



WAREHAM HIGH SCHOOL

7 VIKING DRIVE
WAREHAM, MA 02571



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School Council Meeting December 6, 2022 - 7 a.m.

Invitees: Scott Palladino; Joyce Bacchiocchi; Jill Johnson; Anne Berriault; Lester Smith; Christopher Gardner; Anne Cote; Billie-Jo Bean; Alexandra Bumpus; Asher Hamilton; Meghan Kashner, Jamie Wiksten

In Attendance: Scott Palladino; Alexandra Bumpus; Jill Johnson; Christopher Gardner; Joyce Bacchiocchi; Meghan Kashner

Special Attendance: Laura Damaso

Agenda Item 1 - Approval of November meeting minutes

Minutes were approved 6/0/0

Agenda Item 2 - SAIL Update

Special Invitee Laura Damaso gave an update on the SAIL program.

SAIL stands for:

S - Successful
A - Adaptable
I - Innovative
L - Learning

SAIL is an opportunity for WHS students to:

1. work toward credit recovery
2. participate in a safe and fun enrichment program

SAIL offers a broad range of courses and runs Monday through Thursday 2:15 - 4:40.

*Currently, primarily for enrichment.

"HOME OF THE VIKING SHIPS": Scholarship, Citizenship, Craftsmanship, Leadership and Sportsmanship

A typical daily schedule is:

1. 2:15 - 3:15 - students meet in the cafeteria for a snack and check-ins. Students are then encouraged to begin with homework or study.
2. Support staff work with students if needed to find and meet with teachers.
3. 3:15 - students move to their enrichment classes

There are currently 46 students involved in SAIL for the fall/winter session. There are 7 active classes and 80% attendance.

The program has a higher enrollment rate in the spring session, enrollment grows by approx 20%.

Overall, students are most likely to enroll in enrichment vs. credit recovery.

There is free transportation home and snacks offered to each student.

The SAIL program is grant funded and has been in place for 8 - 9 years (12 on and off).

Available courses are:

1. Team Terrapin: This is a class surrounding turtle conservation in our Wareham habitat. Students are helping to raise and rehabilitate a turtle hatchling who will be released at the school in the Spring.
2. Competitive Gaming: Students have the opportunity to compete in e tournaments facing off against their peers and students from other schools.
3. Sewing: Students learn the basics of sewing by hand and with the machine. Students make mini-projects that teach these skills and then are able to create their own projects to combine their skills and sewing goals.
4. Pinterest Crafts: Here students are encouraged to stretch the bounds of their imagination and taught the skills and techniques to DIY.
5. Art: This class is using found things as a medium to make different art.
6. Art through the ages: In this class, students explore different art and techniques through time and create their own in those styles.
7. Boat Building: in this students work with the woodworking teacher to learn how to make a skiff from \scratch learning different tools and techniques of the trade

Questions/Comments:

M. Kashner - The SAIL program gives students extended opportunities to spend time with their peers.

S. Palladino - Allows the adults in the building to share their passions with the students.

J. Johnston - How do we tell kids about the availability of these programs?

L. Damaso - We sent out fliers and did announcements as well as emails.

M. Kashner - Could the A/V Club do a video (informative video) about the program

All - agreed that would be a great opportunity for both SAIL and the AV program.

Agenda Item 3 - Course of Studies

WHS has just begun the process of updating the Course of Studies for the 2023 - 2024 School year. Recommendations from Department Heads are being reviewed.

Currently the suggestions are as follows:

1. Remove Tech Design Lab Grades 8 - 10
2. Add - Social Media Marketing Grades 9 - 12
3. Add - Foundations of Baking Grades 9 - 12
4. Remove 539 & 541 as all 9th Grade take Biology
5. Title Change - 1078 "Intro to Lab Science"
6. Remove Video Production III; IV and Web Design
7. Updates to News Broadcasting, Foundations in Digital Arts, Video Production I, II, Digital Photography; Graphic Design I, II; Computer Animation I, II.
8. Remove from online Edgenuity:
 - a. Computer Application

Students who take Spanish I or French I in grade 8 are strongly encouraged to take 2 additional years of a world language within grades 9 - 12 to meet college requirements.

