

Monomoy Middle School Council Agenda

Date of Meeting: Monday, May 24th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Membership: Sarah Cortese (teacher), Cherian Armstrong (teacher), Stephanie Goley, Jenna Gradzicki, Joy Jordan, Doreen Escher, Abby Dudley, Michael Newby, Maegan Storey

Google Meet: [Student Council Meet](#)

[Notes](#)

Agenda:

1. Schedule 2021-2022
 - a. Continue to explore options
 - b. We are exploring 60 minute blocks
 - c. Looking vertical alignment of UA's
 - d. Reduction of homework
 - e. Extended Fresh Air Time
 - f. Implementing progressive choice

Seminar: Overcrowding, do all the staff members need to be working at that time, do there need to be terms based on grades (academic support for gen ed),

2. MCAS Update
 - a. May 25th, June 1st, June 10th
3. End of Year Celebrations and Recognitions:
 - a. Awards ceremony sent out June 17th (6:00pm)
Put link on website the next date
4. Field Day Update
 - a. Shirts/Themes
5. Mask Updates Related to Monomoy Regional School District
6. What does it mean to be a SHARK?
 - a. What are 2-3 characteristics we want the students to embody?
 - b. How can that be expressed through SHARK

Respect for yourself, for others, in classrooms, hallways

Resilience - Everyone is working hard to keep your head above water - sometimes working hard is at the detriment of other things - being able to bounce back after this year is important

Critical Thinkers - How can we get kids to think about things in different ways-limited this year Everyone is different - celebrate the differences. Don't assume that you know what others are going through - tie in equity and access. Encourage students to think outside of themselves

Perspective taking

Compassion-Awareness and being able to rise above. Think about the world beyond them.

Provide avenues for students to be able

Are there team building activities that we can do as a school

All students are on different pages

Student who is popular and students are following him - students don't know that he behavior is not appropriate. We need to spend more time getting students getting invested in the idea of Monomoy.

Embody in everyday activities in school.

Morning assemblies - goal for the day

Mindfulness - calmer choice - start to embody these aspects - if you just teach it from a cognitive place it doesn't work as well. When it is something that happens regularly. Common language.

Would love to emphasize the idea of curiosity as a goal - reframe learning as curiosity - feel more organic -

Longer school day - experience for students to participate in the morning

Consider homeroom and lunch period to anchor some of the social skills

Date of Meeting: Monday, March 29th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Membership: Sarah Cortese (teacher), Cherian Armstrong (teacher), Stephanie Goley, Jenna Gradzicki, Joy Jordan, Doreen Escher, Abby Dudley, Michael Newby, Maegan Storey

Google Meet: [Student Council Meet](#)

[Notes](#)

Agenda:

7. COVID Update
 - a. School related changes
 - i. News on April 5th/April 28th
8. Schedule 2021-2022
 - a. We are exploring 60 minute blocks
 - b. Looking vertical alignment of UA's
 - c. Reduction of homework
 - d. Extended Fresh Air Time
 - e. Implementing progressive choice
9. Sports/Clubs, Truro
 - a. Beginning ideally April 26th
 - b. Late bus beginning April 26th
 - c. Club offerings are currently very few, brochure to go out the week of April 6th
 - d. Truro: grade 5, 10 individual sessions
10. End of Year Celebrations and Recognitions:

- a. Format: [Should we do something like this?](#)
 - b. Awards ideas
- 11. Field Day
 - a. Creative ideas?!
 - b. Shirts/Themes
- 12. Teacher Appreciation Week
 - a. May 3rd-May 7th
 - b. School Council- Flowers for all staff -April 26th/distributed May 3rd
- 13. [WHMMS-March](#)

Notes:

