

PURPOSE: To organize a meeting on Thursday, April 3rd, for students to discuss the state board of education recommending the MSU plan.

INTRODUCED BY: Isabel Beckman

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

SECTION ONE (REASONING):

The state board of education decided to recommend the MSU plan to move forward, despite the comments coming from MSMS students. In light of these events, the student government association has been asked to host a forum on Thursday, April 3rd, to provide a safe space for students to discuss the proposal together and ask questions.

If this resolution is passed, an email will be sent to all MSMS students notifying them of the time of the event and location.

This resolution was created under the guidance of both administrators and faculty but should be most heavily influenced by what the members of the senate think will be best to promote discussion among students. This resolution was made to be amended and changed in order to best reflect what the Senators think should be done for this meeting.

SECTION TWO (APPENDIX):

Logistical information:

The meeting has been approved by administration to be held in Nissan Auditorium at 11:05am on April 3rd. We will not make the meeting mandatory, but it will count as a wellness seminar so that students are incentivized to attend.

It will be an open forum, meaning that students are invited to speak and ask questions in a discussion like manner. The forum will not be recorded, videoed, and what participants said will not be reported to anyone outside of the room. This is to ensure that students feel as safe and comfortable as possible, and know they are allowed to speak their mind. To ensure that everyone has an outlet to say their piece without judgement, throughout the meeting there will be a Microsoft Form that students are allowed to anonymously respond to with questions or opinions, and either President Peden or Vice President Colley will read them aloud to the room. Also to ensure students feel comfortable speaking their mind, only faculty and administration who are extended an invitation by the Senate will be allowed to attend. The list provided at the bottom are all non-students who shall be given an invitation.

At the end of the meeting, students will be invited to complete a separate anonymous Microsoft form to give them an outlet to voice their opinions and what they have gained from the meeting to administration.

The following duties shall be given, to ensure the forum runs as smoothly as possible:

President Peden will give instructions to students, guide the conversation throughout the forum, and speak for students who have completed the anonymous form. She will also be able to answer questions that students have or direct the answer to someone else, as she sees fit.

Secretary Lotwala will monitor the anonymous form and alert President Peden or Vice President Colley when they need to voice an opinion or question. He shall also provide a separate anonymous form at the end of the meeting for students to share anything to their liking with the administration.

Vice President Colley will ensure conduct is kept throughout the meeting, determine speaker order, speak for students who have completed the anonymous form, and make sure everything is said with respect.

Senator Munoz, the Sergeant at Arms, and other volunteers from Senate will make sure that the crowd is orderly and that nothing gets out of hand.

Other duties will be distributed to senators, as needed.

~~The list of faculty and administrators who will be extended an invitation to this meeting are as follows:~~

~~Dr. Palagi~~

~~Mrs. Nisa King~~

All teachers, faculty, and staff are invited. However, keeping in mind that it is a student discussion they will only be allowed to speak if called upon by a student with a two-minute time limit. This meeting will be led by President Peden.

SECTION THREE (RESPONSES)

Statement from administration regarding what they expect from this forum:

“Please consider this email a formal invitation for the SGA to lead a forum to discuss MSMS' partnerships with Mississippi University for Women and Mississippi State University at 11:05 on Thursday, April 3. I encourage the SGA to incorporate the work done by another student group, Stand for Student Voices, though that's ultimately the SGA's call. If April 3 is not logistically feasible, please let me know and we will work out another time.

The forum should offer students opportunities to ask questions about our partnerships with MUW and MSU and affirm and enumerate the traits that make MSMS different from regular

high schools. The forum should not result in or be seen as a referendum on the State Board's decision.

I must stipulate that the forum should be open only to current students and any specific faculty or staff the forum leaders wish to invite. Furthermore, the meeting should not be videotaped because not all our students have permission from their parents for their likenesses to appear in media and social media.”