



Sherwood Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday September 12, 2012 – 6:30 pm

A. Koklis called the September meeting of 2012 to order at 6:30 p.m. Chair Koklis welcomed everyone in attendance and introductions took place.

In Attendance

Principal R. Gallant, Vice Principal B. Monkley, Vice Principal E. Wilkie, Chair A. Koklis, Secretary C. Anderson, W. Burley, J. Clarke, B. Della Maestra, D. Della Maestra, L. Hicks, K. Kennedy-Brown, G. Winger

Regrets

Staff Representative C. Kaus and T. Bender

Reports

1. Principal's Report—R. Gallant

On Tuesday September the 11th, we did experience a 911 situation with our air conditioner and old pipes. The firemen arrived on site and students were dismissed for precautionary measures. Students were able to get back into the school, case by case with a staff member to retrieve important items. The students were very well behaved and the safety of the kids was the most important issue. There were extra caretakers in at night to assist with the clean up needed for the following school day. If another situation like this emerges in the future, we may not be able to get back into the school as we did this time, so we ask that students are always prepared with a contingency plan and have important items with them i.e. Extra epi-pen, in case of emergency back up plan and contact phone numbers.

The current student enrolment is approximately 1100. On September 11 we currently had 90 students who were not registered yet and this number tonight is down to just 40 students. We have had a very successful registration this year.

We are pleased to have 76 teachers (welcoming Nick P, Vanessa, Andrew, and Allan G). Sherwood has 6 EA's, 5 Secretaries, Librarian technician, 6 caretakers, and the same Cafeteria staff (different company). Welcome back to all the staff!

Important dates are Picture Day-September 13, Spirit Day-September 14.

2. Vice-Principals' Report—E. Wilkie and B. Monkley

The Vice Principals workload is shared so they split the student body between them. Students with the Surnames beginning with letters A-L are assigned to Mr. Monkley and letters M-Z are assigned to Ms. Wilkie. Both VP's share the responsibilities on community work and discipline issues.

Ms. Wilkie works with the Literacy and Assessment Evaluation Reporting (AER) that is ongoing and there will be the same documentation format for all courses being used. We should see this in place by the end of the school year. Sherwood will work with staff regarding culminating activities and when they are being best assigned to the students for semester end. If there are issues, the school advised to please have your student discuss it with their teacher (advocate for themselves), then call the teacher to make an appointment as a second step. If the situation still does not get resolved, you may call the office to speak with the Principals.

Vice-Principals have been meeting with students and their parents, to coach students who are making poor choices and struggling. Mr. Monkley works with numeracy and is working with the school and applying numeracy in each class. Mr. Monkley is on the Safe Schools Committee as well.

Anti-bullying week is the 3rd week in November.

The Health and Safety Committee will meet Thursday September 20th and will verify the Health and Safety Checklist.

Open Issues

1. Plant and Safety—R. Gallant and B. Monkley

Sherwood's air conditioning will be up and running again by the time it is needed next spring. The incident with the smoke and school shut down in the previous week was due to the new unit installed.

Our head caretaker Ken takes great pride in keeping Sherwood clean by removing and trying to keep up to date with all the graffiti, repairs and garbage. The school implemented some indoor art murals a few years ago and since then the graffiti issue has declined significantly.

New Business/Correspondence/Announcements

1. New Business: —A. Koklis

School Website is currently out dated but it is noted it has gone through a huge transition period over the last year. The school will look into getting it updated as soon as they can. The program used to update the website is “Word Press” and there are only approximately 18 – 20 staff Members who have been trained. We need to update the School Calendar, the staff directory, the Athletics page and the change in meeting days for the School Council. The School Council minutes, Music Department and Library sites are already updated for the new school year and look great.

Parent Engagement Fund: Each year Council receives a \$500 grant from the School Board. This grant is for “Enhancing the involvement of parents in the education of children. The funds should be used to support engagement as it supports the School Improvement Plan”. Last year we spent \$66 so we have \$433 (remaining from 2011-12) and \$500 will be received for this school year (2012-13). A. Koklis had some ideas which included books or resource materials for other languages, translating our Council New Letters in languages of Sherwood students (whose families have English as a second language), or having translators on-site at the Parent Night for those wishing to have questions answered. Mr. Monkley advised translators are available through the board but at what cost he’s not sure. Mr. Gallant advises that there may be a small percentage of Sherwood families who have second language English. This topic to be thought over by all members and will be discussed at a later date in time when more resource and materials are available.

October Parents Night: We are asking for volunteers to take shifts at Parents Night on October 11 from 6:00 to 8:00. Thank you K. Kennedy Brown for starting the volunteering. Please contact Angela when you know what time block will work for you. It has worked best with at least 2 parents at the table, greeting families and handing out flyers.

2. Correspondence—NA

3. Announcements—A. Koklis

October meeting is when Council elected positions will take place. If you wish to be a member this year, remember to complete the nomination form and have it handed in prior to the meeting night. It was also noted that Angela is now back to working 12 hour shifts, therefore is not able to guarantee to make every scheduled meeting. The idea was brought forward that electing a Vice-Chair would be extremely helpful. The Vice-Chair could work alongside Angela and host a meeting in her absence. Members were asked for those who have experience and knowledge in this area to please let her know for October’s meeting.

Next School Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday October 3, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47p.m.