- State related guidelines, we don't need to make any changes
- We will be welcoming back students at the start of the 4th quarter
- Currently 4 students
- Schedule for 21-22
- Student voice, staff voice- a few things that students and staff want to see moving forward-extended FAT - double block - maybe a little too long - can we make a 60 minute block that would be an ideal time period - homework - less HW is helpful for students to have a life outside of school - trying to extend the block so that students have an opportunity to begin HW - UA blocks and seminar - we still want to provide some student choice (seminar) but we need to figure out how many options and how often we need to have this. Popular with students and good results with our intervention. We are working with a scheduling committee.
- Staffing-posted reading interventionist and for a world studies teacher-agreed upon by students, staff, and admin that this should be a part of the core.
- Looking at vertical alignment for UAs-connecting to the HS-specifically with world languages. POR - There are no more students that go to Spanish/Latin than Mandarin/French. We need to have purpose with what we are doing with world language.
- Q: Looking at longer blocks, would that mean you need to get rid of some programming?
A: if we go too long a block-yes. You can reduce seminar - but you can mesh some things together that would extend time in your core academics.
- Consider the students who are tied into Reading support and other academic support
- Idea: A play - reading. Baking and cooking with math.
- Q: are unified arts that are not offered this year will be back in place. A: Yes-example art and stem. Looking at having band and chorus during or outside of the school day.
- Every year we look at if there is a better way to do that. We have been very successful with tier 2, but need to increase tier 1. Trying to bookend the days, so that students don't feel like they are solely doing academics at school. Robust club offerings.
- Sports/Clubs/Truro-hoping after break we are not in the red zone. Proceeding cautiously and prudently while we can. Sports 4/26. This is a new level of intermingling. This is something that students are doing. We can make sure students are doing this in safe ways. Q: Can 5th graders participate? A: Yes.

- Clubs-asked staff to get back to Adam if they are interested in clubs. Has a few clubs (3-4). Hope to get more staff interested. Encourage the students to reach out if they have an idea. Looking at before and after school as well as remote and in person offerings.
- Truro-5th grade students get the opportunity to go to Truro each year. Usually a week long trip. This year=field trip design. Each class will go for a day. Looking at having kids who didn't go last year.
- End of the year celebrations-Evening of excellence - don't see people coming into the building this year. Please check it out to see what awards we do have. Is this a 7th grade graduation? No-but it is 7th grade heavy. Growth component is huge. Q: Is there a distance learning component. A: This will be included.
- Field Day: Every year we have an outdoor celebration. Any ideas-need to socially distance and adhere to protocols, but we also need to to cut loose and have fun.
- Teacher appreciation week-Admin will do one but we were talking about what kids may be able to do to celebrate. Jenna-Ice cream truck? Candy?
- Joy-we don't have a formal PTA
- Students council is working on planting on flowers and will be giving them to staff members. This is for everyone in our building.
- Check out the video!

Monomoy Middle School Council Agenda

Date of Meeting: Monday, January 25th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Membership: Sarah Cortese (teacher), Cherian Armstrong (teacher), Stephanie Goley, Jenna Gradzicki, Joy Jordan, Doreen Escher, Abby Dudley, Michael Newby, Maegan Storey

Google Meet: [Student Council Meet](#)

[Notes](#)

Agenda:

1. Review of Annual School Budget (2021-2022)
 - a. Van Purchase
 - b. Upgrade to infrastructure
 - c. Purchase of World Studies Curriculum (Grades 6/7)
2. Status of Staffing
 - a. (7) Grade 5 Homeroom Teacher
 - b. Level staffing across the building
 - c. Currently (4) One-year positions
 - d. Alignment to the high school
3. School Improvement Plan
 - a. Alignment to high-school course offerings
 - b. What areas of improvement do you see need to be addressed

4. Update on School Council Initiatives
 - a. Harry Potter Update
 - b. Club- Basketball
 - c. School Council: Acts of Service
5. COVID Update
6. What do we need? What can we offer?

