

Sequoyah HS School Council Meeting

Date: 9/8/2023

Time (called to order): 7:35

Location: SHS Room 1246

Meeting called by: Bob Van Alstyne, Principal (BVA)

Attendees: Inga Clark (IC), Stephanie Judkins (SJ), Rachel LaChine (RL), Paige Sims (PS), Kevin Maher (KM)

Other attendees/observers: Jason Meade (JM), assistant principal

Absent council members: Chanda Schwab (CS), Cora Hodgins (CH)

Presentation(s):

- Introductions of present council members
- School Councils: Organizations and Procedures CCSD presentation (BVA presents)
 - SHS holds 6 School Council meetings each school year (only 4 are required)
 - 2nd Friday of the month (September, October, November, February, March, April), 7:30am
 - Open to the public (with notification to BVA)
- Council Position Elections
 - Council Chairperson: Inga Clark (unanimous)
 - Council Vice-Chair: Paige Sims (unanimous)
 - Council Secretary: Stephanie Judkins (unanimous)
- Qualities of a Principal – homework for council members
 - CCSD requirement; council members supply ideas to Council Chairperson, who compiles leadership qualities of a principal; this list is used as a guideline in the event of the need to choose a new principal (to determine if a candidate aligns with the Council's and community's preferences for a principal)
 - Due October 6 to IC for compilation
 - Once approved, will be shared with CCSD/Superintendent's Office

Report from the Principal: (BVA presents)

- Introduction of Jennifer Loudermilk, Teacher on Special Assignment
- SIP (Student Improvement Plan) goals: these are three-year plans
 1. Increase number of students taking Honors and AP classes at SHS (increase access for all students) – this goal involves every staff member and every student (versus a more limited goal such as an increase in a specific subject's test scores)
 2. Increase number of students who complete CTAE pathways – pathways are 3 years (introductory, intermediate, and advanced courses); SHS works to align student schedules with student interests (students are not placed in a CTAE course in which they have zero interest); students leave SHS with industry certifications; some pathways have a 4th year option, but most students can complete their pathway by their junior year and in their senior year can attend Chattahoochee Tech in a dual enrollment capacity to take classes in careers that SHS does not offer (HVAC, plumbing, etc); this goal involves every staff member and every student because if students are not academically successful and have to re-take an academic class, an elective would be removed from their schedule (for many students, the electives are one of the main reasons they come to school); it is imperative to help students understand how the academic courses tie to the elective/CTAE courses
- 9/8: First Pep Rally
- 10/4: Homecoming Parade, 6pm
- 10/7: Homecoming Dance
- This school year's theme: "Be Present"
 - Cell phone caddies in classrooms to encourage disengagement with cell phone and promote engagement with teachers and classmates; not required, only encouraged; special circumstances

are considered in use of cell phones (medical necessity, etc); some teachers simply have students put phones in backpacks

- "Be Present" applies not only to students but also to teachers – teachers must commit to being engaged as well
- Attendance percentages are sent out in each week's school newsletter

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next meeting date: October 13, 2023

Adjournment: 8:50am