



MLHS Principal's Advisory Committee
11/1/17

Attendance:

Principal Davies, Michelle Giurlando, Kristen Orlofski TamiWhiteman, Tish Scarola, Sabrina Stanisci, Debbie Aiello, Karen Brennfleck, Diane Pigden, Beth Grebe, Dawn Smith, Kim Forte, Emily Kahn, Pearl Ferdico, Rebecca Donohue, Christine Cabana, JieYuan, Antoinette Shanker, Marybeth Smith

1. Core Skills Discussion

Mr. Davies introduced Michelle Giurlando as the Director of Guidance. She was present at the meeting because the district was planning to introduce "Soft Skills" into the 9-12 curriculums. This includes empathy, communication, responsibility, self-exploration. They hope to embed Soft Skills across the curriculum and embed it into the school day. The administration has read articles that the change in community and the increase in technology is hurting adolescent children. Mr. Davies noted the MLHS students have not fallen into this routine, but we are trying to take preventative measures.

Mr. Davies asked for suggestions from parents: After school jobs, Sports Teams, Community Service, Change in phone policy

MLHs possible suggestions:

- Respecting all opinions - maybe through debate
- More teamwork/collaboration projects
- Solitude Spaces - Time for self-exploration

It was noted that some parents do not like the Facebook Groups for communication as their child is not allowed on Facebook.

2. Food Allergies

Michelle Giurlando is also on the 504 Committee.

MLHS is not going to change policies on Bake Sales (daily in school) and Team dinners. MLHS is encouraging students to regulate themselves.

However, some of the first few Freshman events are more discerning. HSA will have to give better guidelines for these events (orientation, freshman dance, freshman field day)

MLHS has new signs at front door about allergies.

Each child has different 504 protections.

3. Behavior/Expectations at School Events

*Mr. Davies conveyed that there were some issues at the Homecoming Dance. Students appeared to be intoxicated and were vaping.

*MLHS has a zero tolerance policy for drugs and paraphernalia. This was sent home in an email in September by Mr. Davies.

Parents suggested police presence at events, however, this could lead to drug screening, suspension and state testing. Parents suggested breathalyzers for alcohol. However, they would have to test everyone or every 10th person and it is believed that some students would not attend events.

