



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

School Council

Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2019

In Attendance: Jessica Cook, Principal; John Bagni, Faculty; Paula DeLosh, Parent; Danielle Santiago, Parent; Taryn Gillis, Parent; Paul Troisi, Community Representative; Alison Pereira, Student; Catia Melo, Student; Diane Cedorchuk, Recording Secretary

Absent: Kerry O'Brien, Faculty, Jim Marshall, Community Representative

Call to Order – Welcome

Ms. Cook called the meeting to order at 7:40 am.

Introduction of Members

Ms. Cook introduced herself and thanked everyone for their participation. Each member introduced themselves.

Ms. Cook referenced the binders that were put together for each member and went through the documents in the binder.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Troisi motioned to accept the minutes of May 8, 2019, Mr. Bagni 2nd the motion. All in favor. Minutes of May 8, 2019 were approved.

New Business:

Ms. Cook went through the School Improvement Plan Objectives. She explained what objectives have been met and where they are with each one.

Safety and Security - Ms. Cook spoke about the lobby guard and the progress in the mall area down by Cosmology. She also spoke about the Crisis Team and explained the team has been meeting weekly and are in the process of revamping the emergency protocols. Radios have been the number 1 priority with the Crisis Team. Radios need to be purchased for all necessary staff. It has been put in the budget for next year.

Mr. Bagni had questions about the radios and asked where the current radios are in the building. He noted that there is no radio communication in the 100's area or other needed areas. There was a discussion about this and Ms. Cook agreed and explained that this is the number one priority of the crisis team to purchase additional radios for safety and security purposes.

Alice Training – Ms. Cook spoke about emergency buckets/bags for each room and first aid supplies. She said 2 ALICE drills will be performed this year.

Vaping Detectors – they have been suggested to the School Committee. Vaping is one of the biggest concerns in schools however these vaping detectors are still so new and still have problems.

Diversion Program – this was implemented 2 years ago for drug or alcohol offenses. Anyone who has been disciplined for THC/Nicotine is required to participate. The Diversion Program works with students to help in getting them off the substances.

The remaining objectives were discussed briefly. Ms. Cook discussed Concurrent Enrollment & AP courses. The only AP option currently is offered to DVC students.

Ms. Cook also discussed graduation requirements, 2 years of science, 2 years of history and the 3rd year students have the option of science or history.

Ms. Cook explained to the council that as a group they will be updating the student handbook. She asked the committee to review the handbook for the next meeting.

Ms. Cook also spoke about Title I (at risk students) policy and procedures. She will need feedback to bring to the School Committee regarding the policy. She said the old policy is outdated and the criteria for Title I was Math only. The new proposed policy criteria is for Math, English and Science. There are multiple measures for 9th and 10th grade students. Grades 11 and 12 is based on homeless or foster care students. Mr. Troisi asked why homeless/foster. Ms. Cook explained that it is set by the State.

Ms. Gillis made a motion to endorse the updated language for a revised policy to be submitted to the School Committee for approval. Mr. Troisi 2nd the motion. All in favor. Motion accepted to send the revised policy to the School Committee for review and approval.

Round Table:

There was a discussion about the radio's in the building.

Ms. Gillis had a suggestion to put a lock box for a radio in the 100's area and/or other areas where they are needed. Ms. Cook stated the radios is her number one priority.

There was also a discussion about a machine to reproduce a student's ID. Ms. Cook said she will look into the cost of the machine and request it in the budget. Catia Melo asked if there was a rule on having your ID in a Vera Bradley Wallet. Ms. Cook said she will talk with the Dean's office.

Adjournment:

Jess Cook motioned to adjourn. Taryn Gillis 2nd the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.