Changes to Humanities Program of Studies include:

1. 5th year senior electives options for students who have completed the WHS requirements in English grade-level courses 9 - 12. Choose two semester

courses or one full year option:

- a. Journalism full year
 - b. Journalism semester
 - c. Theory of Knowledge full year
 - d. African-American Literature semester
 - e. Creative Writing semester
 - f. Literature from the Female Perspective semester
2. Change grade level for Contemporary Writers from grade 11 - 12 to grade 8 - 9
 3. Update to IB English description

WHS is working to make IB available to all and opening up AP to more students.

ASL (American Sign Language) - continues to come up as a request by students - but is difficult to run.

Questions/Comments:

M. Kashner - Commended the digital production with Ms. Sharples and Mr. Fernandes for the Friday A/V program.

M. Kashner - Spoke to how it would be great to get additional help to Mr. Breda as his courses are very popular and his enrollment is high.

J. Bacchiocchi - do we have the appropriate number of "Core" classes included in the Course of Studies?

S. Palladino - all are already included in the Course of Studies for 2023 - 2024.

S. Palladino - is suggesting to eliminate SAT Prep as a requirement, the class will still be available but not required.

J. Bacchiocchi - WHS has added IB English - was something eliminated in order to add?

S. Palladino - No, the process is student driven. WHS has many more classes than are taken, due to student interest. If there is no interest, the class will not run.

WHS is working on a Public Safety Pathway - vocational program (College, Career and Life) in Public Safety Pathways.

This is currently in the "Plan of Study" stage. Would ultimately lead to potential pathways to the following occupations: Fireman, Military, Police Officer, Corrections Officer, Crime Lab Analyst, Probation Officer, Social Worker, Customs, TSA, Border

Patrol and Emergency Management Director.

Questions/Comments:

S. Palladino - This would not change Mass Core. Questions remain as to - how do we free up time for an internship with students; how do we make sure transcript remain strong while making it available to students.

J. Bacchiocchi - Can this be done without Chapter 74?

S. Palladino - Yes, almost all Chapter 74 start in this fashion. Chapter 74 allows for funding that goes to the town, not necessarily to the school.

Agenda Item 4 - NEASC decennial visit update

The NEASC decennial visit was a great success.

Overall they were very impressed, met our three priority areas and can see that.

They suggested spending time on teacher support and curriculum.

We still have difficulty hiring teachers - SPED has positions open since September.

We are looking to expand our opportunities to reach prospective employees by using various types of online platforms including Indeed.

Great overall visit that confirms our strengths (students and staff) as well as the district as a whole.

The participants were very impressed with the School Committee and Central Administration and how in tune the district is.

A formal report is expected by May 2023.

Questions/Comments:

None.

Agenda Item 5 - Events and WHS for the Month of December

1. Early Release Day December 8, 2022
2. NHS Induction Ceramony - December 13, 2022
3. Winter Concert - December 14, 2022
4. Chess Tournament - December 15, 2022
5. Video Game Tournament - December 15, 2022
6. Ugly Sweater Day - December 16, 2022
7. December 22, 2022 ½ Day
8. December 23, 2022 - Winter Break begins
9. Viking Theater presents "She Kills Monsters" December 9, 10, 11, 2022

Agenda Item 6 - Budget Update

Overall the budget process for has resulted in the following:

80% of the budget reflects salaries - to maintain it results in a 5% increase.

7.5% increase to the budget to maintain the same year over year.

Year over year we see a number of factors that affect the budget including:

1. retirements
2. chapter 74 increases
3. SPED increases

These factors will be reflected in the budget as the process moves forward. Cuts to the budget hurt students.

The process this year has been more transparent than in years past, with the participants involved at the Central Office.

Questions/Comments:

J. Bacchiocchi - It has been reassuring to know that the individuals involved are reviewing on a line by line basis.

C. Gardner - Is there an update on the sign at the top of Viking Drive?

S. Palladino - The Class of 2021 left approximately \$6k to have the sign addressed, but the cost will run significantly higher - but it remains a focus.

Next Meeting: January 3, 2023

