



## Sherwood Secondary SC Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2008

The meeting was called to order by R. Gagnon at 6:30 p.m. in Kelsey's Restaurant.

### In Attendance

B. Gerrish, R. Gagnon, S. Shuttleworth, D. Wilson  
Principal R. Gallant, Vice-Principal J. Braun, Teacher Rep. M. Murkovich  
Trustee Laura Peddle

Minutes compiled by R. Gagnon

### Approval of Minutes

April minutes approved.

### Reports

#### 1. Principal's Report

Official feedback is expected in a couple of weeks from the Student Success visit on April 21/08. In the meantime, Mr. Gallant received a very complimentary card from Superintendent of Education—Program & Assessment, Krys Kroxall, and Angela Ferguson which was shared with Council. In total, Sherwood visits for this year included Director Chris Spence, Associate Director Chuck Reid, Superintendent Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent Krys Kroxall and Angela Ferguson of Student Success.

The Abilities Programme at Sherwood (started in 2003) has been recognized for a Profiling Excellence Award which will be presented at a reception planned for tomorrow evening (May 7) at the Art Gallery. 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.

Congratulations to Greg Crawford who has coached Junior Boys Basketball at Sherwood for 10 years. Greg's amazing commitment to Sherwood students will be recognized at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Profiling Excellence—Volunteering Ceremony scheduled for May 13/08. The Parental Involvement Committee and the Home and School are honoured to be celebrating HWDSB volunteers.

The last Learning Community Day is May 28/08. Differentiated Instruction will be the focus and as always, parents are invited to join staff in the school Library that afternoon. It was noted that student LCD attendance improved in February and April with less classes missed than in the fall (489 missed classes in February, 485 in April).

Three hundred and fifty students bought tickets to watch the student-teacher basketball game on April 1/08. Over 300 Sherwood participants climbed the Chedoke stairs on April 22/08 raising money for the Juravinski Cancer Centre. Matt Hayes from CHCH TV reported his on-air weather report from Sherwood last Tuesday featuring our cheerleaders who won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the National Cheerleading Competitions held April 25-26/08. The well-attended Coffee House on the evening of May 1/08 rocked the auditorium under the leadership of Mr. Malcew with 11 talented bands participating.

The final electronic newsletter for this school year will be posted on the school website imminently. The May issue is the third out-of-three and completes the series.

Mr. Gallant recently visited Templemead, Highview and Lisgar School Councils with a visit planned for Huntington Park SC. There will be a meeting with Grade 7 students at Templemead School May 7/08.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Co-operative Education Employer Appreciation Breakfast will be held at Michelangelo's Banquet Centre on Friday, May 16/08.

## **2. Vice-Principal's Report**

Mr. Braun recently attended numerous meetings focused on timetabling. The second lockdown of the year will take place later this month. Fifty step-locks have been installed in the school. The June exam timetable is finalized and will be distributed in hard-copy to the students and posted on the school website. Grade 12 student final exams take place June 10-13. Grade 9-11 students write their final exams the following week beginning June 17/08.

## **3. Staff Report**

Guidance staff continue their focus on "at risk" feeder school students. The 3 remaining schools will be reviewed on Thursday (May 8). Counsellors visited the Grade 10 classrooms to discuss pathways and schedules with the students. The Scholarships Committee has been active with the Grade 12 students. Guidance Office personnel are taking a pro-active approach to assess obvious option mistakes. The HEAT committee continues to work with the cafeteria service provider and is pleased to be adding a regular item (fruit/yoghurt cup at a great price) to the breakfast menu.

## **4. Student Council**

SC Presidents absent—Student Council upcoming events include Pasta Dinner May 7/08 in the school cafeteria from 5:30-7:30 p.m. which includes a silent auction and karaoke; May 14 Movie Night; Grad Luncheon May 23; Sherwood Stock May 27-30 with activities planned during lunch breaks on May 27 & 29 and outside activities (bands, barbeque, games) on the afternoon of May 30. The Athletic Banquet and Dance is Thursday, June 5 at Carmen's. (I am including this email report from Co-President J. Shore who filed the report prior to the Council meeting; however, the message was opened *after* the adjournment.)

## **5. School Trustee Visit**

Trustee Laura Peddle was able to join our final meeting and provide the following report: L. Peddle reported to Council that the science, fume-hood issue at Sherwood will be addressed by the end of June 2008 as per R. Francki, Senior Manager of Facilities.

Trustee Peddle outlined the challenges surrounding the new safe-schools legislation involving the expulsion of students by trustees. There are 11 trustees and 3 are needed for this committee. It was noted that there are good alternative programme choices re this legislation.

The decision surrounding a new education centre is not yet solved.

A review of the high school boundaries on the mountain is pending and in all likelihood 2 will close. The decision date is June 30, 2010.

It is anticipated that there will be 2 Student Trustees sitting for next year on the Board of Trustees which will double the current representation from 1 to 2 student trustees.

The Hamilton Wentworth District School Board is operating with a balanced budget.

Future potential exists for removing school boundaries within the district regarding specialty programmes.