Budget:

- We have had a hand me down van - our shells program uses this on a daily basis when they are up and running-work on life skills and being out in the community-also used for club offerings in the past. Hoping to get a new one so we can continue to foster connections with community at large.
- We are an older middle school so we have been looking at some upgrades-camera system-need to make sure we have recordings available
- Purchase of a world studies curriculum. Looking at the world studies program as a whole and need to look and see if we need to buy a curriculum. Looking at 6/7 or 5-7 aligned.
- Had conversations with the HS in aligning what is going on curricular wise and make sure there is a common connection between grade levels
- Looking at the possibility of pre algebra at the middle school. This was at the school 2 years ago - when we looked at it, we noticed that there was inequity
- SC-also working on communication with the HS-Meets with Mr. Gill every two weeks
- There is not a ton of change curricular or infrastructure wise.
- In a good place with all the COVID upgrades

Status of staffing-

- The model that is in place is predicated on the small class size-for example, next semester we have 10 homerooms. Carpenter wants to have 7. Up until now we have had 8. Not a major shift - Adam doesn't see this as a huge shift because teachers teach more than one subject.
- Minus that one position we will be level funded
- Faced with a unique situation where there are currently 4 one year positions-we are missing some things that we pride ourselves on. Health, band, music, art
- Losing one position - the new hires were hired under knowing this is a one year position
- These people can potentially be hired back in a different capacity
- 3 people would be on a team
- If everything is great in April can you pivot and add more art?
- The design is our design but we could add club offerings at the beginning and end of the day - we will continue to intramurals
- Will SS become a core? All indications are that. Adam shared a questionnaire about the schedule with staff.

School Improvement Plan

- Carpenter has asked that this is a one year plan so he can align this to the district plan

- Vertical alignment of curriculum and course offerings - this has been a challenge in UA world. Example-Spanish fragmented from elementary to middle school to high school
- Regardless of what they take here, they start over at the high school. Then there is a fall out. Our current design is not a feeder program for that. We have resources and opportunities there.

COVID Update:

- Currently 2 cases Bourget/Cortese - Kids out until 2/4. Some outliers related to hockey-some kids at a skills camp - creates a tricky situation. Teachers have done a great job connecting and helping students.
- Staff is getting a little excited about being on the verge of vaccine. Nurses have been doing a great job of keeping everyone informed.

What do we need and what can we offer?

- Miss having a connection with the school
- When we went remote we did a video with the morning announcements. What if we had a what's going on at monomoy
- Sarah-Missing Morning announcements
- Abby-Are there any nice things we can do for teachers

Monomoy Middle School Council Agenda

Date of Meeting: Monday, November 30th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Membership: Sarah Cortese (teacher), Cherian Armstrong (teacher), Stephanie Goley, Jenna Gradzicki, Joy Jordan, Doreen Escher, Abby Dudley, Michael Newby, Maegan Storey

Google Meet: [Student Council Meet](#)

[Notes](#)

Agenda:

1. Update on our Initiatives (Harry Potter, Art Night, Clubs, School Council, Newspaper Club)
2. Stars and Bars - Q1 Grades and Effort Results - Shared by Adam
3. Social-Emotional Learning Survey- Shared by Abby
 - a. Example of student results
4. Fundraiser: Food For the Food Pantry- Month of December
5. What do we need? What can we offer?

