

JFKS High School Faculty Meeting
April 10, 2019 (16:30h) (Summary for Parent Council)

Main Topics:

Extended School Administration – S. Schulz

- Administration proposed having an Extended School Administration (ESA) role as a means to get more input from the faculty. A description of the role and responsibilities was sent to faculty in advance of the meeting. The ESA role would serve as part of the school administration and include the faculty more in shaping the future and development of the HS. Herr Schulz proposed to vote on having such a role today.

- Discussion focused around:
 - Concerns that such a role will overlap with other committees' tasks, working in parallel.
 - Like the idea but had experience in committees that did not work well because admin decided differently from the committee's recommendation
 - How would this work concretely (meet how often, when, what topics, etc.)
 - It could be a way to bring teachers' ideas into the admin. Better we develop ideas and not just expect admin gives ideas. A good way to make a bridge.
 - Encouraged embracing Streitkultur.

- Vote of 2/3 of HS teachers would be required. A number of teachers not present due to conflicts. Vote was held and did not pass. 70 people present and 66 needed to approve.
- Could be voted on next time when more teachers are present.

Phone Policy – B. Hinrichsen

- There was a proposal to vote on a new phone policy. The vote here would not be a decision, but a recommendation to SK.
- First proposal: no electronic devices on campus during school time, phones off and out of sight, but teachers can allow during class for educational purposes and in the library. Also mentions no inappropriate content is allowed or to use devices for games, etc.
- Discussion included:
 - Critique that there is no way to monitor.
 - Reminder that there has been a phone policy in place since 2011.
 - Proposed modifications to the proposal text
 - Need students buy-in so that it matters to them and is not just another regulation.
- Motion to vote on proposal with modified text - passed.

Workshop – Implementation – B. Hinrichsen

- B. Hinrichsen will distribute an email on bullying intervention with the binding communication process. Procedures are based on the workshop and include who has to be informed, when, to whom do you speak, etc.
- Great ideas on prevention. She shared ideas that can be implemented easily:
 - i) Strengthen sense of community
 - Opening days - transition team meetings 6-7th grade
 - Hold regular grade level meetings with discussion about grade level topics
 - Welcome back barbeque for faculty
 - ii) Meeting 1x per quarter for grade level teachers
 - iii) Team building day for students.
 - iv) School identity - cultural liaison committee - organize movies, lectures, German-American night, bicultural identity, Faculty Betriebsausflug

Other Topics

- Fehlzeiten/ Schulversäumnis / Fridays for Future - If student has 5 unexcused absences, the administration has to write a Schulversäumnis letter. Previously this was done after 10 unexcused days. Six single hours are counted as one day absent. Students are not insured if they leave to attend Fridays for Future.
- Alcohol or Drugs – Teachers reminded to discuss and address incidents with alcohol or drugs, and to bring students to the office. The administration will call parents, police, or ambulance as required. Have open eyes and open ears.
- Mottowoche was disruptive with Klausuren according to a teacher. Marching loudly thru ES while kids taking English test for admission. Issue will be addressed with current and future students.
- Teacher handbook update – B. Salzer. Updating with goal to get to teachers Aug 1. Continue to provide input on Google docs till April 30th.
- There is an opportunity for part-time teachers to increase their hours by substituting. Contact admin if interested.

NOTE: *These are NOT official meeting minutes.*