

Meeting Title	Princeton High School PTO Meeting		
Meeting Date	May 3, 2017	Meeting Time	8:30-10:00am
Meeting Chair	Susan & Shazia	Meeting Location	PHS PAC

Attendees	
Administartion	Parents
Principal Gary Snyder	Susan Kanter, Shazia Manekia
English & Social studies Supervisor Mark Shelley	Tulikaa Bhatia
French teacher Mr. Wood	21 parents

Brief Description/ Agenda
Mark Shelley discussed his core beliefs and current actions regarding revamping social studies and English curriculum at PHS; Principal Snyder gave an update on current events

Summary of the discussion	
Speaker	Items Discussed
Susan	Upcoming event reminder for Prom & Art show. Volunteers needed for May 19 for help with PTO luncheon.
Mark Shelley	Disussed <u>core beliefs</u> : (1) Focus on educating the whole student, (2) promote critical, divergent, constructivist thinking, (3) help students find relevance, and (4) Helping students make interdisciplinary connections
Mark Shelley	<u>Social studies</u> : Student survey last year showed students want more exposure to issues in contemporary events. Revamping US History I this summer; adding 2 new electives with 3 sections each for Juniors and Seniors (1) Current events & contemporary crisis, and (2) World religions, conflicts & beliefs; adding a course on Racial lietracy & social justice in 2018; continue to focus on research and writing so that students have at least one assignment per year adding to 8 research and writing projects in high school. Adding an ESL section for World history to complement the ESL section of US History. PHS is a part of Tristates, a group of high performaing schools in NY, NJ & Connecticut with a critical friends model. Educators visit scheduled for next May when they will assess the social studies program. The steering committee will provide 3 focus questions for them to look at.
Mark Shelley	<u>English</u> : Student survey in December on students' view of English classes, summer reading, research skills, and academic honesty and integrity. This summer faculty will work on curriculum work on English II books, how to integrate skills, and overlap with US History. Summer reading approach is focusing on more choice on topic and genre and on fostering student love of reading. Juniors & Seniors will read 'Let the Great World Spin' with no summer written work, and one choice from 50 poem/ plays. Freshmen will read one chosen New Yorker article and have a broader summer list. Sophomore reading is being finalized. Finally, an English Program review will be done in 2019 including a look into interdisciplinary models of co-teaching English & social science.
Principal Gary Snyder	Student survey data highlighted the need to build student engagement and lesser homework, which the committee is working on focusing on course pacing, building relationships, student choice, etc. to increase engagement. Highlighted upcoming events such as Prom on May 19, Spring dance, and Mr. PHS on May 17 @7pm.

Meeting conclusion/ Action points
Next meeting @8:30am on June 7, 2017; Location: PAC