Monomoy Regional Middle School
Quarter I Student Results
Stars and Bars

High Honors (Gold Star) - All A's in all classes

Grade 5: $30/152 = 19.7\%$

Grade 6: $33/159 = 20.7\%$

Grade 7: $27/139 = 19.4\%$

Honors (Silver Star) -All A's and B's

Grade 5: $62/152 = 40.7\%$

Grade 6: $57/159 = 35.8\%$

Grade 7: $43/139 = 30.9\%$

Exceptional Effort (Purple Star) = All 1's for effort

Grade 5 = $1/152$

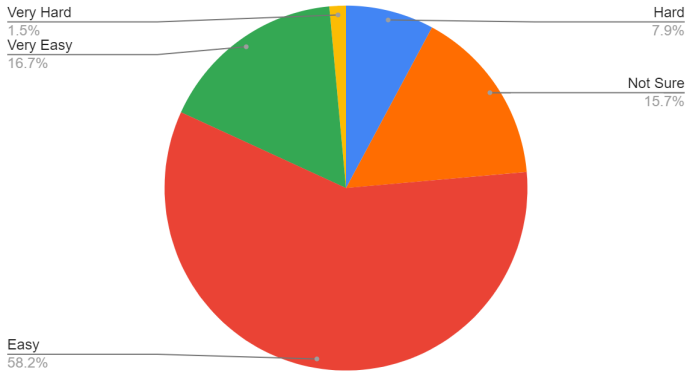
High Honors or Honors and Exceptional Effort (Blue Star) -All A's and B's and Exceptional Effort in Core Academic Courses

Grade 5: $13/152 = 8.1\%$

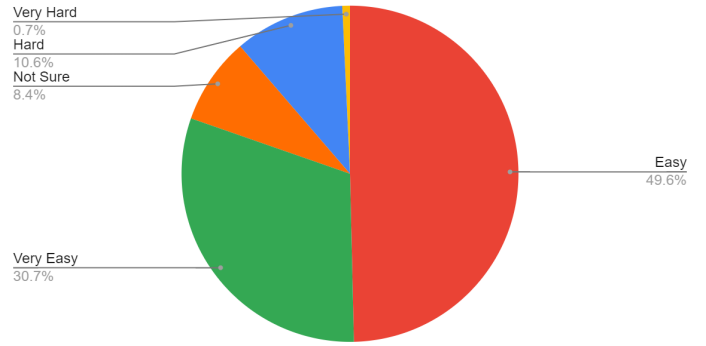
Grade 6: $3/159 = 1.9\%$

SEL Survey:

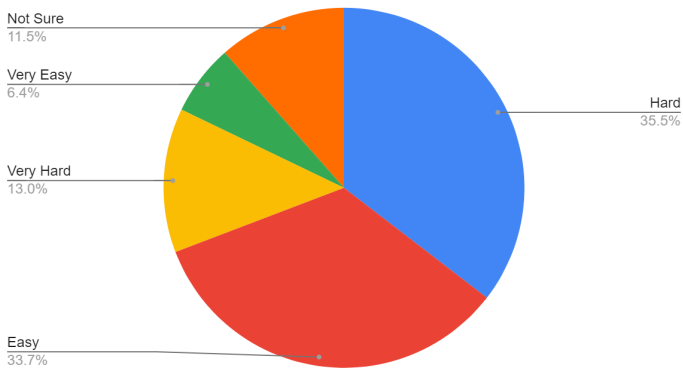
Knowing what my strengths are.



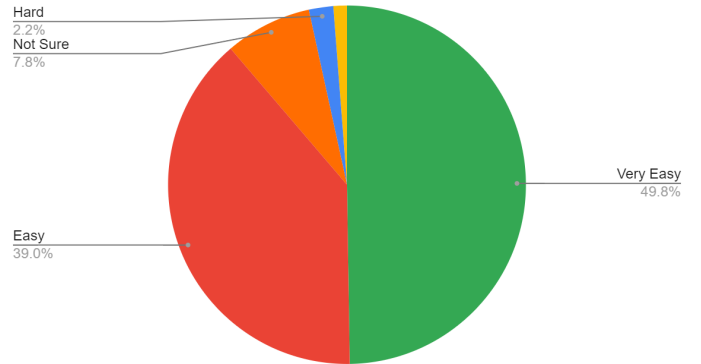
Knowing what behaviors or when my actions are right or wrong.



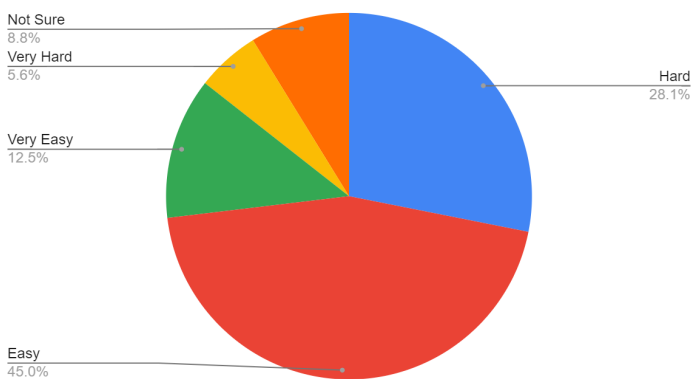
Staying calm when I feel stressed.



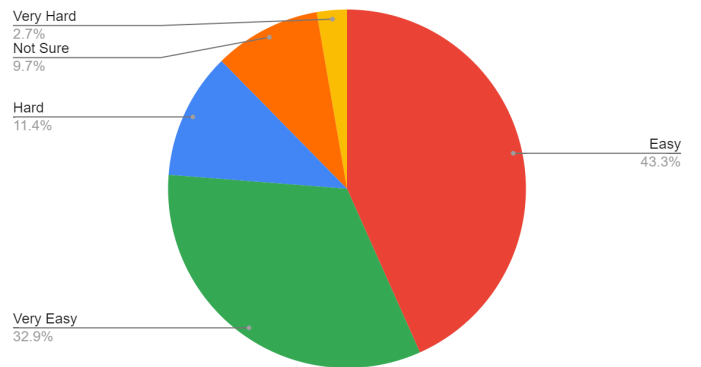
Getting along with my teachers.



Working on assignments even when they are hard.



Saying "no" to a friend who wants to break the rules.



Notes:

Harry Potter Initiative is happening

-Nov. Card Drive

-Dec 100 random acts of kindness

Student Council is starting tonight

-good response

Newspaper club

-not a ton of response but still accepting applications

Sports

-soccer in the morning and afternoons

Art night

-still wanting to get this going with the staff

-Turnbull is running the art club with 6-8 students

-is there the potential to do one off sessions

-Could parents donate and pay to do classes?

-Newby found a wheat paste that you can make a bridge out of newspaper

-can we expand upon things that kids are familiar with

-Cheri would be interested in doing chemistry for kids

-Library has been doing virtual programming-did family trivia with Ooch. Could we do something like Trivia Tuesday

Stars and bars

-How can we continue to celebrate these students?

-Can we change the name (confederate flag?)

-Can we do something outside of school-ice cream certificate

-"Effort and Honors"

-Candy Manor?

-Pizza

-Do we still want to have a ceremony of sorts?

-Meglodon's gave the other students a greater sense of achievement

-What can we do for students on the cusp?

-Do we have to be careful about students who are motivated by this?

-Having students who are both, sees both sides of the spectrum

-Not having homework, has made both children in her house much more excited about school and more positive about school

-thinking about scheduling, are there things that we want to keep? Example-extended blocks, no homework

Food Drive-Maggie Powers said that she wants to do a food drive.

-the local food pantry is not accepting donations

-want to do something else

-Sarah-Cape Cod Cares for the troops

-Can we ask the student council to run the coin drive?

-can this be a joint effort in planning this with NJHS?

Where do we need to go from here?

-Are parents getting mailed the most recent set of MAP scores?

-Are there budgetary things that we need to know about for student council?

-van, updates to world studies curriculum (was happening prior to COVID), beyond that there is not a lot of change in last year's budget

-There are a lot of kids that typically do well in school, but are not doing well with distance learning

- the divide between distance learning and in person is a gap that we will need to pay attention to

Monomoy Middle School Council Agenda

Date of Meeting: Monday, October 26th, 6:00-7:00 pm

Membership: Sarah Cortese (teacher), Cherian Armstrong (teacher), Stephanie Goley, Jenna Gradzicki, Joy Jordan, Doreen Escher, Abby Dudley

Google Meet: [Student Council Meet](#)

[Notes](#)

Agenda:

6. [School Update](#)
7. Progress on School-Wide Initiative -Harry Potter
8. Brainstorm potential school improvement initiatives
9. FOPA Funds

September Meeting:

