

Thursday, November 18, 2010
11/12

Agenda: 11/19/10

1. Approve Minutes
2. Reports
3. 60% Motion
4. Visitors Motion
5. Notes & New Business

Council Minutes 11/12/10

“A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds”

- Francis Bacon

1. Approval of Minutes
 - Corrections: changes made to Moderator report and bullying motion
2. Reports:
 - [A-Mod]: I'll be moderating today since Megan's out. I'll be contacting the Lebanon Council soon to set up a kind of meeting with them.
 - [PR]: Our article in the Broadside will go in the holiday issue. Check online.
 - [Curric]: Still discussing x-days.
 - [OEC]: Looking at National Association of Student Councils, bringing bylaw revisions in a few weeks.
 - [SL]: Thanks to those who recycled, but to improve this system next time we'll put out an announcement earlier. More feedback on surveys?
 - [SA]: Dodgeball starts next week, sports team day for winter carnival next Friday.
 - [MI]: Course assignments will be next Thursday.
 - [Class Committees]
 - o Freshmen: Looking for advisors!
 - o Sophomores: Yankee Candle forms due, spread word about meetings
 - o Juniors: sell poinsettias!
 - o Seniors: Pie sale coming up, Dartmouth Football parking
 - [Emily]: Come watch Cross Country girls race this weekend!
 - [Peter]: Indoor soccer tournament this weekend
3. Bylaw Notifications
 - [Carl]: OEC bringing changes to bylaws in 3 weeks, improving new/tuition student election process, general “clean up”.
4. Bullying Motion
 - Recap: Motion reads... I move to recommend to the administration to make the minimum school response for bullying (physical, verbal, emotional, cyber) a 1-day suspension.
 - Discussion
 - o The Board is working on a policy, we need to make them agree

- o This motion could save lives and make history in the school
- o An investigation is still required, no one is automatically suspended
- o Why is this only a recommendation?
- Council cannot make a minimum school response to anything
- Administration/Board are looking this over anyway
- Amendment
 - o Motion: I move to strike “recommend” from the motion.
 - o [Mr. Bourne]: We’ve made minimum responses before (Academic Integrity Policy), so let’s just make this a motion.
- Discussion on the Amendment
 - o Motions automatically go to the administration, stands stronger
 - o This motion will have to be reviewed by the Board, big P policy
 - o All motions are technically recommendations, the DSB looks over our handbook every year and will catch any violations
 - o Motion: I move to close debate.

Debate Closes

- Discussion on the Amended Motion
- o Motion: I move to close debate.

Debate Closes

Motion Passes

5. J-Comm Discussion

- [Sasha]: Mr. Seibel brought a motion to make J-Comm all-school inclusive, the motion failed, Mr. Murphy mentioned how we should improve our democracy, going to try to change the way J-Comm is formed, we need to include others and represent a more diverse group of students
- Discussion/Questions
 - o What would the procedure be? Are Council members allowed?
- 50 meaningful signatures, election committee (Dean, Principal, Council leadership), council members allowed
 - o This would be a no brainer if it came as a motion
 - o Grade representatives?
- Yes, and staff reps
 - o How would new freshmen class be involved?
- Not sure, probably best to have new students learn the school first
- Aren’t freshmen already on J-Comm? They’re unbiased
 - o Community members should be involved
 - o Can we spread this J-Comm mission statement to school community
 - o New and tuition students should be involved, maybe in elections?
- Need to be knowledgeable, how much can you learn in a month?
 - o We should just have a set J-Comm election date in October
 - o U.S. government model = J-Comm would need to be separate from Council
- Is that realistic for a high school?

o Worried about the time this process would take and then result in a zero-case year

6. Notes & New Business

· Motion: I move to make it so that tests can only count for up to 60% of your quarter grade.

o [Carl]: I think it can be a little ridiculous that up to 80% of your grade can depend on a couple tests and this way the work you do for homework and other assignments can hold some weight.

· Discussion

o How often does this occur?

- Math classes for sure, evidence of it happening

o [Carl] This would refer to the “tests/projects” section of your grade

o Some classes only use tests as a grade assessment

o Homework takes up so much time yet it counts for so little

o This might prevent teachers from gravitating towards more emphasis on tests

o We are a college preparatory high school where there may be a lot of testing

o There is no educationally compelling reason to change the policy

o Can we dictate how teachers determine these percentages?

o Motion: I move to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourns