a good use of time- not that many students take midterms?

SB: how many classes actually give midterms?

Girma: does midterm schedule apply to all grades?

Blumberg: the policy would similar to finals- Review days and then last 3 days= finals

Delity: a week would encourage longer midterms, I have one midterm in Physics, teachers don't usually announce until after break

Zedros: only had midterms in science and math freshman year

Cherenson: as a freshman, had math and science midterms (finals was only 2nd semester)

Zedros: talking about lunches- deli line in Commons I, long, inefficient, ppl say at food is worse at other lines

Josh Kim: any proposals on making the lines more efficient?

Ryan Lee: could replace pre-made food with another deli line

Cherenson: in Commons II, that pre-made section, there is no-one there, could match CI and CII

Zedros: would be fine with pre-made deli sandwiches

Pfrommer: cafeteria food is controlled by Whitsons, not school, can we do anything?

SB: yes, they have come to talk to us before, open to suggestions

Delity: supervisor is open to suggestions, suggested the Cafeteria Advisory Board

Ryan Lee: if any has ideas, send them over to Climate

Fitzgerald: think that Whitsons doesn't have great food, look at other options

Delity: would be difficult, with budget (\$2 per person), once a year w/ Wilson Farms, could expand that

Pfrommer (Kurt): agree w/ Sen Delity, school district has contract w/ Whitsons for many years, better food would be more expensive

Fitzgerald: at Upper Crust, pizza is \$3.50, it's \$3.25 at school

Cherenson: maybe could have companies in the center be able to sell food here

Ryan Lee: we have a contract w/ Whitsons, only school provider, primary concern is health concerns- talk of moldy bread, people feeling sick

Kauffman: document evidence of moldy bread, take a picture

Delity: I agree, people mostly throw away their food

Josh Kim: agree w/ Delity, students should bring complaints, can we propose an investigation?

Pfrommer (Kurt): the kitchen is inspected by Board of Health, they would investigate and issue sanctions

Zedros: Sen. Fitzgerald and I were served moldy bread, brought it back and got free lunches

Girma: take it to the administrator

Wong: agree with getting center businesses here, survey

Ryan Lee: wouldn't need to sanction cafeteria, or talk to administration just yet, document photographic evidence and give

Karnam: can't have businesses from the center here, violates contract

Fitzgerald: if they are a company, why can't we dissolve the contract

Pfrommer: can't dissolve the contract unless one party violates, Whitsons could sue us

Wong: could we sue?

Cherenson: we could do things later on, we wouldn't be around

SB: people who gave moldy bread, probably wasn't intentional, also lots of regulations for school lunches based on calories and ingredients,

Blumberg: if people are interested, research further,

Delity: wouldn't be a good idea to have multiple businesses

Fitzgerald: capitalism, should be able to get lowest price

Gambone: move to table, passed

Kauffman: if sophomores have study last block, could they have open campus?

Ryan Lee: need to meet 990 hours, and logistics would be difficult

Gambone: there was an application for open campus, would be a lot more to look at

Pfrommer: got rid of X-Block b/c of 990 hours, state wouldn't appreciate it

Josh Kim: agree, need to meet 990 hours

Cherenson: move to table, passed

1/7/15

Pfrommer: object to insert welcome to new senator after committee reports

Tomic: object to place homeroom visit discussion after wall of rejection

Tomic: policy committee drafted homeroom visit document

Zedros: climate talked about mid-terms and situation with coaches and athletes

Karnam: communications talked about Senate apparel and another round of BAFMTS

SB: met with Ms. Lasa- she said that admin & teachers only take down if profanity, or negative (towards applicant), wants to know what is + and - about finals, survey about what people would be interested in grab & go

Karnam: new Senator Bozkaya for class of 2015

Bozkaya: happy to be here

Lee: was Class of 2015 missing a senator?

SB: was a senator who didn't meet number of meetings, was removed, Bozkaya was runner up introductions of everyone

SB: ideas for Wall of Rejection, how to keep it "clean"

Alessandro: perhaps type up a small list of rules to put near the Wall

Pfrommer: last year, pres. posted in Facebook group to keep comments clean

Tomic: is there a committee who would type the rules?

Alessandro: policy could

Wong: homeroom visit for seniors

Wambe: oversight could

Tomic: calling a homeroom visit about benches starting next Tuesday, ask people where they would want benches, hopefully take notes down, wanted to start by getting feedback from Senators, policy is thinking- in the "new" smoking corner area, more near the math building, one under the big tree, more benches at the front of the school, outdoor area of commons I- near the modular classrooms, any other suggestions?

Zedros: suggestion- between science building and main building (near rocks)

Wong: why do they remove benches during winter at front of school?

Clive: one of them collapsed last year

Christi Lee: square in center of mods

Pfrommer: could meet backlash on the Zen Garden

Wambe: suggestion- between senior parking and main building

Leung: next to front door

Karnam: suggestion- outside of Commons II

Tomic: could Sen. Wambe clarify what area?

Wambe: outside of CI, near the stairs

Christi Lee: between CII and FL building

Tomic: potentially under the awnings, in the way of walking path

Alessandro: move to limit discussion to 10 more minutes

passes

Gambone: blue benches before, not great quality, didn't see ppl sitting there, high traffic

Tomic: agree that area is avoided

SB: move into discussion of midterms- Lasa wants to know + and -, what's stressful?

Tomic: how much of the grade that it counts for is stressful

Alessandro: 20% is pretty reasonable, finals important, objective grading, don't think Senate can tell teachers what percent

Christi Lee: if hear before hand, people would be more relaxed

Wambe: exams intended to be reflective of performance, but not always

Suraj: difficult to remember whole year, maybe half midterms and finals just 2nd semester

Li: for math- teachers talking about it, not sure, is a way for students to raise grade, math teachers weigh more if good grade, less if bad grade

Bozkaya: content- should be up to teachers, would like to have more notice for midterms

Tomic: Constitution says we can't pass bills on teaching grading, we could only really suggest to

P. Lasa, semester long classes also have finals

Doucette: if homeroom visit next week, can talk about this topic as well, need to hear more about general population of LHS, not just senators

Zedros: Chemistry has a cumulative every quarter, maybe a way to count it less or not at all

Alessandro: teachers should have flexibility for midterms (not a week)

Pfrommer: it is difficult to remember, but it is important

Fitzgerald: mid-terms bad time, after break and only 2 weeks until end of break

Xu: students struggle w/ test taking, maybe project option as well

Wong: some students offer a project for the final, wouldn't make sense for some classes to have midterms or finals

Bozkaya: timing of midterms is difficult for seniors b/c of college apps, perhaps resolution for a few later

Girma: midterms not always necessary for AP classes

Tomic: for AP classes, very specific timeline, teachers probably would also think it isn't necessary, seems like both test and project options could be difficult to organize

Xu: for AP courses w/out midterms, leave those, focus on the classes w/ midterms

Mehra: should keep midterms as is

Suraj: AP tests usually don't have to take finals

Pfrommer: project instead of test isn't good idea, test-taking is necessary in life

Bozkaya: are we discussing a bill or resolution?

Alessandro: we are discussing a possibility of bill or resolution

Tomic: situations where tests don't accurately measure students' abilities

Clive: for some classes, midterms are unnecessary

Alessandro: move to adjourn