

**MINUTES FROM WHS SCHOOL COUNCIL - APPROVED  
FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

A meeting of the Wayland High School School Council was conducted remotely on February 13, 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 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken:

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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	
Rena 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 the agenda, Ruchi wondered how to proceed in response to email from 8th graders regarding their civic projects. Leanne suggested that we add that to the agenda for a future meeting.

2. Administrative matters

Approval of minutes: January 9, 2023

Motion to approve: Ruchi Saggar

Second: Lilly Watkins

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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
Ruchi Sagggar (Parent Representative)	X
Rena Shadday (Parent Representative)	X
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X

3. Presentation and discussion of Metrowest Adolescent Health Survey data by Jason Verhoosky of Wayland Youth and Family Services

- Allyson introduced Jason Verhoosky. Described his role and framed his presentation as a way to determine actionable areas of focus for the School Council group.
- Jason explained that the survey has been in place for 16 cycles, administered every two years. Data offers local, regional, state and national comparison. Tonight's focus was mental health indicators and protective factors. This data is from the fall of 2021.
- Jason showed set of slides summarizing mental health and protective factors data. (Full data report is on WHS website.)
- Jason summarized that trends show that students express more concerning incidences of mental health indicators at HS compared to MS, and that female identified students express more concerning indicators than male identified students.
- [Article mentioned on more recent data from the CDC](#)
- Jason: Remember that even though this is the students' perception, that their perception is their reality.
- Malcolm: Wondered if there has been communication to the parent community about the specific statistics
- Allyson: Responded that in the fall Jason hosted a parent evening (joint MS/HS) to talk about these findings, and mental health was part of the presentation. It was poorly attended.
- Malcolm: Proposed that a letter go to parents listing the top disturbing statistics so that parents have a grasp of the data. Ruchi agreed.
- Allyson: Mentioned that the mental health data points created some "early jolts" overall. Shared suicidality data with PTO which resulted in evening hosted by the Samaritans last year for parents. We could do this again.
- Nancy: Cautioned that information to parents should be shared thoughtfully so it is not too alarming. Suggested some language for sending out data.
- Jason: Agreed that transparency and context are important. Vital to get the community involved and talking about it as a whole to shift the view of mental health treatment from an individual basis to a community basis.
- Allyson affirmed interest from the group for re-sharing this data and attaching the resources, perhaps in collaboration with Jason and WHS Counseling Dept about how to share.
- Rena pointed out that May is mental health awareness month; perhaps there is an opportunity for regular communication to community.

- Nancy: Noting that parents are stressed, urged the group to consider how to use the data to educate students.
- Leanne: Struck by the sexual violence and rape being reported in MS and HS students, both female and male identifying. Noted how thoughtful the wellness program has been in addressing this topic.
- Carolyn: Wondered if the “school counseling wouldn’t help me” data point stems from students who don’t think it would help or that they asked for help and didn’t get it
- Allyson: Would like to delve more into the “not trusting the staff” statement.
- Hedaia: Commented that the “teacher/student” relationship might prevent students from feeling comfortable sharing that kind of information with them, and is maybe how they read the question.
- Leanne: Raised possibility of creating a sub-committee to work with this data.
- Ruchi: Wondered if the group wanted to ask others in the community to participate or limit it to School Council.
- Leanne: Thinks focus of the group would be around communicating the data.
- Nancy: Wondered if this effort would be redundant or useful. Allyson and Jason supported the idea.

Formation of a subgroup of School Council to discuss MWAHS data

Motion to approve: Leanne Mason

Second: Lilly Watkins

<b>ROLL CALL</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
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	
Ruchi Saggarr (Parent Representative)	X	
Rena Shadday (Parent Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	

4. Discussion of next steps related to course enrollment process
  - At the group’s suggestion, Allyson is preparing communication to families with some revisions. Summarized changes: No more override process; language change around prerequisites; no more needing to keep a B- to stay in an Honors level class. Will share a draft of messaging with the group for feedback.
5. Adjournment:

Motion to approve: Malcolm Astley  
Second: Leanne Mason

<b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b>	<b><u>YES</u></b>	<b><u>NO</u></b>
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	
Ruchi Saggat (Parent Representative)	X	
Rena Shadday (Parent Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	

Respectfully submitted,

Allyson Mizoguchi  
Jill Swenson