



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

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2023

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

Absent: Tanya Baron, Faculty; Alyssa Costantiello, Student

Call to Order:

Ms. Cook called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Introductions:

Each member of the School Council introduced themselves and their role.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Cook asked for a motion to accept the minutes of May 10, 2023. Mr. Bagni motioned to accept the minutes of May 10, 2023. Mr. Driscoll seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, motioned carried 6-0 with Ms. Reardon, Ms. Castiglia, Ms. Baker and Mr. Gardner abstaining.

Updates from the Principal:

Ms. Cook gave an update on the following:

- Great start to the school year. Lots going on – spirit week, homecoming, fall athletics, freshman explore and clubs/activities.
- School Improvement Plan Progress
- Binder review – Ms. Cook went through each tab in the binder.

School Council overview:

Ms. Cook gave an overview of the School Council's main responsibility which is to assist the Principal with the School Improvement Plan, review school budget and review the student handbook.

There was a discussion on handbook decisions and policy change. Ms. Reardon noted she was unfamiliar with policy changes and asked how the school council changes policies. Ms. Cook explained the School Council gives input and recommends changes to the handbook. It then goes to the School Committee for approval. Ms. Cook said she will ask the Superintendent to attend the next School Council meeting.

Open Meeting Law Materials & Certification:

Ms. Cook brought everyone's attention to the Open Meeting Law Guide and Educational Materials Tab in the binder. Each member of the School Council signed the certificate of receipt of open meeting law materials.

Election of Co-Chair:

Motion made by Mr. Bagni to elect Dale Gardner as co-chair. Mr. Parent seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Dress Code:

There was a lengthy discussion on student dress code.

Mr. Bagni motioned to move the dress code policy back to the School Committee.

Ms. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items:

Student attendance policy

Times for meetings

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Adjournment:

Mr. Bagni motioned to adjourn. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:23pm.