

## HHS SGC Minutes - November 18, 2019

Location: HHS Media Center

**Members in attendance:** Jasmina Besirevic-Regan, Corinne Castro, Evelyn Cumberbatch, Frank Dixon, Mark Gabriel, Nadine Gannon, John Hannah, Tony Naguib, Jack Purdue, Nancy Restivo, Melinda Saller, Gregory Theriault, Mark Zarillo

**Members absent:** Chris Daur, Ann Stiltner, Erica Tamsin, Darce DeCosta, Liz Marini

**Minutes taken by Corinne Castro**

Meeting called to order: 6:05pm

1. **Approval of Minutes:** October minutes were approved by all
2. **Principal Gannon Update:**
  - a. Heating Update - Synergistics was conserving energy by turning the heat off. Heat will now be left on through the night. Heat curtains are being brought in for entryways. Numerous heating were found to be closed for no reason. Staff has brought in space heaters.
  - b. Veterans' Day: School was open. 11th grade had an assembly with veterans and 5 branches of the military. Gannon received a lot of pushback from parents.
  - c. Schedule Update: Waterfall schedule would require hiring more staff. Straight 8 or Waterfall being presented to the BOE Curriculum Committee after Gannon confers with staff.
  - d. Dress Code Update: BOE Policy Committee created a one-page Dress & Grooming policy that allows Gannon to create specific high school administrative regulation. Suggested update: add according to State Law.
  - e. PTSA: Trying to reinvigorate PTSA again this year. PTSA is more that After-Prom.
3. **Board of Ed Report by Melinda Saller:**
  - a. West Woods being renovated instead of rebuilt
  - b. Magnet schools in Hamden? Not now, but will revisit at a later date.
  - c. Opportunity to sell Church St - School is asking to postpone sale to eliminate 2 moves for the students (WIMS then redistricting).
4. **BOE Equity Committee Report (Tues, Oct 29th) :**
  - a. Well attended, including reporters. Updates on hiring diverse staff throughout the town.
  - b. Talked about the difficulty of obtaining diverse teaching staff. Highsmith not focusing on HBCUs because of location; focused on Southern CT SCSU.
  - c. Bringing diversity into the curriculum through book selections
5. **Subcommittee Signups:**
  - a. **Education/Counseling** - Nancy, Greg, Mark Z, Mark G, Corinne, John
  - b. **Safety/Operations/Communication** - Mark Z,
  - c. **Mental Health/Supports** - Greg, Evelyn,
  - d. **School Promotion/School Climate** -
  - e. **Budget Review** (Separated this out from Education Subcommittee) - Evelyn
6. **Closing by Frank Dixon:** asks that everyone come to the next meeting with one goal identified (from the existing list or a new idea.)

Meeting Ended at 7:47pm

**Next Meeting: Monday, December 16th, 2019 at 6pm**