

+Shenendehowa High School Partnership Team

March 8, 2010 3:00pm in Room 100

**Attendees:** Janet Grey, Don Flynt, Paul Ripchik, Kathy Kalish, Dawn Huestis, Liz Utzig, Pat Kopchick, Catherine Coffey, Katya Lapina, Katie Whittemore, Joan McGee, Shelia Krupski, Michelle Thomas

**Facilitator:** Kathy Kalish

Electronics Committee:

- Matt Heckman presented the attached PowerPoint. This recapped all the data that was presented previously and also spoke about the speak-out.
- Matt said that when the uses of electronics devices are allowed in non-instructional areas; 40% of support staff supports the use and 60% oppose the use.
- Katya also gave a hand-out of the notes from the speak-out.
- Liz Utzig asked Matt how the committee collected the information from other schools. He said they just contacted people they knew at the other schools.
- Liz asked if schools wish they could take it back. Matt said that Saratoga said it would be impossible to take back.
- Matt gave the HSPT a recommendation from the electronics committee that electronic devices be used before 7:40 and then no use at all from 7:40am-2:40am.
- Matt was asked if he agreed with the policy and he said no. He would like to see them allowed in lunches and study halls. He thinks it would reduce infractions.
- Joan asked if ipods are allowed in study halls now. Matt said that cell phones and ipods are used at the discretion of the study hall monitor and teacher in the classroom.
- Matt Heckman left the meeting.
- Kathy Kalish read a letter she wrote on behalf of the HSPT to the senate on a job well done during the speak-out.
- Kathy asked what we should do with this information and recommendation from the committee.
- Don Flynt said we should give the board an opinion.
- Katherine suggested ipods should be allowed in study halls but not cell phones.
- Katya said that morning use is not enough of a solution. Students who drive and get here late can't even use this policy.
- Katherine pointed out that if a student can text during lunch, that student may be less likely to text in class.
- Paul asked what should be the consequences from not following the policy.
- Katherine said that it should be taken on first offense.
- Katya suggested the students sign a contract.
- Paul said that if students don't comply and turn over the device that is insubordination.

- Paul asked about work place etiquette. How do we make sure classrooms stay as teachers want them to be. He suggested talking with the student who is texting at the end of class.
- Katya reported that students feel the rules should apply to everyone including adults
- Pat said there should be a difference between adults and students. Students want all the privileges of adults before they become adults.
- Dawn thinks the policy should be consistent
- Liz wants to know what the next step is.
- Don thinks we should make a recommendation and decide we favor that policy and go to the board with it.
- Janet added that it is important to the board that the HSPT make a decision and make a recommendation to the board. She also said the policy review committee will recommend to the board and the board will adopt or not adopt the policy. The change would be made for the new school year, if any change at all.
- Katherine commented there needs to be stricter reinforcement for staff and administration.
- Paul made a point that proper etiquette needed to be taught for the use of the devices.
- Katherine said her teacher texts during class and is wasting the students' time and she wants mutual respect.
- Liz commented that teachers using email, texting and other things are more visible during class. She added that every minute counts. If she has a minute to email a parent in class she will use that time.
- Don decided to take a vote of the use of ipods before school. Paul suggested on ear bud. The vote was a consensus to use ipods before 7:40am
- Don then asked about cafeteria use (during lunches).
- Katherine said one bud at lunch is okay.
- After a few personal stories about ipods. The group votes on consensus to use ipods in cafeteria during lunches.
- Paul asked about hallways
- Don said we have control in the cafeteria, we closed the doors five minutes before the bell rings and it is easier to police kids leaving with earbuds in. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade building would be different.
- Kathy agreed this gives students some more freedom.
- Paul asked about "soft areas" (library, fridge, senior fridge)
- Don reminded the library doesn't want anything to do with them and Paul said he would talk to them about this.
- Pat said if the library doesn't want it we shouldn't force it.
- Janet commented the library is a classroom and should be treated as one.
- As the meeting was coming to an end the issue of cell phones was brought to the table to vote on just like ipods. Time ran out and will be added to the next meeting's agenda.

Next Meeting 3/22/10-

Agenda topics:

-More on electronics (cell phone use, ipods came to a consensus)

-dodgeball and behavior in school

-Evaluate year goals for HSPT and the process used.

Minutes –Liz

Facilitator-Shelia

Time Keeper-Katherine