



**Wilmington High School**  
**School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting Held on January 29, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 3:00pm by Principal Ryan Gendron

**In attendance:**

**Principal** Ryan Gendron, **Parents-** Leica Turner, Michelle Feeney, Jessica Bourgeois, **Teachers-** Jeremy Salerno, Amanda Salerno, Lisa Bellavia, **Student-** Purnima Thapa

**Wilmington High School Updates**

- Robotics Team had a great showing at the competition and placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> out of the 21 teams in attendance.
- Lily MacKenzie scored her 100<sup>th</sup> goal in hockey (even with having to deal with a covid season during her career) which is an incredible feat. Hannah Bryson won an all-girls wrestling tournament.
- The WMS held their production of Little Mermaid Jr. at the High School auditorium. It went very well. Kids were amazing and with the additional seating they were able to sell more tickets and work closely with the high school drama students. These shows have the added benefit of forming another connection between the MS and the HS and helping students feel part of the community. A strong drama program is one of the many attractive features that the High School offers that many other schools do not.
- Quarter 2 has ended, and grades will be posted this week. Midyear exams went well. Purnima felt the assessments were fair and on target especially in her AP classes.
- The 23<sup>rd</sup> was a CIT day for staff. The goal was to work together to complete course curriculum maps. Some of the newer classes are still being mapped and others have been completed. English, Math, and Science also used some time to work on common assessments.
- Mr. Gendron, Mr. Merenda and Ms. Dickerson presented at the last School Committee meeting about the proposed changes to the Program of Studies and the new 8.0 schedule. The Program of Studies will be updated to reflect the addition of new courses and the removal and renaming of others. It will include updated descriptions of the course levels (College Prep, Honors and AP) and included an expectation chart for each level, so the expectations are clear for students, staff, and families. As a result of the new schedule the total credits and elective credits will be updated to reflect this change. The School Counseling page will be updated to describe their offerings more concisely. And the entire Program of Studies will be more organized and consistent. For those wishing to see the proposed changes in more detail the redlined version and presentation was included in the School Committee meeting packet, pages 85-254.
- Purnima was wondering if AP Pre-Calculus will count as college credit. Lecia was wondering if colleges limit the number of AP credits that they will accept? Is there a max? Mr. Salerno thought it was an individual college decision and some have no maximum.

**WHS Budget Overview**

- Budget season for the following year begins in October when the School Committee and Central Office meet to discuss priorities and budget requirements for the next school year. In December, the preliminary budget is presented to the School Committee for review and input. In January, the Central Office, School Committee and Town Manager work together to finalize the budget through negotiations. In February/March, the budget is presented to the Finance Committee, the School Committee and the Town Manager and there is a Public Hearing. Then at the Annual Town Meeting (usually April) the final budget is presented and voted on by the community.
- The High School budget is multifaceted, it includes things like:
  - In-house tutoring for students unable to attend school in person.
  - MCAS review sessions for retakes
  - Memberships and dues for different organizations (ex: VHS, NHS, College Board, NEASC etc.)
  - Professional Development for teachers and staff
  - Department dues for national testing (ex: world language exams)
  - Some long-established clubs may have their fees paid from the budget, but most are self-funded.
  - Textbook updates, both paper copies and digital editions depending on the type of class and how they utilize the text

- Library supplies and computer supplies
- Office and School supplies
- Departmental supplies like some novels for English classes, subscriptions for websites teachers use, science consumables, world language testing supplies, visual art creative materials.
- Technology needs such as the subscription for E-Hall Pass and MyFlex Learning
- Guidance Supplies like Naviance membership, evening programming, buses for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade tours, guest speakers etc.
- Nursing supplies
- Club Advisor stipends
- Graduation expenses (diplomas, custodial staff, décor)
- Custodial services for in house programming
- Translation services
- Any capital expenditures

#### **Next Meeting**

- At the next meeting we will discuss any educational needs of the students and cover some policies in the Handbook that may need modification. Mr. Gendron was thinking the attendance policy would require further review to modernize it and make things easier on families.
- If members have time they could take a look at the Handbook as a whole and see if there are any areas requiring focus and modification.

#### **Future meeting dates at 3pm:**

2/12

3/18

4/9 (Tues)

5/13

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:05 pm**