

Attendees:

- **Administrative Representatives:** Andy Wulf (Principal)
- **Teacher Representatives:** Jess Buchman, Hillary Lynch, and Jill Moran
- **Parent Representatives:** Anya Brunnick, Stacy Gijsbers, Phoebe Lonborg-Lewis, and Laurie Kench
- **Student Representatives:** Riya Kaur, Emerson Leahy, Rourke Lee and Tuala Sullivan
- **Community Representatives:** Chris Cain, Dr. Ralph Orlando

UPDATES

Color day: is approaching (Nov 23). Class meetings were held today and the student body is getting excited. This will be the first indoor color day since the fall of 2019.

Sports: Tournament games are going on this week - update was given on standings and games

Traditional Senior activities- Halloween Parade took place.

Homecoming Dance - The dance was a huge success and went smoothly with no problems. Just under 600 students attended

ACCREDITATION PROCESS

- Teachers had their training on the accreditation process.
- Survey went out to students & teachers. Parent survey will go out shortly.
- Goal is 80% of student participation and 25% of parent participation.
- Accreditation process was discussed. It is a 3 year process for accreditation. Teachers will use professional development time to review the standards and collect evidence associated with each standard. The student, teacher, and parent survey data will be used alongside the evidence collected to decide on strengths and areas of growth for Newburyport High School. Here is a [link that summarizes the accreditation standards and gives an outline of the accreditation process.](#)

ADDRESSING STUDENT VAPING

Andy Wulf spoke of the vaping concern and NHS rules, procedures & consequences when students are found vaping. He then shared information regarding piloting vape detectors in some bathrooms in the building. He further explained how the detectors activate cameras that are in the hallways outside of the bathroom so that administrators can identify who entered and left the bathrooms when vape was detected.

Andy Wulf also shared support the high school has in place to help students who have an addiction whether it is to nicotine or other substances.

- The high school provides a four week after school program for students who are found vaping in school. Jill Moran who is involved in the program spoke of how it is run and what advantages it has for the students.
- The high school also has a self-reporting policy that allows a student to share their addiction with a counselor or nurse without extracurricular consequences.
- The high school has a partnership with the PASS Program which is connected with the Recovery High School in Beverly. For students found vaping in school, they may be sent for 2-4 days to this program. PASS provides wrap-around services for students and counseling support.

ONE TO ONE PROGRAM UPDATE

For the past three years, research has been done to find a tool to support student engagement in the classroom. Earlier this year, a decision was made to go with an Apple device due to the ability of Apple to provide professional development and their devices allowing for ease of creativity. To decide on whether to use an iPad or MacBook, a team of teachers, students, and parents collaborated for the past few weeks. Based on feedback collected, an iPad has been recommended as the best tool to support teaching and learning in the classroom. To support sustainability, the District will have a lease-to-own program for the devices. Families will be encouraged to opt in. Additional iPads will be purchased by the District so that teachers can have extra ones in their classrooms for students not participating in the program.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

The council reviewed a summary of the [school improvement plan for the past two years](#).

The council broke into four teams consisting of a parent, student, teacher, and/or community member. Each team was asked to:

- Review the current School Improvement Plan
- Use the performance results reviewed during the October meeting to reflect on the plan.
- Discuss:

- Which goals are still relevant?
- Which goals should be adjusted based on the current performance of the high school?
- What new goals can be introduced based on the current performance of the high school?

The teams spent 20 minutes discussing and then Mr. Wulf facilitated a share out.

Themes from the share out are summarized below.

- Recognizing the drop in achievement resulting from the pandemic, how can the plan be more specific regarding catching students up who are behind. The team asked Andy to provide MCAS results for the three years prior to the pandemic.
- College and Career Readiness was a core part of the discussion. The team acknowledged that there is a Portrait of a Graduate, but noted the new plan needs to have an emphasis on identifying the life skills that make-up the Portrait of a Graduate.
- The council noted the new plan should incorporate a way for students to showcase their skills before graduating.
- One team made a connection between College and Career Readiness and the School Climate results. Newburyport High School continues to be on the cusp of having a [“Somewhat Favorable to Favorable”](#) school climate. Students noted that bullying for the most-part is minimal at the high school which then led the team to discussing how the pressure students feel about having to attend college as possibly negatively contributing to the high school’s climate.
 - The team asked Andy Wulf to provide a more specific breakdown of the VOCAL School Climate Survey Results. So this can be reviewed further.
 - The team continued to discuss the value of emphasizing life skills alongside the content delivered in the classroom. It was recommended adjusting goals to reflect post-secondary planning so that the school can better emphasize all possibilities for a student beyond high school (Gap Year Programming, Services, Technical Schools, Careers, and College)