

Dundas Valley Secondary School

School Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 16, 2014

In Attendance: Jane Dean, Jennifer Kleven, Robyn Sheppard, Nancy Watt, Jill Scarrow, Mary Beth Kennedy, Colleen Evans, Shelley Stirling-Boyes, Margot Carnahan, Kathy Schaefer, Lesley Usspaget, Mary Orlik, Kim McDonald, Sharon Holford, Linda Howie, Karen J Lee Herstig Bailey, Laila Bastedo, Dawn Zontanos, Merle McDonald, Kathy Borer, Anne Waldie, Em DeSordo, Corie Pillinini, Simon Goodacre, Candice Goodale, Danya Scime, Sue VanEgdom, Anisha Rao, Kraig Mathews, Ramona Jerome, Susan Kennedy

Welcome and introductions

Mr. DeSordo welcomed everyone to the first Dundas Valley Secondary School school council meeting.

Student Council Report

- Grade 9's participated in Welcome Day
- Grade 12 Graduation Breakfast was held
- Spirit Week will be Sept.29-Oct.3 with activities occurring daily
- Student voice is valued, as is parent voice

Principal's Report

- Staffing is dictated by the collective agreement, staff placed here listed DVSS as their 1st choice.
- 2 campus model: the grade 9's have been kept together at the East campus in order to build the energy and spirit; hopefully this will result in minimal transition next year.
- This is a tough year for the grade 12's, they still feel they are Parkside or Highland. They will be the 1st graduating class of DVSS; a Graduation Breakfast was held, admin is hoping to hear from the gr.12's with monthly surveys.
- Program conflicts were more challenging with the 2 campus model, but admin has tried to minimize them.
- Over 1,100 students are attending DVSS.
- Lack of usable lockers at the West campus is an ongoing issue since more classes were added (as a result of increased enrolment). There is not an easy solution because of health and safety and fire regulations.
- Assembly was held to share the law – what is/isn't allowed. \$2,500 will be awarded each semester to student council if the property is not damaged through student behaviour (graffiti, damaged windows, etc). There could possibly be \$5,000 available to purchase a sound system for the cafeteria, for example.
- Bus issues were resolved quickly.

- There has been a Board-wide upgrade to the communication system. Parents interested in receiving updates need to subscribe via the DVSS website.
- Leadership camps are taking place.
- Informal Meet the Teacher will be held on Sept. 18.
- Nov. 5 will be the Awards Ceremony with reception to follow. Volunteers will be needed.

Staff Report

Mrs. Adler attended the meeting on behalf of staff.

Construction Update

Internal demolition has taken place. Heavy machinery should be delivered to West campus next Friday.

Other business

Michelle Chin informed us Home and School Association will be hosting an all candidate school board trustee meeting for Wards 13/14 and Ward 15 on October 15th at 7 pm at Town Hall.

Pro-Grant

Jennifer volunteered to complete an application to secure Dr. Karyn Gordon as a speaker at a reduced rate. There are only a limited number of engagements available. The topic requested by council is "Motivating Teens".

Co-Chair and Co-Secretary Positions

Jennifer Kleven and Sharon Holford will be DVSS school council co-chairs.

Kim McDonald and Dawn Zontanos will be DVSS school council co-secretaries.

Next meeting

Tuesday October 21st, 2014 in the DVSS East campus library.