

EAST COWETA HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016
ECHS CONFERENCE ROOM

In Attendance:

Present Council Members	Absent Council Members	Public
Stephen Allen, Principal	Monica Terrell, Vice Chair	None present
Michael Graham, Chair		
Chad McNutt, Secretary		
Vivian Kelley, Parent Rep		
Robert Dalman, Teacher Rep		
April Parker, Parent Rep		
Kimberly Weber, Parent Rep		
Gavin Miller, Business Rep		

I. Meeting Called to Order at 7:36 a.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

With minimal discussion, the Council voted to approve the agenda for the Thursday, September 29, 2016 meeting.

ACTION: **The agenda for the Thursday, September 29, 2016 ECHS Council meeting was approved by acclimation.**

IV. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Chad McNutt read the minutes from the meeting held on May 19, 2016. With minimal discussion, the Council voted to approve the minutes.

ACTION: **The meeting minutes for the Thursday, May 19, 2016 ECHS Council meeting were approved by acclimation.**

V. Presentation to School Council

- A. School Tour Reports

Mr. Michael Graham provided a thorough review of his school visit from May 20, 2016. He was able to visit numerous classrooms, the cafeteria, and other areas of EC and spoke with many students and faculty. A couple of major highpoints were brought up to him. Many students are still complaining that approximately 60% of the teachers do not get their grades posted within a reasonable timeframe and it is hard to know how well you are doing in the class. In addition, it was recommended by many students that the student officer positions need to have teacher recommendations and a letter of commitment from the candidates so it is not just a popularity contest. Additional comments regarding school lunch choices, hat days, parking and tardy policy discussions were brought up during his tour. Mr. Graham has a detailed school visit report that is attached to the minutes on record at ECHS for further review. Overall, it was a good report and EC staff and students seem pleased with the direction the school is going.

B. Students Address the Council.

Two students have been asked to attend a school council meeting in the future whom Mr. Graham had discussions with during his school tour.

VI. Old Business

A. Assessing the Council's Effectiveness.

Mr. Graham addressed the council and discussed how we can be more effective as a school council. Some items have already been discussed at previous meetings and can be found in the minutes from those meetings. Overall, it was agreed upon by the council that better communication of our meetings to the community and our parents moving forward will hopefully help the council to be more effective.

B. Council Desires More Parent Involvement.

People want us to do more and we want to make an impact. Mr. Michael Graham discussed looking more at the programs to promote more student and parent involvement in our school. He also discussed receiving feedback from some parents that teachers are not putting grades in promptly to the Campus Portal. Mr. Allen will look into that and hold teachers accountable for promptly adding the grades in.

C. Open Meeting and Records Act.

Mr. Graham addressed the council regarding the requirements for our meetings. We will be working with Mr. Steve Allen to communicate the meeting date and time to Dean Jackson of the Coweta County Schools Communications Team to have that information put in the local paper and on our school website.

VII. New Business

A. Nominations of School Council Members.

Three new parent representatives were presented to the council by Mr. Graham. They are Kimberly Weber, April Parker and Melanie Thomason. Ms. Weber and Ms. Parker were present at the meeting and briefly introduced themselves and discussed their interest in being a part of the EC School Council. Mr. Chad McNutt made a motion to accept the three parent reps onto the council and Ms. Vivian Kelly seconded the motion. All council members present voted in favor of these recommendation.

ACTION: Three new parent reps were approved by acclimation.

- B. Nominations of Student and Teacher School Council Members.
Discussion took place of the need to nominate new students and teachers to the council. Mr. Gavin Miller made the recommendation that one student from each grade be appointed to the council. Mr. Steve Allen will be submitting names from teachers of students to appoint to the council and will also be soliciting teachers to apply at the upcoming faculty meeting.

VIII. Report of the Principal

Mr. Steve Allen provided a quick update since our last meeting that everything is off to a great start at ECHS. There is an upcoming ESPLOST meeting in October and it is recommended that council members and parents attend to have a voice in how our tax dollars are spent. Turf at the high school football fields as well as air conditioning in the gyms are examples of how money can be allocated. Dr. Barker would love to hear from as many parents as possible at this meeting.

Mr. Allen also said Mark Guy is being followed up with on IDs for the school council members just like mentors in our school system have.

Mr. Allen advised that the new tardy policy has shown drastic improvement in the reduction of students showing up tardy at EC and also helped the teachers better manage their classrooms and reduce disruptions from students showing up tardy.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Graham opened the floor for any additional comments, questions or concerns. After none were expressed, he requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: Mr. Gavin Miller made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 am and Ms. Vivian Kelley seconded.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2016.