



Sherwood Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2009

The meeting was called to order by R. Gagnon at 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance

R. Gagnon, B. Della Maestra (recording secretary), D. Wilson, B. Gerrish, S. Shuttleworth, Principal R. Gallant, D. Della Maestra, R. Perkins (visiting student teacher)

Regrets: S. Valeri, J. Braun, E. Wilkie, N. Neu

Staff Presentation—Postponed

Election of SC Executive

R. Gagnon has accepted the Chair position and B. Della Maestra will continue as recording secretary.

Approval of Minutes

The October minutes were approved with no additions or deletions. Approved minutes and Council newsletters will be forwarded to our Superintendent and Trustee.

Reports

1. Principal's Report—Principal Gallant briefed Council regarding Sherwood's current status and the H1N1 virus. A respiratory outbreak was declared Oct. 30/09 once student absenteeism climbed above 5% of enrolment. Attendance continues to be monitored daily. Caretaking support hours increased to disinfect and clean the school premises. A caretaking crew worked on Sat., Oct. 31/09 to disinfect classrooms (computer keyboard/mouse, doorknobs). An isolation room has been established to accommodate students who become ill and are waiting for accompaniment home. On Friday, an outbreak notice was sent home with students, a synvoice announcement was scheduled for the weekend and both sets of information posted on the Sherwood website. In addition, notices have been posted at the main entrances of the school. As per direction from Public Health, everyone has been reminded how to protect themselves from infection. The Awards Assembly Nov. 4th has been postponed along with the Director's visit November 10th. Further cancellations are pending. Athletics continue as well as school rental events.

The electronic newsletter for the website will be ready shortly. The front page may be printed and included with the mid-semester report with direction to review the complete newsletter on the Sherwood website. Mid-semester reports are due to be distributed November 17/09. The *November* fundraiser has started with a goal to raise \$2,000 for Prostate Cancer Canada. An anti-bullying assembly took place for Grade 9 & 10 students on October 28/09. Speaker Jim Jordan was well received.

Sherwood basketball teams and boy's volleyball are doing well and girl's field hockey won the city championship for the fifth year in a row. Football season ends soon. B. Gerrish inquired about a cross-country team for Sherwood. There is no coach available at the present time with this expertise. Charlie Davis of Sherwood basketball was featured as *character athlete of the week* on the HWDSB website from Oct. 19 to November 1/09.

2. Vice-Principals' Report—absent, see Principal's report.

3. Staff Report—absent, see Principal's report.

4. Student Council Report—absent.

Open Issues

1. Plant & Safety

A request under fine-facilities budget to replace carpet in the Library and blocks in the walkway has been submitted.

2. October Parents' Night

Appreciation is extended to Sherwood Staff and student participants for a successful Parents' Night. Winners of the random draw were contacted Oct. 9/09 (F. Robinson, T. Nardi, A. Klement, D. Coles). Athletic spirit wear and school yearbooks were sold. Fundraiser displays included Covenant Home and Sherwood Cheerleaders. Saints Ambassadors distributed the *School Council News* and maps for parents.

3. PRO Grant Application

D. Wilson and B. Della Maestra prepared the application for the PRO Grant from the Ministry of Education and submitted it online prior to the October 16/09 deadline. R. Gagnon and Principal Gallant signed and submitted the declaration due October 30/09. B. Della Maestra has confirmed speaker C. Vollum for February 23, 2010 to present two student assemblies and an evening session for our school community. Marketing plans will be discussed at the December Council meeting.

4. Technology at Sherwood

Parent Assistant will become available in the very near future. It is electronic read-only access to student attendance and marks through a password protected site.

Difficulties maintaining the school website were discussed briefly. A suggestion to incorporate website design as a credit course at Sherwood was made by R. Gagnon.

The November issue of the electronic newsletter will be posted soon on the Sherwood website. R. Gagnon prepared a School Council news article for the issue.

New Business/Correspondence/Announcements

1. Fundraising at Sherwood—deferred.

2. Superintendent Pam Reinholdt was seeking a **School Lockdowns HWDSB Committee Representative** by October 9/09 to generate a policy on school lockdowns. This notice was circulated to School Council members electronically prior to the deadline.

3. The HWDSB is seeking public consultation on the **Draft Trustee Expense Policy**. Feedback will be accepted from October 8-November 8/09. This notice was circulated electronically to School Council members prior to tonight's meeting. Please visit the HWDSB website at www.hwdsb.on.ca

4. The HWDSB was seeking public consultation (second round) on the **Draft Gender Equity Policy** until November 2/09. This information was circulated electronically to School Council members prior to the deadline.

5. Correspondence—Trustee L. Peddle inquired about our Council meeting dates.

6. H1N1 Influenza—see Principal's report. R. Gagnon offered other advice to prevent spreading infection and reviewed a self-screening checklist of symptoms. Reminders—Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands. Keep 6 feet (2 arms length) away from people who are coughing and sneezing. Keep high-touch areas at home and work clean (phones, door knobs, etc.). Stay at home and avoid going to work, parties and social gatherings if you feel unwell. S. Shuttleworth expressed concerns over person-to-person contact in Athletics and whether there should be a suspension of hand-shaking at the end of games. The Board's position is not known.

7. The HWDSB is seeking public consultation on the **DRAFT Student Fees Policy**. Feedback will be accepted until November 19/09 at www.hwdsb.on.ca. This information was circulated electronically to School Council members prior to tonight's meeting.

Next School Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
