



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

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2024

**In Attendance:** Jessica Cook, Principal; John Bagni, Faculty 2:17pm ; Kerry O'Brien, Faculty; Tanya Baron, Faculty; Melissa Bates, Parent 2:22 pm; Kristen Baker, Parent; Dina Castiglia, Parent; Carole Reardon Parent 2:20 pm; Brendan Driscoll, Community Representative; Michael Parent, Community Representative; Dale Gardner, Student; Diane Cedorchuk, Recording Secretary.

**Absent:** Alyssa Costantiello, Student.

**Call to Order:**

Ms. Cook called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ms. Cook asked for a motion to accept the minutes of March 21, 2024. Ms. O'Brien motioned to accept the minutes of March 21, 2024. Mr. Gardner seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, motioned carried unanimously. Mr. Bagni, Ms. Reardon and Ms. Bates were not in attendance to vote.

**Updates from the Principal:**

Ms. Cook gave an update on the following:

- Sarah Johansen, Electronics/Engineering senior has been named one of three Massachusetts US Presidential Scholar and the only Career and Technical Education student to be recognized in 2024.

Mr. Gardner gave the following student updates:

- Both Juniors and Seniors are out on co-op now. Many events have taken place or are taking place before the end of the school year such as the spring fling, blood drive, food drive, culture fair and both junior and senior proms. Our students did very well at Skills with 66 students earning medals at the District Level, 56 qualifying to move on.

**Old Business:**

Ms. Cook distributed the School Improvement Plan. The goals were fully supported by the School Council and Ms. Cook acknowledge the members of the School Council with a thank you.

School attendance policy was discussed but no consensus on how the attendance policy can be changed.

**New Business:**

Student Handbook changes. A handout of handbook changes was distributed, and Ms. Cook explained the attorney will read through all changes. A motion was made by Ms. Reardon to open a discussion on the cell phone policy. There was no second on the motion. Motion fails. A motion was made by Ms. Reardon to discuss the attendance policy. Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. There was a discussion on the ½ day dismissal policy. A motion was made by Mr. Bagni to amend the attendance policy to be a class attendance of 80% to pass for the term. Mr. Parent seconded the motion. With a 2 yes, and 4 no votes and 3 abstaining, motion fails.

A motion was made by Mr. Bagni to accept the changes to the handbook. Ms. Baron seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passes unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Bagni motioned to adjourn. Mr. Parent seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.