

School Council Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2018

In attendance: Tara Gasparik, Gina Simpson Robillard, Beth Corrigan, Erika Church, Linda Vanstone, Julie Capstick

Regrets: Sez Nalsok, Candice Babbey

Conflict of Interest – no conflict of interest declared

Approval of Previous Minutes – previous minutes approved with no additions or changes

PRO-GRANT – Multicultural Festival

- Planning continues for the multicultural festival
- World maps to be distributed to classrooms for students to identify their heritage
- Follow up will be occurring with community partners as well as family volunteers to ensure everything is on track for the evening of May 3rd.
- The Festival must wrap up at 6:45 to ensure talent show can start promptly at 7pm
- We will need GA student volunteers to help with serving food, etc.

Spirit Wear

- It was beneficial to have samples for individuals to try-on prior to purchase (7 adults and 9 children tried on the clothing)
- Some individuals were having trouble with the on-line ordering link
- As at April 19th, order forms for spirit wear have not yet been picked up from the school by the distributor
- Beth to contact the distributor to remind her about picking up the order forms / find out when the orders will be fulfilled

Treasurer Report

- Deferred (regrets from our Treasurer S. Nalsok)
- \$700 from council budget to be transferred to school to help fund cost of new team uniforms (as previously agreed). Erika to follow up with the School Secretary

Fundraising Distribution

- Teachers are requesting school council monetary support to help fund class trips, etc.
- The requests were as follows:
 - \$150 for FDK visit to 'Playtown' (approved at March 2018 meeting)
 - \$200 for Mr. Kirkelos (grade 5 to 8) – trip to hockey hall of fame and baseball game
 - \$200 for Primary Division (grades 1, 1 / 2, 2 / 3, Speech Language and 3 / 4) – bus transportation
 - \$225 for transportation for music classes
- Motion put forward to provide funds as requested, however, must first confirm what is remaining in Council budget (including funds from spirit-wear, food sale at multicultural festival, etc.)
- NOTE: School Secretary to assist with determining the best way to provide the \$200 to Mr. Kirkelos as students have already started to send in money for their trip
- Recommendation to develop guidelines for 18/19 school year to determine best approach for Council to respond to monetary requests from Teachers

Teachers Report

(Gina to forward)

Principals Report

HWDSB – We Help

At HWDSB, we are building a culture of help seeking and help offering in our schools and departments. This renewed commitment will take the form of a campaign titled We Help.

We know that students who struggle will first reach out to their friends or peers, not formal leaders like teachers and principals.

We want everyone in our system – especially youth who are the peers of those who are struggling – to know that they can help. We want students to learn how to recognize when someone is upset, what to do to help and how and when to involve an adult.

Here at Green Acres, staff will be introduced to We Help, the concept of what it is and how we will introduce We Help to our students at our next staff meeting. We Help Letters will be going home with students so all parents are aware of idea of WE-Help.

Grade 4-8 MDI Survey

Over the past year, our community, families, students, staff and administrators have told us that we need to gather data specific to mental health and well-being. In response, and to support the HWDSB Mental Health Strategy, HWDSB has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia. This partnership allows HWDSB to use the Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) to measure student wellbeing across five holistic dimensions:

- 1) Social and emotional development, such as self-esteem, optimism, happiness and empathy;
- 2) Feelings of connectedness to school, family, friends and communities;
- 3) School experiences (climate)
- 4) Physical health and wellbeing; and
- 5) Time use after school hours, as well as children's wishes for their after -school time

Letters will be going home explaining the grade 4-8 MDI Survey, teachers will be introduced to the MDI survey, how to administer the survey to their classes at the April 19th staff meeting. There are 2 survey's Grade 4 – grade 4,5,6 students take , Grade 7 – grade 7 & 8 take, students do not have to take part, each student will have their own unique identifier number, data from the survey will be kept secure, protected and separate within HWDSB Research & Analytical Department apart from other data warehouses at HWDSB

April 26th

Collegiate Ave Construction & Consolidation Plan Public Meeting – held at Collegiate Ave school April 26th 6:00-8:00. Letters went home prior to March Break about the meeting, HWDSB will be sending out a Synervoice Message to families of Collegiate, Hyslop and Green Acres on April 23rd. We encourage all parents to attend the meeting.

Bomb Threat / Evacuation Drill - April 16th

Evacuation Drill postponed until later due to weather conditions on April 16th . Looking to April 30th as the new date, weather permitted.

Human Development and Sexual Health in the Health and Physical Education Curriculum

Letters, information have been sent to teachers with the expectation that letters must be going home now if teaching the lessons in May. Teaching the lesson in June, letters go home in May. Parents are encouraged to speak to their child's teacher if they have questions regarding the lesson or the teacher that will be teaching the Human Development Lesson.

EQAO

Dates for the Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO are May 22nd– June 4th, Letters to our grade 3 and 6 students will be going home soon with the dates for parents. EQAO assessment questions are directly based on the expectations set out in The Ontario Curriculum, which is what teachers teach in the classroom every day. Therefore, students do not need to prepare **in** any special way. Students will write the test in their regular classrooms with their regular teachers and are simply encouraged to do their best and show what they know

HWDSB Launches Parent Voice Survey to Gather Input for Improvement Hamilton-Wentworth District

School Board (HWDSB) invites parents, guardians and caregivers to participate in a Parent Voice Survey to share what you think HWDSB is doing well, and how might HWDSB improve its education services.

Parents, guardians and caregivers play an important role in HWDSB and we value your opinion. Your feedback helps us make decisions about how we deliver school services for students.

HWDSB has made a commitment to partner with its parent/guardian and caregiver communities, and to work together to help students learn and grow to their full potential.

This survey should take no longer than 15 minutes to complete. There are no right or wrong answers. All data collected in this survey is anonymous and combined as a group. You can find the survey online at <http://bit.ly/HWDSBParentVoice>