



SHAWSHEEN VALLEY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
100 Cook Street, Billerica, MA 01821

School Council

Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2018

In Attendance: Jessica Cook, Principal; John Bagni, Faculty; Kerry O'Brien, Faculty; Carla Duffy, Parent; Taryn Gillis, Parent; Paul Troisi, Community Representative; James Marshall, Community Representative; Grace Walsh, Student; Sarah Michaud, Student; Diane Cedorchuk, Recording Secretary

Call to Order – Welcome

Ms. Cook called the meeting to order at 7:35 AM

Introduction of Members:

Each member introduced themselves. Ms. Cook explained what the School Council was all about and the items they would be discussing, such as the School Improvement Plan, Scheduling, Safety, and communication with parents. The school council will also review and make any suggestions to the student handbook.

Old Business:

There was some discussion to redo the flow of math classes Ms. Gillis asked about the use of electronics in the classroom as a teaching tool. Ms. Duffy brought up the gender neutral bathrooms and there was a discussion on the changes and requirements in the schools.

New Business:

There was lengthy discussion regarding the most recent Florida shooting and what is in place at Shawsheen Tech as far as safety measures. Ms. Cook informed everyone there is a Shelter in Place currently at Shawsheen but training will be taking place for ALICE and will be implemented for the start of the next school year. Ms. Cook also informed the group a new surveillance video system will be installed in the main office.

There was discussion regarding the student handbook regarding discipline and changes that need to be made. Ms. Cook noted the handbook is a contract with students and parents. She also stated the handbook needs to be presented to the school committee for final approval.

Round Table:

Students asked about ALICE Training. Ms. Cook explained the process but students wouldn't be involved until the fall of this year.

Mr. Marshall inquired about Officer West and how often he is at the school.

Ms. Duffy wanted to know if the current PA system reaches everyone in all the different areas.

There was also discussion about the possibility of Metal detectors.

Lobby guard security system was talked about and how effective it has been.

Mr. Troisi asked about the possibility of having students swipe their ID for access to the building and it would also serve as attendance.

Mr. Marshall noted training is key and to pay more attention to social media. He also mentioned implementing an anonymous tip line for students to come forward.

Ms. O'Brien mentioned the exterior door policy and some weak spots but Mr. Bagni explained they are installing fenced in areas for the shop areas.

Ms. Cook informed everyone safety updates will be available at the next meeting.

Items to be discussed at next meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21st, 2018 at 7:30 a.m.

- Validated absences
- Family vacations – un-validated absence according to handbook but seems to be a grey area for teachers. Policy needs to be consistent for all teachers
- Co-op policy, update in handbook page 24. Regular employees don't have training.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 a.m.