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Accept, Adapt, Achieve
2. [Overview of School Council responsibilities](#)
3. [District Strategic Plan](#)
4. [School Improvement Plan](#)
5. Discussion: What change needs to take place in order to change (Living with COVID)
6. [Review of the MAP Data](#)
7. Brainstorm potential school improvement initiatives
8. Adjournment

School Council 9/28/2020

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Accept, Adapt, Achieve
2. [Overview of School Council responsibilities](#)
 - What can we do and how can we work together?
 - Hoping to get more parent involvement
 - Need to figure out how often we want to have these meetings and the time of day that works for us
 - Adam shares doc
 - Up to us to define how to want to improve the school
 - Unique situation this year
 - Federal funding that has helped us serve the community in the way that we need it to be safe and ready for learning
 - Challenge-how can we take what we typically have (we have great support from the community) and make sure we are using our funds to make sure they align with the educational and strategic plan
 - MS-has a lot of opportunities in the past with many offerings and choice-this is hampered this year-this group can lead us through ideas
 - Restrictions to this group - so we know where our responsibilities are and where they are not.
3. [District Strategic Plan](#)
 - A group came together in 2017 to build strategic plan and four objectives came out of this
 - Ex. Social and emotional well-being - we identified the need for our advisory class and this is something that we have spearheaded and put into place

- Ex. Surveys that we have students take and use the data to foster relationships with our students
- Actionable, fluid document - not useful unless it is reflected upon often

4. [School Improvement Plan](#)

- Outside agency came in to analyze our school and find areas that you need to focus your attention
- The plan is aligned with this
- Identifies disparities of academic achievement - gaps between our at risk and affluent students
- Three year plan - will use this in 2021 to create new three year plan
- Joy-at the district level, they have already started working on getting groups together and starting on building the district level plan

5. Discussion: What change needs to take place in order to change (Living with COVID)

- We are in the middle of a pandemic
- We are taking a lot of precautions at the middle school level with design that values safety first
- If things improve then we may move the design
- Students have done a great job with little push back (accept)
- Interesting to see that there is education happening and enjoyment
- Sports piece is challenging-so many students' identities are tied to this. Same with robotics club-This program has been very successful-the question is what needs to change in order for us to change-think about the world around us.
- Abby-need to make sure that the current model is working
- Cheri-remain stable - this idea that we are all in this together - this is an experience that we will never see again in our lifetime and memorialize this experience together. We have lost a community builder of school being open all day
- Sarah-we need to stay in the state right now-in ELA we are taking the accept, adapt, achieve and putting it into the community
- Jenna-parent new to Monomoy was worried that it would be hard to build connections-kids are coming home excited
- Doreen-very happy about the safety first and happy that in the two weeks of middle school. Daughter is still doing labs, and hands on stuff, but wants everything possible for her this year within the boundaries of safety. Wants to give encouragement to push a little bit. Hates the idea of her (daughter) having everything that she can possibly have.
- Adam-this is where this group can be innovative-what adaptations can we put in place, so that we have something that is fun and engaging-maybe things that they typically wouldn't be doing.
- How can we do this with our current model?

- Cheri-envisioned a boot camp fro transition for grade 4 to grade 5. Wants to build some sort of obstacle course. Tree climbing. Was listening to wilderness school-there is a staff member who runs a camp
- Jenna-In HP there are the four houses-could we do something where there are different competitions throughout the year-
-

6. [Review of the MAP Data](#)

- Joy-wondering if we have a feel for how the more at risk populations are doing through all of this
- Adam-doesn't have data but has last year's spring data-shows concern with students of color, lower SES, and students with special education needs
- Joy-proportions equal with in person and distance learners
- More students are in person
- Sarah-wondering about families switching back and forth
- Adam-not a lot you can do for students opting out of in person. 3 students who were in person who are going remote. 5 remote and wanting to come in person.

7. Brainstorm potential school improvement initiatives

- Abby will reach out to Jenna and Cheri to think about HP competitions

8. Adjournment

