

EASTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EASTON, MA

OLIVER AMES HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 22, 2022

Minutes of the OLIVER AMES HIGH SCHOOL School Council November 22, 2022, Meeting convened at 100 Lothrop Street, Principal's Conference Room at 3:03 p.m. Present by roll call: Nsa Kooffreh, Abigail Sanford, Joyce Riad, Barbara Fox, Jackie Grant, Karen Corey, Cindy Boyce, Kelly Cavanaugh, Mary Visnauskis, Megan Campbell.

Call Meeting to Order:

Ms. Cavanaugh called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Introductions:

Introductions were made by the Committee members.

Vote to Approve Minutes of September 21, 2022:

On a motion by Megan Campbell, seconded by Mary Visnauskis, with a vote of 10-0, the Committee approved the minutes of September 21, 2022.

Update on Action Steps for School Improvement Plan:

Update on action steps for School Improvement Plan, Update on Evacuation Plan, Student Handbook Revision Process

Mrs. Cavanaugh solicited student feedback about Active Minds spirit week and the speaker assembly

1. Abby Sanford: Successful spirit week, but more attention to dress up days
2. Nsa Kooffreh: Complimentary of Wes's presentation. Echoes Abby's thoughts about the Active Minds spirit week/ Need to clarify difference between spirit weeks
3. Joyce Riad: Complimentary of the speaker/ More advanced notice about the Active Minds spirit week

Mrs. Cavanaugh was pleased that the school centered the Active Minds campaign early in the school year. Transitions to discuss the DJ Henry Day

Discussion of this year's DJ Henry Day/ Student feedback solicited

1. Abby Sanford: Shares that upperclassmen watched videos from Henry family and DJ's friend Brandon. Spend time outside to honor DJ's interest in athletics and nature.
2. Nsa Kooffreh: Appreciates the perspective offered by the videos. Discussion questions were interesting.

3. Joyce Riad: Gave perspective as a peer leader. Discussions were richer this year. Freshman and sophomore classes= harder to catalyze discussion.
4. Mrs. Visnauskis: Timing posed challenges.
5. Nsa Kooffreh: Agreed with Mrs. Visnauskis. Freshmen are more reticent.
6. Mrs. Cavanaugh asks Joyce about next steps after DJ Henry Day (i.e. how to keep the discussion going).
7. Joyce Riad: Shares the ADL Peer Leader strategy going forward. Shares importance of creating common language
8. Barbara Fox: Asks Joyce why she thinks students do not have literacy with terms like stereotypes.
 - a. The table discusses this question: general deficit of vocabulary, general knowledge, cultural literacy, etc.

Mrs. Cavanaugh updates the council about the DEI Student Board. They met and created norms.

1. "What can we learn from different cultures?"
2. Parent council also met.
3. Faculty group will meet this month
 - a. Goal is to bring these different groups together

Mrs. Cavanaugh mentions that Katie Greer addressed EMS. Would like to have more conversations about future speakers.

1. How do we create space to have difficult conversations?
2. Nsa Kooffreh: Complimentary of the DEI student board

Update on Evacuation Plan and discussion:

Mrs. Cavanaugh addresses the evacuation from OA on 10/25

1. Shares feedback
2. Shares that after debriefing with public safety and Central Office new action steps will be shared. Signals that there will be a practice evacuation. Sufficient notice will be given to students, staff, and families.

Discussion: Student Handbook Revision Process

Mrs. Cavanaugh shares that there will be ongoing revisions to the Student Handbook. A new committee will be constituted consisting of students, parents, faculty.

1. Shares preliminary thinking about how that process will work vis a vis school council
 - a. School council members as liaisons
2. June would be likely time to present Handbook changes to the School Committee

Adjournment:

On a motion by Megan Campbell, seconded by Mary Visnauskis, with a vote of 10-0, the Committee adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

11/22/22

Minutes Recorded by,

Megan Campbell