



Sherwood Secondary SC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 4, 2008

The meeting was called to order by R. Gagnon at 7 p.m. in the Music Room.

In Attendance

D. Wilson, B. Gerrish, R. Gagnon, D. and B. DellaMaestra
Principal R. Gallant, Teacher Rep. M. Murkovich, Student Council Presidents J. Shore and A. George

Minutes compiled by R. Gagnon

Staff Presentation

Prior to the business meeting, Council members gathered in the Music room where Ms. S. Holinaty, Music Department Head, outlined course challenges for beginners versus experienced Music classes and other programme requirements as well as providing a bit of historical background. Additionally, Guitar and Repertoire credit courses are offered. Council was able to view the sheet music Library; learn about the demands of conducting a class/band along with the language of music and other elements, techniques, listening skills and disciplines that Music offers.

Approval of Minutes

February minutes approved.

Reports

1. Principal's Report

Director Spence visited the Shakespeare Drama class earlier today along with Ward 4 Trustee, Mr. Ray Mulholland, which provided an opportunity for dialogue with Sherwood students. There was a short detour to the gymnasium and a discussion with regard to math EQAO scores and school communication. Dr. Spence was presented with a folder full of Sherwood information.

The school safety committee is examining suspension data. Accumulated credits and Grade 9 transition continues to be examined. The feeder schools were provided with first-term, grade-9 results for review and follow-up.

A second hockey skills information meeting was held earlier tonight. The cheerleading squad will be competing at the provincial championships. Staff attended cyber-safety expert Mr. Rob Nickel's presentation at Westmount on the February Learning Community Day. Principal Gallant returned with copies of Mr. Nickel's guide to internet safety for the Sherwood School Library.

Principal Gallant is planning spring feeder school visits to grade 7 students and school council meetings.

Student-produced Sherwood DVD presentation postponed to April's agenda.

2. Vice-Principal's Report

No report—Mr. Braun absent.

3. Staff Report

Forty-three students out of 52 attempts were able to rescue their course credit as part of a trial, credit-rescue programme piloted at 3 schools. Credit rescue expansion is planned for next semester with a focus at mid-semester.

Every Wednesday the Healthy Eating Committee convenes with a Public Health Nutritionist and 10-15 students in attendance. The sale of healthy snacks (e.g. yoghurt parfait) during exams was deemed very successful. As a result, the HEAT committee has put together a spring campaign proposal to pilot additional healthy snacks as part of the cafeteria menu with support from the Ministry and HWDSB.

There are various "outside" counselling services available for Sherwood families, e.g. C.O.A.S.T. (for people experiencing crisis) and Alternatives for Youth (drug and alcohol related services for youths 13-22 and their families). Further discussion deferred to the April School Council meeting with regard to parent information nights.

Forty senior Sherwood students will be going to Italy during the March Break. Ottawa is the destination for a Grade-10 History trip in April.

4. Student Council

A *Guitar Hero* Tournament will take place following the March Break with the championship scheduled for Spirit Day on March 20. There are many Student Council events planned for spring.

Open Issues

1. Plant & Safety

Russ Burt (responsible for HWDSB capital projects) assessed the science room fume hoods. The repair work is to be completed by June 2008 (Board cost). The dust collector system replacement in the Woodworking room is almost finished. Gymnasium wall crash-mats are due for installation during the March Break. The school sign remains uncompleted.

2. March Parents' Night

Plans are in place to provide refreshments, eliminate congestion and improve signage for the evening. S.A.I.N.T.S. ambassadors will welcome and assist parents. Various printed resource material including a newsletter will be available in the main hallway on March 5/08.

3. Parent Involvement Fund

Council has given its approval to consider a proposal for the purchase of school promotional magnets for parental outreach. R. Gagnon and A.M. Reid were able to obtain preliminary pricing and will seek samples for further evaluation.

New Business/Correspondence/Announcements

1. Correspondence

- There is a School Cafeteria Services contract committee opportunity for parent representatives to create a tender document and assist in the final selection of a service provider for the Manager of Purchasing. Please contact jane.miceli@hwdsb.on.ca if interested. Three meetings are planned.
- Superintendent Ken Bain wishes to inform Council and parents about the opportunity to review the *draft* 2008-09 school year calendar on the Board website and provide feedback online until March 28/08.
- Earl Kitchener School Council hosted a Parent Information Evening & Summer Camp Fair on February 26 with keynote speaker Dr. Tracy Vaillencourt. Registration information was previously forwarded to Sherwood Council Members due to short notice.

2. School Fees

Council has made a recommendation to Principal Gallant to expand the information provided in the summer mailing to Sherwood families with regard to the mandatory physical education uniform and associated costs. It is also acknowledged that *various* graduation fees exist at Sherwood depending upon the package selected by the Grade 12 student. At the present time, school fees are being examined by the Board.

3. Council Meetings for 2008/09

Further discussion will take place at the next Council meeting regarding dates and meeting start-times for the coming year.

4. Courtyard Access

Litter has been identified as a problem at the school. The Environmental Club works to improve the courtyard gardens during the spring and fall. Council proposes that consideration be given for courtyard access to be granted (weather permitting) for student use during the school day.

Next School Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 7 p.m. in the Library

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.
