

HHS SGC AGENDA May 14, 2018 (present: Sherlet Kurian, Annalisa Aurora, Corinne Castro, Ava Purdue, Judy Goldberg, Christy Palumbo, Amita Singla, Erica Blackmon, Christopher Thomas, Nadine Gannon, Jody Goeler) ** minutes are in Green

- Housekeeping: (a) Housekeeping: minutes: April minutes vote online. Kim to forward all to Dr. James this month, to be posted online.

Kim will email APRIL minutes to council for vote.

- (b) Lawn signs-THANK YOU for your support!!!; sold out
Hamden PTA Council will give \$200 to HHS

Judy: Check presented to Mrs Gannon.

Mrs Gannon: Funds to be used in Discretionary fund for example, pay for lunch for student who is unable, pay for Prom tickets for those unable, and other such expenses

- (c) Mr. Giansanti: Congratulations!!! New principal at Ansonia

Mr. Goeler: Legislative council voted to add \$1.25 million back the 2% cut in the mayor's presentation. His goal is to make sure the high school is maintained whole and to replace Paul and Doc. Principal positions posted. There is special meeting tonight of legislative council with Mayor regarding the \$1.25million.

Mrs Gannon: Four internal candidates interviewed and over 100 external applications.

- (d) #41 in CT- Top 10% in Nation. BE PROUD.

> Google says there are 26,407 public secondary schools in the US.

> WTNH just published that HHS is ranked in the top 10% nationally according to US News and World Report. Very good news.

> <2166> <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/search?state-urlname=connecticut>

- **Parent representative** : (a) Amendment to bylaws?, currently Article IV Section 2
3.Voting: paper ballot to each household, (cost to school?
Should we include amendment to include Electronic ballot?)

Sherlet: Erica is leaving the SGC. Thanks given for her service. Election is open for parent spot, posted on school website. Proposed amendment to Article IV to include alternative form of voting:online. Sherlet will send amendment to all SGC members for comments and vote

- (b) Election committee: need teacher, community leader, parent

Mrs. Gannon will reach out to Mr. Levy to inform 8th grade parents of open SGC position

- Re-establish and reorganize subcommittees: Safety & operations; School promotion; Education; Tardiness/Absenteeism

Discussed re-establishing committees. School promotion committee (Christy, Judy) discussed collaboration with Hamden PTA Council in fundraising for LED sign. Letter presented to council. Letter to be sent out to local businesses. Also looking at grants. Tax deductible donations. All donor names only will be mentioned on Facebook and those donations \$250 and over will be invited to unveiling.

- Article VIII: Council responsibilities, Section 1/ Section 2
Section 1: 4th bullet point: assist principal in programmatic and operational Changes; (POTENTIAL IMPACT OF BUDGET, make us aware once we know for sure what to expect, OUR input. Affect on Course catalog. CREATING an accurate realistic catalog)

Anna Lisa: Ms.Crandall reviews catalogs annually and edits it. Makes it accurate as possible before opening it to guidance office and course selection. There are many variables that make this difficult. AP vs Non-AP classes (AP psychology and Non-AP psychology for example) Non college prep classes such as business courses. It needs to be balanced and available to all students with varying needs.

Mrs. Gannon: Her goal is to all students have a four year plan of study such as a Humanities academy, STEM academy, Health Sciences academy.

Sherlet: requesting as part of our responsibilities on SGC is to informed about academy creation and our opinion included.

Section 2: provide advice on any other policy matters affecting school
 (Graduation/ discussion on INDIVIDUALITY)

Mrs. Gannon: approached by senior requesting that seniors be permitted to decorate graduation caps. States that she asked other principals, 50% permit and 50% do not permit. She invited senior to be present at meeting tonight. (*Invited student did not attend meeting) As of last year students now allowed to pick the color of hat, yellow vs. green. In past color was designated by gender.

Anna Lisa and Chris: concerns about how to check on appropriateness of cap design. Not enough time and enough faculty to check prior to graduation ceremony. also if found to be inappropriate, potential parent discontent when student is on stage without cap.

Ava: Would like to see caps decorated but after listening to potential problems outlined is not totally committed to having caps decorated.

Corrine: Submit design like Chalkfest? Set guidelines for appropriate decorations? Mrs Gannon states it would be impossible to get all 400 designs reviewed and approved. Plus make sure design matches the cap on graduation day.

Amita:supports teachers regarding inability to make sure cap designs are appropriate

Sherlet: Suggested parental permission slip; Brought up that signatures can be forged and most students will forget to submit permission slip on time.

Erica: still have risk of student decorating cap with inappropriate statements after graduation and posting on social media.

Christy: Keep the caps as is without decorations. Less risk of controversy

Council suggested that student requesting should provide more information to Mrs. Gannon. Also whatever decision Mrs. Gannon makes, **we will support her 100%**.

Next Meeting: **June 11, 2018*** End of year wrap up/Prep for fall**