

Minutes 4/20/2020  
Taken by Ethan Ramm!

Simonne: Hello everyone, we are going to get started with the minutes

Last weeks minutes:

*Passed- 29 in favor, 12 abstentions, 0 opposed*

Reports:

Molly- None

Delaney- None

Georgia - None

Maddie Daniel - None

Ethan - None

Tony L- Still working on bylaws

Sarah- None

Maddy C -None

Wendy- None

Joan & Tony- None

Amy Facey- Board meeting next May 11th, the council is on the board agenda for that date

Bill's Schedule Proposal:

Bill: Schedule redesign really only two things changed 1: The elimination of the white day. This helps simplify the schedule and helps keep things running smooth. 2: Move the skinny block from period 6 to 8th period. This idea of this is in case of a later start time in the future this could be a flex period in the future. Classes will take place this time for next year- it is not a flex period yet.

Clarifying questions:

Tara- I don't know if last week you talked about this but will it allow for students to have more classes

Bill: It will not allow for more classes but it will allow for greater flexibility within schedule design

Lisa: I did like how you said we could drop in white days when needed. Did you consider every Wednesday to be white? My daughter said white days can help students stay on track.

Bill: It was discussed but we decided not to

Lisa: What is the rational

Bill: It would keep consistency

Lisa: How would athletes do this with missing the same class every time

Bill: Since it is every day students could catch up the very next day so it could be a benefit.

Riley D: How does this schedule redesign help/ what does it achieve?

Bill: We sent a survey to the teachers. And it was always an intention to look at a scheduled redesign. We looked at the survey results and we tried to put in what teachers thought would be helpful in a redesign.

Sammy: Why is this one big proposal and not two separate?

Bill: Because the committee made it as once proposal and that's how we felt it should be

Ollie: What year would this start?

Bill: Next year (2021 fall)

Discussion:

Georgia: So 1) I believe bill last week said this is the first time people heard about this without student input to start, I think students should have a say about the schedule design 2) 8th period has a lot of art classes, which is a worry

Simone: An amendment was sent in, we will fulfill amendments next week.

Sammy: I feel these are two separate issues and removing white days is a very different situation than moving 6th

Riley: I kinda had the same issue as Georgia. When is this being brought to the students? Is another survey going to students?

Daniel: I feel like these should be two separate proposals. I heard a lot of support for the removal of the white day, not 6th period.

Maddy: I heard the skinny block being at the end of the day could be beneficial. However, I have heard lots of support for keeping the skinny block at 6th.

Tony L: I have heard a lot of students wanting a school-wide vote as we did during gender-neutral bathrooms.

Avery: I wanted to say I am in full support of the removal of white days but I also agree if the proposal was separated.

John R: I have heard world language teachers' concerns not about seeing kids 2 out of the three days rather than 2 days a week. But also see how sciences benefit from more often class time.

Micheal: I would agree this is two separate proposals. I do not believe moving a skinny block to 8th period would be beneficial. For example, I did hockey and missing the same class over and over again was hard for some of my teammates.

Riley: I have not seen any support for moving the skinny block

Dave: I'm excited to hear people are getting messages from constituents. I am in huge favor of removing white days. As a teacher, double blocks are much more valuable.

Bill: 1) The hope is for skinny blocks to be used for electives however, there will also be a lot of core courses there as well. 2) We thought moving the 6th period to the end of the day would benefit lots of students who would miss this class as they will be seeing that same teacher the very next day. 3) The Community Council was very welcome to join the admin meetings around creating the schedule.

### Attendee's comment/questions

- Why are these separate proposals?
- I'm concerned that this would negatively impact students getting lunch after school, student-athletes leaving early and that these are two separate changes that should be separate proposals.
- I am in full support of this being split into two separate proposals as opposed to one, and I am pleased into two separate proposals as opposed to one.
- When I was on the ski team I had to travel once a week and consistently missed class and felt behind. I don't think it's conducive for multiple times a weeks
- One of the top items on the teacher wish list was for some flex time so that teachers could provide extra support for students. How does this current version of the schedule fit with the possibility of a flex block in the future?
- I understand why it's one now. But I don't understand why it can't be split into two proposals now.
- In my opinion, white days serve as a huge break from long and (sorry) boring classes, and also serve as a good workday for me.
- Why can't we just do flex time right after lunch/advisory? I don't see how the 6th changes have any bearing on flex time.
- I am upset that this is changing only because of sports where not everyone does sports and Souhegan has always been a place where to support everyone. So I just feel like we can split it into two
- Quick question, what is the possibility of keeping the current schedule we have now? I personally enjoy this schedule a lot as it offers a good amount of freedom.

*Motion to close-seconded*

