

MHS Senate Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, September 27, 2011

	Present	Absent		Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Senator			Senator			Senator		
Kate Arnold	X		Shane Falk		X	Steve Kurr	X	
Chris Ashley	X		Ann Geocaris	X		Luke Patullo	X	
Karyn Baxter	X		Denise Herrmann	X		Clint Steigenberger	X	
Christie Cheng	X		Erin Hommowun	X				
Yining Dai	X		Jennifer Hurlbut	X				
Daniel Dennis	X		Julee Isenhower	X				
Molly Dowling	X		Mike Jones	X				

Guest(s): Parent Engagement Coordinator Lisa LeMieux, Class President Sarah Collins, Student Council Advisor Marcy Smith, Athletic Director Bob Joers

INFORMATION / CONCERNS / UPDATES:

MINUTES: 1 possible change: Check on number of seats added to lunchroom, make correction if needed. (Correction made)

PARENTS

- Parent Connection meeting on 9/20 went well and was very well attended. The question and answer period was very helpful.
- **Follow up question:** On late start days many freshmen students take the bus. Some parents have students who are being dropped off but are not entering the building. They are unsupervised until their first class starts. What can be done?
 Arrangements can be made by the family for the student to check in. This should be arranged through the student's dean by the family.
 Principal Herrmann noted that the school does not have liability at that late start time as this is like the open lunch period for students, and most students do come into the building.
 Madison schools have a similar schedule situation; they do not have a check in process.
- It was also noted that less students are leaving the building at lunch, and there are fewer tardies this year. There will be an attendance report for the first four weeks; it will be compared with the same time last year.

FACULTY/STAFF

- Re: D Day Resource
Some areas have many students during this time.
- Teacher schedules need to be updated on the website.
This will be completed shortly. There have been some computer issues but the schedules will be updated soon.
- Work is being done on the district website and our website will be worked on after that. Both websites are in need of updates at this time.
- Perhaps the district technology coordinator (Jeff Knutsen) can be invited to Senate.

STUDENTS:

- Student Council will meet during 6th hour early lunch for 30 minutes.

ADMINISTRATION

- Feedback on the recent CRT meeting:
There was a speaker from Solution Tree on the topic of PLCs (Professional Learning Communities)
- PLCs:
The total purpose is learning
"Why are 'x' number of students struggling with this concept?"
With additional help the number of struggling students will decrease
Student engagement is an important factor
Principal Herrmann is available to speak to departments wanting extra support/information. She has visited 3 departments so far.
- EPAS testing:
Only 3 or 4 freshmen students missed taking the test.
There were more students in grades 10 and 11 missing the test; this is being worked on.
- Grades /Portal:
Parents don't always see grades on the portal, are concerned.
The block schedule is more about learning than just grades.
Grades can be entered in the grade book without counting in the final grade.

BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Guest: Athletic Director Bob Joers

Welcome to Bob Joers, our new Athletic Director. (He was the AD here several years ago; we welcome him back.)

STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS:

When to hold the meetings is still a process.

Currently there is a rotating schedule on Tuesdays; the meeting will take NO MORE than 40 minutes of one class each quarter.

Smaller groups meet during D day. (Not the entire council)

Should we revisit putting Student Council meetings on D days?

Students often need D day to meet with their teachers during resource time

D days are not good meeting days for special needs students

On B days staff members are not available; they are in PLC meetings

Marcy Smith will send out the Student Council roster to staff

Student Council will follow the current rotation for now and see if there are any concerns or changes needed

Marcy Smith will look into rotating the D day in during 2nd semester.

Senate Chairman Kurr will check to see if there is further discussion on 10/4/11.