

**MINUTES FROM WHS SCHOOL COUNCIL
JUNE 6, 2022**

A meeting of the Wayland High School School Council was held remotely at 6:00 p.m. on June 6, 2022.

Present and participating remotely were:

Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)
Karen Brown (Parent Representative)
Shavon Drayton (Parent Representative)
Erin Gibbons (Parent Representative and Co-Chair)
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)
Robin Sklar (Community Representative)
Win Treese (Community Representative)
Mike Hopps (Staff Representative)
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)

Absent were:

Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative)
Madeeha Syeda (Student Representative)

Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and according to the revised open meeting law that allows remote participation.

1. Allyson Mizoguchi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll call was taken:

ROLL CALL	YES	NO
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Karen Brown (Parent Representative)	X	
Shavon Drayton (Parent Representative)	X	
Erin Gibbons (Parent Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	
Robin Sklar (Community Representative)	X	
Win Treese (Community Representative)	X	
Zachary Mittelsteadt (Student Representative)		X
Madeeha Syeda (Student Representative)		X
Mike Hopps (Staff Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	

2. Public comment

- Robin Sklar said she looked for the video from the last meeting and couldn't find it. It was put up last night.

3. Approval of minutes: 5/2/22

Motion to approve: Erin Gibbons

Second: Lilly Watkins

ROLL CALL	YES	NO
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Karen Brown (Parent Representative)	X	
Shavon Drayton (Parent Representative)	X	
Erin Gibbons (Parent Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	
Robin Sklar (Community Representative)	X	
Win Treese (Community Representative)	X	
Mike Hopps (Staff Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	

4. Review the "Phase One Key Indicator Report" from Metrowest Adolescent Health Survey from 11/21. Identify key takeaways and identify possible areas of focus for next year's School Council and School Improvement Plan.

- Looking at the mental health indicators: most indicate a rise in mental health struggles among students. The changes in between modalities over the last year were not easy for students.
- Vaping data: perhaps is down because many restrictions went into effect after well publicized vaping deaths after 2018
- Cyber Bullying data: perhaps due to the pandemic and social isolation
- Big concern is the suicidality: any number is too high.
 - Karen is wondering what is set up in terms of suicide prevention and where WHS could be addressing this?
 - Allyson reports that WHS uses a curriculum called "Signs of Suicide" in 9/10 grades, co-taught with guidance/wellness. We are going to bring in more training for staff next year. Recently PTO hosted a presentation by Samaritans for parents. Karen emphasizes the importance of students knowing what number to call if they have suicidal thoughts.
- Lilly points out that depressive and self-injury are also up which increase the risk of suicide

- Wayland numbers seem to be better than other districts in almost every category except for “life very stressful last 30 days,” and they seem to be characteristically higher over the longitudinal period
- Thoughts around how the SC next year could dig into this data?
- Karen states that sometimes efforts are made to increase the screening, making sure that everyone knows what their role/next steps are
- Allyson states that there is room for growth with staff; this year we have a new clinical counselor, we partner with Wayland Youth and Family Services
- Lilly: Importance of bystander training, let the students know how to take care of their friends
- Making sure that families and students know how to access outside services; the school can support families in finding therapists, mental health supports, etc.
- Are some of these issues not fixable by the school but rather needing to be fixed by the greater Wayland community?
- Shavon agrees with Lilly around ensuring that students have bystander training
- Making sure that we give the students the tools that they need and information to support themselves and their friends
- Shavon wonders if weighted GPA question had anything to do with the life seeming stressful indicator. Allyson states that so many other pieces are on the table in terms of stress measures that it would be hard to find that information because the timing of doing away with it was before the pandemic. Also other changes that we have made around courses, naming, prerequisites, etc that might impact life stress.

5. Reflections and Updates on School Improvement Plan (21-22): Evaluate progress and develop possible areas of focus for next year’s School Council and SIP

- Three Goals:
 - First around the START program. Well underway and it was reported to the School Committee. Working on making it more streamlined
 - Second: Elevating achievement. We talked here about course selection. Jill and Allyson gave the DH group an update in terms of overrides, access, language, and communicated the concerns regarding the process of overrides. Allyson talked with schedule builders about putting the students requesting overrides into the group of students requesting the class rather than on a wait list. Next year, continue revising this process & making it more accessible to all families with Department Head group.
 - Third: SEL competencies. Thought to have the mental health data earlier in the year. This will continue to be a strategic goal for next year. One of the sub goals is looking at the clinical counselor role (new position) and keeping tabs on the students/outcomes. Possible review of “Phase One Key Indicator Report” from Metrowest Adolescent Health Survey administered in November 2021. Last time that WHS administered the survey was 2018.

6. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Mike Hopps

Second: Lilly Watkins

ROLL CALL	YES	NO
Allyson Mizoguchi (School Principal)	X	
Karen Brown (Parent Representative)	X	
Shavon Drayton (Parent Representative)	X	
Erin Gibbons (Parent Representative)	X	
Lilly Watkins (Parent Representative)	X	
Robin Sklar (Community Representative)	X	
Win Treese (Community Representative)	X	
Mike Hopps (Staff Representative)	X	
Jill Swenson (Staff Representative)	X	

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Swenson (staff representative)

Allyson Mizoguchi (Principal/co-chair)