



Sherwood Secondary SC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2008

The meeting was called to order by R. Gagnon at 7 p.m.

In Attendance

B. Gerrish, R. Gagnon, S. Shuttleworth, D. and B. DellaMaestra
Vice-Principal B. Wallace, Student Council Presidents J. Shore and A. George

Minutes compiled by R. Gagnon

Approval of Minutes

March minutes approved.

Reports

1. Principal's and Vice-Principal's Report—given by VP Wallace

Superintendent Sharon Stephanian visited Sherwood to review the School Improvement Plan (SIP). Mr. Wallace presented various documents that were reviewed including the Pyramid of Intervention and Sherwood's Pyramid of Success. Two bar graphs reflecting Grade 9 Accumulated Credits and Grade 10 Accumulated Credits illustrate Sherwood's position (which has steadily improved) compared with other secondary schools within the HWDSB.

Superintendent of Education—Program & Assessment, Krys Kroxall, and Angela Ferguson will be meeting with Sherwood Administration and Staff for the Student Success Visit on April 21/08 regarding Leadership and Data; Literacy and Numeracy; Pathways; Community, Culture and Caring.

Mr. Wallace informed Council of the school's preliminary consideration to pair Grade 9 Math with a second Grade 9 course and offer these courses year-round. Further in-depth examination of this issue is required.

The Abilities Programme at Sherwood (started in 2003) has been recognized for a Profiling Excellence Award with a reception planned for May 7/08. Sherwood is the only school in the HWDSB to offer this unique programme for students with special needs who are integrated into regular class programming and reaching academic success. This is the third year in-a-row that a programme at Sherwood has been recognized. The Student Success Co-operative Education and the Hockey Canada Skills Academy have been recognized in the past.

The deadline to submit applications for the Profiling Excellence Volunteering Programme has been extended to April 4/08. Recognition will be given in 3 categories: Years of Service (recognized every 5 years), Individual Contribution, Program/Initiative that Impacts Student Success. The recognition ceremony is scheduled for May 13/08.

The next Learning Community Day is April 8/08. Character Education and Team Building will be the focus and "to connect disconnected students". Parents are invited to join staff in the school Library that afternoon.

Forty Sherwood students will be travelling to Ottawa and return on Friday from their Grade 10 History trip. During 5th period on April 11, a student-teacher basketball game is scheduled. April 18 is the release date for mid-semester reports. The "Climb for Cancer" fundraiser for the Juravinski Cancer Centre takes place from noon-2 p.m. on April 22. Sherwood participants will be bussed over to climb the Chedoke stairs.

The City of Hamilton Sexual Health Network is hosting a conference designed to help parents help their teen make good decisions. The "Teenage Brain" Conference will be held on April 8/08 from 7-9 p.m. at the Michelangelo Banquet Centre, Hamilton. Please call 905-546-CITY to register. Garfield Gini-Newman, a professor from the University of Toronto, is the keynote speaker.

Mr. Gallant continues to liaise with our feeder schools. Visits to School Councils are planned. There was a "Cluster Day" 3 weeks ago where it was reported that the mini lessons for Grade 8s

were very successful and an invitation was extended by Ray Lewis School to address the Grade 7 students on a future visit.

There was a screening of the student-produced Sherwood DVD illustrating student life at Sherwood. This DVD was shown to visitors during our January Open House-Grade 8 Parent Information Night.

2. Staff Report

No report—Mr. Murkovich absent.

3. Student Council

Co-Presidents J. Shore and A. George reported on the numerous Student Council fundraisers for March (*Guitar Hero* competition, Eye Flirts, Spirit Day Easter egg decorating) plus the up-coming events for April (student-teacher Karaoke April 15; Jungle Fever Dance in the cafeteria April 24; Buddy Day April 17-18; Car Wash April 26 at the shopping plaza located on the north-east corner of Fennell and Upper Ottawa). The May events for Sherwood families include Coffee House on May 1 and the Pasta/Silent Auction/Karaoke night on May 7. Both of these events will be held in the school cafeteria. No confirmation yet for the Shakespeare Drama & Arts night. Plans have been initiated to have Sherwood students participate in the (**Making A Difference**) MAD for Maddie 5 kilometre walk/run event scheduled for May 31 at Dofasco Park. The charity event honours the memory of Hamilton teenager, Maddison Babineau, who succumbed to cancer last year. Student Council has been very active and successful with their fundraising events.

