**APPROVED MINUTES FROM WHS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2021**

A meeting of the Wayland High School School Council was held remotely at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

*Present and participating remotely were:*

Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)

Win Treese (Community Representative)

Orla Daunt (Parent Representative)

Maura Batts (Parent Representative)

Keri Schouten (Parent Representative)

Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative)

Gwen Goldin (Staff Representative)

Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)

*Absent were:*

Madeeha Syeda (Student Representative)

**Meeting Minutes:**

The meeting was conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and according to the revised open meeting law that allows remote participation.

1. Allyson Mizoguchi called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Roll call was taken:

**ROLL CALL YES NO**

Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal) X

Win Treese (Community Representative) X

Maura Batts (Parent Representative) X

Orla Daunt (Parent Representative) X

Keri Schouten (Parent Representative) X

Madeeha Syeda (Student Representative) X

Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative) X

Gwen Goldin (Staff Representative) X

Jill Swenson (Staff Representative) X

2. Public Comment

* No public comments

3. Approval of minutes: January 13, 2021

A special notation was requested added to the minutes that indicates *the desire of the*

*School Council to take meaningful action this year* related to our School Improvement Plan. This was duly noted in the minutes.

Motion to approve: Win Treese

Second: Maura Batts

**ROLL CALL YES NO**

Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal) X

Win Treese (Community Representative) X

Maura Batts (Parent Representative) X

Orla Daunt (Parent Representative) X

Keri Schouten (Parent Representative) X

Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative) X

Gwen Goldin (Staff Representative) X

Jill Swenson (Staff Representative) X

Mark Liddell (METCO Coordinator, guest) X

Caroline Han (Diversity & Equity Coord., guest) X

4. Discussion of WHS School Improvement Plan related to “Elevating Achievement”

* Discussion of presented data related to enrollment in Honors and AP level courses broken down by race
* Discussion related to context of course recommendation/placement
  + - Students may not know why they don’t want to take honors/AP level courses; stereotype threat
    - Are students with less power and privilege are more apt to follow teacher recommendations?
    - Overall course load should be a balance of “can/should/want”
    - Is there a difference in process among departments?
    - The process should (and, in some cases, does) begin with asking students first what course they would *like* to take; make this step more standardized?
    - Difference between “course selection” and “teacher recommendation”; the language is important
    - Where is the opportunity to explain why the teacher is making a particular recommendation?
    - What about bias in recommendations?
    - Process and messaging at the 8th grade level and how it impacts course placement, and communication from 8th to 9th
    - Is the naming of courses (e.g. “college preparatory”) relevant to what students/families select?
* Brainstorming of possible focus group questions
  + What has been your experience with teacher recommendations in the past? Have you followed them?
  + Who were the support people to help you make this decision?
  + What do you think is the difference between College and Honors/AP?
  + Why would you want to take an honors course?
  + From what you can recall, what did the course selection process look like? Feel like?

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Win Treese

Second: Jill Swenson

**ROLL CALL YES NO**

Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal) X

Win Treese (Community Representative) X

Maura Batts (Parent Representative) X

Orla Daunt (Parent Representative) X

Keri Schouten (Parent Representative) X

Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative) X

Gwen Goldin (Staff Representative) X

Jill Swenson (Staff Representative) X

The School Council adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

List of Documents:

“Racial Breakdown Compared to School Population 2017-2021”

“Racial Composition of Honors/AP Classes by Year 2017-2021”

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson Mizoguchi

Principal

WHS