

BAINBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
SITE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2016

In attendance: Duane Fish, Brian Messing, Sarah Lucioni, Clayton Black, Aidan Meidell, Barbara Shane, Michele Blackford , Ashley Crandell, Katie Erickson

Brian Messing opened the meeting at 3:19 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The issue of parking at BHS was brought up by two members of the public. The issue was outlined and detailed. Members of the public are upset by the lack of parking that is available at BHS. They have observed in particular two students who park in the visitor's section on a regular basis, who have no valid reason to do so. It has been observed that the parking conditions have improved somewhat since last fall (when the issue was discussed before this group). The bottom line is that there is not enough parking for everyone to drive to school at BHS, and we are working to both improve our current situation and find new places and develop new concepts to ease the situation. One concept that was brought up by a member of the public was to have students park at the Baptist Church. The Baptist pastor had offered 19 spots to BHS students. There was also an idea to try to implement a "shuttle system" and have students park off site and ride buses in.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

UPDATE ON DRESS CODE

Principal Fish updated the Site Council on the dress code changes that were discussed at our last meeting. Principal Fish had a chance to take the proposed changes to students; they proposed six changes that were discussed by the Site Council. The first change was to include a "gender-neutral" diagram displaying a stick figure in the handbook. The Site Council did not feel this was necessary and that the revised code explained the policy well enough. The second change was to explain "why" the dress code was necessary. The Council through the process of discussion arrived at the conclusion that we wish to focus on telling students "what to do" instead of "what not to do". Therefore at the Dress Code will begin with "Students and staff at BHS are expected to dress in a manner that promotes a respectful learning environment". The third change was to have staff trained on how to talk to students when they are in violation of the dress code. Principal Fish said that this would be done at the next staff retreat. The fourth change was to combine bullet points five and six of the revised dress code (regarding clothing promoting profanity, drugs, tobacco and alcohol and gang related clothing) into one bullet point. The Site Council approved this change. The fifth change regarded cheerleaders flipping their skirts up at assemblies and the alleged "hypocrisy" of this when discussing a dress code. The council discussed this point. It is stated in both the current and revised dress codes that exceptions are made for athletics and activities. Thus the Council feels that this point is not a dress code issue and is a decision for the Cheerleading squad. The sixth change was

a question regarding what accessories/clothing posed a safety risk. The council decided to leave this point in to make sure that no one's safety is threatened in case such an incident should arrive. A motion was proposed to pass the revised dress code. The motion was seconded and moved to a vote. In a vote of 10-0, the Site Council passed the revised dress code.

SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

The new mats arrived since the last meeting of the Site Council. This includes new "Spartan" mats that are in the 400 building by the entrance to the gymnasium. The signage is also in the process of being set up. Some of the signs are now in place. Most people are okay with the policy of no unauthorized visitors during school hours, a few have complained. Security is an issue of the utmost importance to our school. After the events of Woodward recently, we feel that we cannot be too secure.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Principal Fish reported that enrollment at Bainbridge High School is 1,257 as of March 2016. This number is not the FTE count, it's the number of students who take at least 1 class at BHS.

STUDENT DEBATE FUNDRAISER

Brian Messing proposed an idea to have a political debate on April 15th after school between himself (a conservative) and Katie Karcher (a liberal). The debate would serve as an opportunity for BHS students to participate in politics by hearing the opposing views of two of the school's most outspoken partisans. Questions can be submitted through the event facebook page. A motion was proposed to authorize the debate. The motion was seconded and moved to a vote. The motion passed 10-0.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PTSO-PARENT AND STUDENT INTEREST IN MAY SUMMIT ON TEEN DRINKING

The PTSO are considering an April or May summit to discuss teen drinking on Bainbridge Island. We currently have an April 23rd collaborative effort on school culture improvements that will address this topic in addition to pro-kindness approach to anti-bullying etc. The PTSO does not want to duplicate efforts currently underway for this event (executed by BYS, the healthy youth alliance and AWSL-Association of Washington School Leaders student organization). The PTSO will be supporting this event by encouraging parents to attend on Saturday April 23. The considered summit would have included a panel of community members including school leadership, the mayor, police chief, fire department and others - but it has been found to be duplicating in nature to the planned Culture Summit with BYS. One of the specific goals of the summit will be to address the problem of teen drinking on Bainbridge Island, but done so in a way that's productive and solution based. This was a serious issue again recently during the "not TOLO" event. Several teens were drinking during parties and one police officer was almost hit by a car driven by an intoxicated teen. The Council also discussed the need for an alternative to the "not TOLO" so that this sort of thing does not happen in the future and we truly hope some come from the planned event on April 23.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Barbara Shane discussed her own experience as a part of the Bainbridge Island Citizen Police Academy. She talked about how the police department seeks greater youth involvement within the community. The council discussed possible ways to increase youth involvement with the police department.

Brian Messing adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Next SBC meeting is April 26, 2016. **Joanne Meins** is on snack duty.

2015-2016 SBC Snack Schedule

April: Joanne Meins (traded with Barbara Shane for March)

May: Derrick Lovelace