

**Rock Hill High School**  
320 Springdale Rd.  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

**School Improvement Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
April 12, 2021  
6:00-7:00pm  
Via Zoom

Rock Hill High School (RHHS), School Improvement Council (SIC), met via Zoom this date at 6 p.m. with members present:

Tim Sawyer, SIC Chair; Olivia Ratliff, Junior ASB representative; and Dilip Patel, Community representative

Mr. Sawyer called the meeting to order to discuss the following issues:

- I. **Welcome**
- II. **Review Minutes: Mr. Sawyer**
  - a. Review Last Meeting Agenda
  - b. Next Meeting – May 10, 2021 @ 6pm via Zoom
- III. **Mr. Ahl's Notes: Mr. Sawyer**
- IV. **Open Floor**
- V. **Closing**

**Discussion:**

Mr. Sawyer opened the meeting by welcoming all members present. He briefly reviewed last meeting agenda specifically the questions he took to Mr. Ahl on behalf of the committee. Mr. Sawyer shared information about his last sat down with Mr. Ahl and other items of interest. Mr. Sawyer, Mr. Patel and Ms. Ratliff also discussed in great detail what it is like being a minority on Rock Hill High Schools campus.

**Important Dates and Mr. Ahl's Notes:**

Responses to questions that were raised at the last meeting:

- 1) If a student is full virtual next year will they have a "home school"? Concern there is extracurricular activities, class rank, and scholarships.

Students in the virtual program will be attached to their zoned school. They will be able to participate in school activities as if they were a face to face student. The numbers for next year appear to be much smaller for the virtual program next year.

- 2) What is on the rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade interest survey?

Questions include: Name, Current Middle School, Tee Shirt size, What clubs and or sports are you interested in, What questions or concerns do you have about RHHS.

- 3) Do we and or have we ever had an official PTO at the high school?

I have been in Rock Hill Schools since 1992 and am not aware of there ever being a PTO at the high school level. At the high schools we do have a few booster organizations that support activities on campus. We have the ABA (Academic Booster Association), Bearcat Backers (Athletic Booster Organization), Band Boosters (Marching Band). We encourage parents to get involved in these organizations or to join the SIC.

- 4) How will the school address racism scares especially Asian Hate that might possibly happen on campus? What policies or actions do we have in place to ensure safety while at school?

There is a great deal of information regarding the district's Equal Educational Opportunity/Nondiscrimination Policy starting on page 16 of the student handbook. Other policies such as Sexual Harassment, Hazing, and Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying are also listed on the pages that follow. We take these policies seriously at RHHS. If any student feels that they are a victim of any of the above mentioned acts, we encourage them to report the incident to their teacher, coach, administrator, counselor, the school resource officer, or any other adult on campus. These reports will be investigated and dealt with in a quick manner. Safety and security is our number one focus area.

Other items of interest.

- 1) Teacher contracts for the 2021-2022 school year have been issued. We have already hired replacements for the 5 teachers that are retiring or relocating at the end of this year. There could be other postings if any contracts are returned unsigned. We are not expecting many.
- 2) School District Officials are in the process of finalizing Graduation details. An announcement should be coming out very soon.
- 3) A final decision on Prom will be made on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Prom is currently scheduled for Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 4) Kona Ice will be on campus on Wednesdays during all 3 lunches for the remainder of the semester. Their products will be on sale to all students and staff in the courtyard area.
- 5) Ms. Jennifer Stillwell was selected RHHS Support Staff Member of the Year. Our Support Professional of the Year has been selected and will be announced in the next week or so. The Teacher of the Year selection process will start next Monday. Once that selection process is finalized, an announcement will be made. Each winner will receive a trophy and ring from Jostens.
- 6) The school administration is currently working on plans for the summer such as summer school and orientation dates for next school year. These should be finalized and announced by the next SIC meeting.
- 7) We should be receiving new cafeteria furniture early next school year. The current timeline is to complete the project by the end of September 2021.

**Open Floor:**

There was a discussion on the lack of minority students in our upper level courses, as well as, how to improve these numbers. The discussion covered why the numbers may be low, how to address the needs of these students, and certain interactions Ms. Ratcliff has experienced during her time at Rock Hill High School. The discussion was informative, respectful, and done with great perspective. The hope is we have equally constructive conversations in the future with our entire committee to address these needs.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:29 p.m.**