



## Sherwood Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday October 4, 2011

The October meeting of 2011 was called to order by A. Koklis at 6:35 p.m. Chair Koklis welcomed everyone in attendance and introductions took place.

### In Attendance

Principal R. Gallant, Vice Principal B. Monkley, Staff Representatives C. Kaus and T. Behiel, Chair A. Koklis, Secretary C. Anderson, T. Bender, W. Burley, D. Della Maestra, W. Burley, L. Hicks, K. Kennedy-Brown, S. Lambier, W. Goodfellow, M. Taylor, and Brock University students R. Bell and D Berry.

### Regrets

B. Della Maestra

### School Council Membership and Elected Positions

A. Koklis reminded members and new members where School Council resources are available on the HWDSB website and reviewed expectations of a School Council member. Council membership and election of Executive positions followed.

A. Koklis made a motion to approve the Council membership as follows—returning members to Council: A. Koklis, C. Anderson, T. Bender, B. Della Maestra. New members to Council: Staff Representative C. Kaus, Student Council President A. Spiwak, W. Burley, L. Hicks, K. Kennedy-Brown, S. Lambier, M. Taylor.

T. Bender nominated A. Koklis for Chair. A. Koklis accepted the nomination, motion seconded by C. Anderson.

A. Koklis nominated C. Anderson for Secretary. C. Anderson accepted the nomination, motion seconded by L. Hicks. Vote with show of hands, all were in favour.

Non-teaching Staff representative and Community representative positions remain vacant.

### Staff Presentation—T. Behiel (Head of Library Services)

Ms. Behiel is the teacher-librarian at Sherwood. Ms. Behiel's presentation was about Information, Resources and Computers. Ms. Behiel informed parents that there have been several changes in the library over the years. The library is filled with ebooks, computers, magazines and a more current selection of books than we had years ago. The library is a learning centre for the students and is a great place to do research and homework. Our very own school website [www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood) has a Library link. The "Virtual Library" is open to students and parent, both elementary and high school. There is access to a lot of helpful tools including ebooks, research databases, homework help and encyclopaedias. Please note that the Username is "secondary" or "elementary" and the password is always "library". We encourage all parents and students to take advantage of Virtual Library because the cost to Sherwood was \$3.18 per student.

Sherwood students (primarily the Grades 11 and 12) have learned about plagiarism rules and how to avoid plagiarism. Students use the website [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) to check their work. Turnitin.com is the global leader in addressing plagiarism and delivering rich feedback.

Our Sherwood students have also experimented with PREZI the virtual canvas which offers students a cloud based presentation software and storytelling tool used for exploring and sharing new ideas and projects. Ms. Behiel has also introduced other internet tools to the students such as Glogster ([www.glogster.com](http://www.glogster.com)) which allows students to make their own interactive poster (no more bristol board posters) and a board purchased website for students to create their own comic strips call Bitstrips ([www.bitstrips.com](http://www.bitstrips.com)).

Thanks went out to Ms. Behiel for the very informative and interesting presentation.

### Reports

#### 1. Principal's Report—R. Gallant

Principal Gallant thanked all the parents for being involved in School Council. Principal Gallant was pleased with the new parent turnout. In the 2010-2011 school year, Sherwood only had a total of 10 school fights. Last week there were 6 fights (involving 2 students per fight). Police were called to Sherwood when required. Announcements have been made to all students discussing the criminal ramifications and the zero tolerance on bullying and fighting in school. Principal Gallant, VP Wilkie and VP Monkley will be visiting all Grade 9 classrooms to discuss these issues within the students.

Principal Gallant would like to remind parents and students to report any information you may have on any fight, any bullying situations or upcoming fights. Be proactive! Reports can be anonymous.

The enrolment at Sherwood this year is 1215. This number is a little lower than last year which could affect staffing.

The Terry Fox Run at Sherwood was a success and what a great day, no rain! The whole school was involved and thank you to everyone who was involved in the details of making this event run smoothly. The Awards Ceremony for grades 10, 11 and 12 will take place on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is when our Grade 9 students will be participating in Take Our Kids to Work Day.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, the Preliminary Reports will be sent home. Parent's night will be held on Thursday October 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Sherwood Girls touch football loses in the finals to Westdale on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. Midget sports (Grade 9) include touch football and soccer.

## **2. Vice-Principals' Report—B. Monkley**

VP Monkley is still working on getting to know the students at Sherwood. VP Monkley is very pleased with the student body and how positive they are. Despite the several fights that have occurred, Sherwood is a safe school. These fights were not random. We must continue to educate the students, parents and society.

There have been several issues with students being late. The tardiness occurs not only first thing in the morning but between classes and after lunch period. Currently Sherwood is without a school bell because of a complaint from a neighbour of the school property. The staff are working together to come up with different strategies to resolve this issue.

## **3. Staff Report—C. Kaus**

Not only does the fighting affect the Administrative staff but it has been challenging for the teachers as well, especially with the Junior classes. The teachers have been working together to put an end to the fighting, encouraging students to come forward, discussing consequences inside and outside of the classroom.

The Preliminary report cards going home on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October will focus on learning skills, strengths and the next skills that are required for students to succeed i.e. homework and behaviour.

There will be an Athletic Sale running for 2 weeks with a table at Parents Night on October 13, 2011. New this year is the "Sherwood Parent" t-shirts and sweatshirts.

Sport schedules are posted on the school website for the season.

## **4. Student Council Report— A. Spiwak (absent)**

Great student leadership this year at Sherwood. Student Council holds open meetings each Wednesday morning. Six students came forward to be the Representative on the Police Advisory Board this year. Each student was asked to present an essay; decisions on a Representative will be made once all essays are in.

### **Open Issues**

#### **1. Plant & Safety—R. Gallant**

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, some students may have found it a little cold because our boilers were being cleaned.

#### **2. ARC —R. Gallant**

The date for the next public ARC meeting has been changed to October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Hill Park.

### **New Business/Correspondence/Announcements**

#### **1. New Business—No New Business**

#### **2. Correspondence—No Correspondence**

#### **3. Announcements—A. Koklis**

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Laura Peddle, School Trustee will be attending our November meeting.

Please come and visit Sherwood Council at Parents Night. Thank you to Chair A. Koklis for setting up and organizing the table and all of our Council parents who have volunteered to help out during the evening.

### **Next School Council Meeting**

Tuesday November 1, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library.

### **Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

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