

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Time: 7:00PM – 7:30PM, Via Zoom 11/17/22

Attendees: Andrea Fallick, Amanda Casey, Theresa DelGrosso, Anthony (Tony) Vacca

1. Question for Amanda: How has Homework Help and Hangout Friday been going?

- Homework Help and Hangout Friday have been going well! Parents call often to find out more information as they are noticing positive progress. We have been getting excellent feedback and it's been truly wonderful getting to know the kids. Here is the breakdown of each meeting day:
 - October 17th was the last youth council meeting.
 - October 19th Homework Help: 3 High School Tutors, 10 Middle School Students.
 - October 21st Hangout Friday: 2 High School Mentors, 1 Middle School Student.
 - October 26th Homework Help: 7 High School Tutors, 11 Middle School Students.
 - October 28th Hangout Friday: 2 High School Mentors, 2 Middle School Students.
 - November 2nd Homework Help: 3 High School Tutors, 14 Middle School Students.
 - November 4th Hangout Friday: 6 High School Mentors, 11 Middle School Students.
 - November 9th Homework Help: 7 High School Tutors, 17 Middle School Students (Record!)
 - November 16th Homework Help: 5 High School Tutors, 10 Middle School Students.
- Generally, the Middle School Students are in attendance first, and the High School Students come in later as they get out of school after the Middle School has already ended classes.
- When asking the students how Amanda could improve the Homework Help, they asked her to make a google classroom that all students can access to better work together, which she has since done.
- Amanda has also made an Instagram page to post updates and information for the students to follow.
- Amanda treated High School Tutors to donuts on Friday to show them her appreciation! This was to thank them for really making a difference and to show that they really are valued and appreciated.

2. Question for Amanda: How have things been going at Ardsley High School?

- Amanda tries to go to the cafeteria as much as possible and the kids like seeing her.
- She has been involved in various meetings and keeps bulletin boards updated.
- Amanda couldn't attend the Great American Smoke Out as she was working at Somer's Middle School.
- For the "Why I don't..." post it categories, Vaping was the choice for this month.
- Posters provided by Theresa have been hung up in the school as well.

3. Question for Tony: There has been talk of more drug use, primarily vape and THC products. Is this true?

- Vape shops are selling to young kids. Ardsley has been having that problem with a store called the 'convenience shop.' 20% of their shelves were for vapes and tobacco, however, the owner was recently arrested because he had compartments hidden in the back room and was selling the products to minors.
- Westchester Tax and Finance got involved as they were selling cigarettes untaxed as well. Now they are only selling candy, snacks and soda.
- We learn as we go into these compliance chats that there is always a loophole with the DA. The owner can claim he didn't know what was going on when he wasn't present and avoid getting in trouble.

4. Question for Amanda: are you scheduled to do a health class presentation next week?

- Yes! She is scheduled to do a presentation on November 22nd.