

SHS School Council
Minutes of Meeting
March 4, 2024 at 5:30 pm
SHS Media Center

The Statesboro High School School Council had its fifth meeting of the 23-24 school year on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the Media Center at Statesboro High School. Council members present were as follows: Principal Keith Wright, Maggie Halaby, Lakesha Hill, Amy Jo Riggs, Ashley Thompson, Talmeshia Parker and Jen Calhoun. Kathy Yawn was not present.

Chairperson Lakesha Hill called the meeting to order. Mrs. Hill also congratulated Statesboro High School on the recent AP awards that were announced from the College Board.

The minutes from the February meeting were approved with no changes.

The only item for Old Business was a suggestion to have an AP Course Handbook complete with course descriptions. Principal Wright brought up that SHS is working on a Course Catalog for all classes, with course descriptions.

The first item for New Business was updates from the Principal. Principal Wright shared that FFA offered FFA Week for various students at SHS during the week of March 4-8. Principal Wright also shared that Rising 9th Grade Orientation would be March 13, 2024 from 6:00-7:30 pm in the SHS Auditorium. He also updated the council that the AP/Honors Night would be March 27, 2024 and more details would follow. The committee chairs of this night are Shannon Hinson and Tiffany Weathers. Talmeshia Parker asked that it is explained to parents and students what "Literary Types" and "Read 180" classes are for 9th graders. It was expressed that several parents and students were confused about these courses. They do not count as an ELA credit for graduation. There was discussion about ELA deficits in 9th grade and how to address these deficits. Chairperson Hill brought up the concern that in the past if there was a long term sub in a classroom, parents were notified (because they were not highly qualified). That is not currently the case and the suggestion about reinstating that was mentioned.

The second item for New Business was the PSAT. Parents were questioning the cost of the PSAT and the number of students that took and didn't take the test. Principal Wright updated the council that prior to the 22-23 school year, only 10th graders took the PSAT. During the 22-23 school year, 8th, 9th and 10th graders took the PSAT. In the 23-24 school year, 9th graders could sign up to take it and all "on track" 10th graders took it. Principal Wright also updated that starting this year, the PSAT was digital so the school only had to pay for the number of students that signed in to take the test. In the past, the school had to pay for all paper booklets that were ordered. It was also suggested that more information is sent to the 11th grade parents and students about why they should take the PSAT (National Merit Scholarship).

The next item for New Business was the Career Ready Academy. Principal Wright shared that this plan is very fluid, it will take time and the pathways for each school were determined using data showing what skills Bulloch County needs in the workforce.

The next time for New Business was a Course Catalog. Principal Wright shared that this was something that is being worked on and will be shared online when it is ready.

The final item for New Business was a PTO. There was discussion about having a PTO vs. an ABC (Academic Booster Club). Principal Wright proposed the Academic Booster Club as a better way to serve what SHS needs as a school. As an example, the school has paid for Science Quiz Bowl (\$1000) and FCCLA (\$1200) to attend competitions. If the school had an ABC, they could help out with these costs.

At the end of the meeting, there was time to discuss other items. The current policy of getting a 100 for sitting for the AP exams were brought up as well as the 5% weight for AP classes being the same as honors classes.

The next meeting was decided to be on Monday, April 22, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the SHS Media Center.