Open Issues

1. Plant & Safety

Sherwood's Health & Safety Committee held their monthly inspection and noted a concern with ceiling tiles. No report given regarding Science Fume Hood repairs or the completion of the exterior school sign. Awaiting confirmation with regard to the installation of the gymnasium crash mats. S. Shuttleworth raised a safety concern about the partial lifting of flooring in a corner area of the gymnasium that occurred during a weekend event.

2. March Parents' Night Assessment

R. Gagnon issued a thank-you note March 6 to the school following the success of the parent-teacher night on March 5/08 and participation of Sherwood ambassadors. Congestion in the Library was eliminated. Signage improved. It was noted there was limited congestion in the centre hall area. Overall attendance dipped and may have been influenced by poor weather and lack of parking due to snow.

3. Parent Involvement Fund

Council reviewed a couple of hard-copy examples of a school magnet drafted by B. Gerrish for discussion purposes. Council assessed magnet sizes with preliminary consensus favouring the business-card size. R. Gagnon will follow-up with promotional supplier, Sherwood Office Lead A.M. Reid and Principal Gallant re pricing and content. Information will be forwarded by email to members for review prior to the May Council meeting as it becomes available.

4. Parent Information Nights

Deferred—Principal Gallant and M. Murkovich absent.

5. Council Meetings for 2008/09

Monthly meetings will be held from September to May on the first Tuesday of the month with 2 exceptions—September's meeting will be held on the 3rd Tuesday and no meeting will be scheduled in January. Council meetings will start at 6:30 p.m. in the Library beginning September 2008.

New Business/Correspondence/Announcements

1. Correspondence

- Profiling Excellence Volunteer Recognition—Please see Principal's Report
- School Council 101—March 19 session cancelled. Second date planned for April 23/08 for School Council members from 7-9 p.m., King George School, 77 Gage Av. N.

- School Council Chair Networking session to build a support network will be meeting April 9/08 from 7-9 p.m. at the Education Centre
- Parental Involvement Committee (PIC) is recruiting parents for the remainder of the 2007/08 school year and the next school year but not meeting in July and August. Application deadline March 28. This information was shared via email prior to tonight's meeting due to time constraints. Applications and details available on the Board's website.
- Math Help for Grade 9 students is available online in 3 ways: Ask your child's Math teacher for in-school, online tutoring with help from the regular teacher; online Math resources during and after-school hours; live online Math homework help Sun-Thurs in the evening by visiting the what.ilc.org website.
- The 2008 Literacy Conference "Literacy Evolving: Teens, The Wired Generation" will be held April 5/08 from 9-2:30 p.m. at the Central Library, 55 York Boulevard in Hamilton. Free workshops for parents. Register online at literacyconference.wufoo.com or contact Shannon Stevens 905-818-1356 or email sstevens@frontiercollege.ca
- Earth Day Hamilton's 12th Annual Go Green Challenge offers various activities in support of eco-education. Earth Day Hamilton offers to plant trees at local schools to commemorate graduating classes. (New guidelines have been issued by the HWDSB regarding the placement of trees on school property.) The Earth Day Walk April 26 offers the chance for high school students to act as volunteers. The 5K walk/fun run will take place at Hamilton's Bayfront Park. The Eco-Festival is Earth Day Hamilton's featured event held at the Royal Botanical Gardens for Grade 4-6 elementary students. Volunteer opportunities offered for high school students for this educational festival April 23 or 24/08. Awards are presented to those schools minimizing their ecological footprint by participating in activities to recycle, conserve, clean-up. Details at www.EarthDayHamilton.ca. Or you may join the Community Tree Planting at Princess Point on April 26/08—wagon rides, music, draws, BBQ, fishway tour, face painting & more.
- Superintendent Bain issued a memo for School Council Input regarding the selection and placement of principals and vice-principals. Sherwood School Council will leave our Principal Placement Profile Survey unchanged and on file with Cluster 4 Superintendent of Education, Sharon Stephanian.

Next School Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at an off-site location (Kelsey's Restaurant, Upper James Street).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.
