

**MINUTES FROM WHS SCHOOL COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2023**

A meeting of the Wayland High School School Council was conducted remotely on January 9, 2023, due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and according to the revised open meeting law that allows remote participation.

Allyson Mizoguchi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken:

ROLL CALL	YES	NO
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Malcolm Astley (Community Member)	X	
Carolyn Crary (Staff Representative)	X	
Hedaia Elelimy (Student Representative)		X
Nancy Funkhouser (Community Member)		X
Samantha Lee (Student Representative)	X	
Selena Liu (Student Representative)	X	
Leanne Mason (Parent Representative)	X	
Joe Oneschuk (Staff Representative)	X	
Ruchi Saggar (Parent Representative)	X	
Renae Shadday (Parent Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	

1. Public comment

There was no public comment.

Before moving onto agenda, Allyson acknowledged the racist graffiti that was found at the Town Pool just prior to the December holiday.

Malcolm acknowledged that the findings of the Metrowest Adolescent Health Survey are concerning and “heavy to shoulder”; encouraged collaboration and focus as we move forward.

Leanne expressed concern about the impact of graffiti on students, especially when it comes to school connectedness.

2. Administrative matters

Approval of minutes: December 12, 2022
 Motion to approve: Ruchi Saggar
 Second: Renae Shadday

ROLL CALL	YES	NO
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Malcolm Astley (Community Member)	X	
Carolyn Crary (Staff Representative)	X	
Samantha Lee (Student Representative)	X	
Selena Liu (Student Representative)	X	
Leanne Mason (Parent Representative)	X	
Joe Oneschuk (Staff Representative)	X	
Ruchi Sagggar (Parent Representative)	X	
Rena Shadday (Parent Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	

3. Continued discussion of WHS School Improvement Plan and School Target Goals, 2022-2023

- Allyson asked that the group offer input on current course selection process (a target goal) and described the work that has been done to address barriers and add clarity & consistency to the process, especially:
 - Elimination of override process
 - Better communication to students and families
 - Elimination of B- requirement to stay in honors-level courses in some depts
- Ruchi requested data on students of color in lower-level classes; Allyson will try to get this year's data to share with the group.
- Discussion among group members about the definition of "success" (high grades? Holistic and healthy balance?). One take-away from this discussion is that "success" has changed since the pandemic
- Allyson underscored that the course selection process will still begin with teacher recommendations
- Discussion among group about current communication that occurs to families about the various levels in courses
 - Desire for consistency: some teachers send out email to families; some classes set aside time for explicit description of course levels; some teachers surveyed students to learn about their preferences before making recommendation
- Selena suggested offering perspectives of older students available to younger students during this process
- Discussion among group about difficulty of moving levels once the school year has begun; the importance of getting it "right" when the year begins to minimize disruption to the rest of the schedule
- Ruchi emphasized the goal is to give Black and Brown students more opportunity to take a risk and challenge themselves
- Leanne pointed out that inconsistent communication about courses can be based on implicit bias about groups of students
- Discussion of timeline for making course changes: perhaps too flexible?

- Discussion around suggestion of being able to review the course syllabi ahead of time; advance info could be helpful, but concern about terminology being difficult to understand and only some families having a handle on the unspoken culture and expectations of a course
- Allyson raised social dynamic as being a factor in whether students of color decide to take an upper-level class; Leanne emphasized importance of peer relationships and raised question of establishing a “pipeline” into upper level classes
- Allyson asked for input on communication with families/community on the process. Input included:
 - Message should include healthy balance and “it’s okay to move down”
 - Perhaps a video-narrative (both written and spoken) of smaller sound bites that are friendly to students and families
 - Help families know where to get more information

4. Adjournment

Motion to approve: Malcolm Astley

Second: Leanne Mason

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Malcolm Astley (Community Member)	X	
Carolyn Crary (Staff Representative)	X	
Selena Liu (Student Representative)	X	
Leanne Mason (Parent Representative)	X	
Joe Oneschuk (Staff Representative)	X	
Ruchi Saggur (Parent Representative)	X	
Renae Shadday (Parent Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson Mizoguchi

Jill Swenson