

Thursday, December 16, 2010

12/10

Agenda: 12/17/10

1. Approve Minutes
2. Reports
3. 100 Point GPA Motion
4. Honor Code Motion
5. School Climate Committee Motion
6. Notes & New Business

Council Minutes 12/10/10

“It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”

- J.K. Rowling

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Reports:
 - [Mod]: Agenda change — moving GPA motion ahead of Honor Code motion.
 - [Exec]: Many are impressed with the topics that Council talks about.
 - [Admin]: Still working on the MLK assembly, set for January 17th.
 - [Curric]: X-day motion (talking to Ms. Gillespie), CC code (met with Mr. Murphy), and another week on 15% motion.
 - [OEC]: Bylaws coming next week hopefully.
 - [SL]: Language department policy for going Dartmouth.
 - [SA]: Hanover's Got Talent Dec. 22 with MC of Dmitry.
 - [SSC]: Interviews starting Saturday!
 - [Linda]: At next DSB meeting, Cost Reduction Committee discussion.
3. 100 Point GPA Motion
 - Motion: I move that HHS's GPA be calculated on a 100 point scale.
 - o [Rachel]: easier to determine your place, more exact, easier for colleges to see where you are
 - Mr. Glenney
 - o If GPA calculation is important, we should do it precisely
 - o Condensing 100 pt scale to 4 pt scale blurs the accuracy of the data
 - Making a crude calculation falsely precise
 - o Not inconvenient to teachers, the computer makes the 4 pt scale
 - Mr. McCracking (see ppt.)
 - o Accepted standards
 - Colleges/CollegeBoard likes 4 pt scale
 - Our scale is most common
 - Meshes well with Dartmouth courses
 - o Variability in grading

- Teachers are human, not exact
- Each teacher grades differently
- Performance based classes are difficult to grade with points
 - o Fairness and competition
- We want to recognize more students and reduce competition
- Increased grade-grubbing will result
- Cherry picking teachers
 - o Helpful or hurtful
- May hurt chances of college acceptance
- Difference b/t excellent and super excellent student?
- Could hurt acceptance of students into competitive schools
- Questions/Clarifications
 - o There are high schools that use the 100 pt scale
 - o Colleges vary on viewing the 4 pt scale differently than 100 pt scale
 - o The transcript holds the most weight in decision
 - o Averages over 100 would appear
 - o Our transcripts now show only letter grades
- Discussion
 - o One point on 100 scale matters a lot
 - o We might want to look at putting an A+ on transcripts
 - o We need to stop worrying so much about grades
 - o Nothing will ever be good enough, let the students relax!
 - o Performance classes are nearly impossible to put a number on
 - o Learn for learning's sake! What is the importance of high school?
 - o Grade grubbing already happens
 - o Placing exactitude where nothing's exact
 - o One student could receive two different grades with two different teachers
 - o This could cause large problems for teachers

Meeting Adjourned