## **Open Issues**

### **1. Plant & Safety**

Principal Gallant met with Russ Burt and plans are in place for the science fume-hoods project. Further plant repairs include the "gluing down" of the gymnasium floor. Approval has been granted for a washroom project in response to graffiti. Dan Charcos and Bruce Thompson have been consulted. Art students and teachers will develop a theme for wall painting. The exterior school sign awaits the addition of "Home of the Saints" and the school logo. A company will be pursued for this completion. Further entrance improvements are slated.

### **2. Parent Involvement Funding**

R. Gagnon prepared and previously circulated a report to Council members to provide an opportunity to review the process regarding the purchase of a promotional school magnet—an outreach project from School Council to Sherwood parents. This report outlined the vendor quotations, product details, and ordering requirements. In addition, product samples were provided for Council

members to view at tonight's meeting. Following discussion and examination of this data, Council determined the vendor, choice of magnet size, quantity and critical content. R. Gagnon will submit a revised sample to Principal Gallant adopting these modifications. The approved file will be submitted electronically to the vendor by month's end. Following production, the school magnet will be distributed to the Sherwood families. It is anticipated distribution will take place during registration. The expenditure report will be filed before the June deadline.

### **3. Parent Information Nights**

Deferred from our March meeting—Mr. Murkovich put forth a proposal for future school information nights to include displays from various support agencies. Co-incidentally, R. Gagnon was invited to attend Hill Park's parent information evening earlier today which provided a great opportunity to view various exhibits. A decision was made for Sherwood to trial similar storefront displays to enhance our October Parents' Night. Mr. Murkovich will co-ordinate the organization required for this event.

### **4. School Council Chair Networking Session**

On behalf of our Council, R. Gagnon attended the inaugural networking meeting held at the Education Centre April 9/08 to provide an opportunity for SC Chairs to meet and share items of interest with other SC Chairs. A session report by R. Gagnon was circulated by e-mail to members prior to tonight's meeting outlining the 11 agenda items discussed. It was determined by those attending the session there is a need for this type of forum. Four other secondary school chairs were in attendance. Jeff Reynolds of the Parental Involvement Committee chaired the meeting with the support of Supt. Stephanian. It is anticipated there may be 6 sessions/year but the next meeting remains unscheduled at present.

### **5. School Council 101 Meeting**

R. Gagnon attended the meeting held at King George School April 23/08 to provide information that will support School Councils in fulfilling their goals. A session report by R. Gagnon was circulated by e-mail to members prior to tonight's meeting outlining the 6 topics discussed. Following the presentation by Jeff Reynolds of the Parental Involvement Committee, there was a short quiz. Superintendent Stephanian attended as well as Chair of the Board of Trustees, Judith Bishop. Trustee Bishop circulated a handout entitled "Your Guide to the School System". It was re-iterated at this meeting as well as the SC Chair Networking meeting the importance of keeping a hard-copy of meeting minutes at the school site. These records document School Council business and need to be available to all parents. Additionally, they provide an historical record to pass along for the next generation of Council.

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

### **1. Correspondence**

- A Respectful Working and Learning Environments draft policy and online survey was available on the Board website until April 25/08. This policy directive was set to create a process to address incidents of objectionable behaviour that fall outside of legislation or policy such as the Human Rights Code, the Safe Schools Act and the Harassment Policy. Due to time constraints, this information was shared with members via e-mail prior to tonight's meeting.
- The HWDSB is recruiting School Council reps for Interview Teams selecting vice-principals and principals. Interested persons should contact Darlene Steele at [darlene.steele@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:darlene.steele@hwdsb.on.ca)
- There are daytime and evening sessions "Confronting Violence in the Media and Entertainment Industry" on May 12 in Toronto. The HWDSB is looking for a parent representative to join the session. Contact Supt. Stephanian at [Sharon.Stephanian@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:Sharon.Stephanian@hwdsb.on.ca) if you are interested.
- There was an out-of-town workshop on Media Violence held May 2 for interested parent or School Council representatives. This information was shared via e-mail prior to tonight's meeting due to time constraints.

### **2. Electronic Approval of May minutes**

It was agreed that the minutes would be circulated electronically to Council members for approval. Members will have a chance to respond electronically indicating approval or changes. This

process will allow the electronically-approved meeting minutes to be immediately posted on the school website.

### **3. Annual Report**

There are 3 annual reports. Council members assisted R. Gagnon with the completion of a hard-copy version of the online report to be submitted to the Board. A written document will be prepared by R. Gagnon and circulated electronically to Council members for approval in the same manner as the May meeting minutes. Once approval is secured, this document will be forwarded to Principal Gallant for distribution to Sherwood families. The final annual report is financial. School Council does not fundraise; therefore, there are no school-generated funds as it pertains to Council to report. However, we do receive \$500 parent involvement funding. A small portion of this funding pays for the stationery supplies to provide our School Council record of meeting minutes, etc. The balance of this mobilization and outreach funding has been allocated for the purchase of the school magnet (see item 2, Open Issues).

### **4. Summer Newsletter**

It is anticipated that we will include a Council communication to Sherwood families in the summer mailing distributed by the school. Please submit any items of interest you wish to be published to R. Gagnon before mid-June.

### **5. Appreciation**

R. Gagnon expressed appreciation to Principal Gallant and all members of Council for their commitment this year towards the success of our Sherwood students. In turn, Principal Gallant acknowledged the dedication exhibited by our chairperson. We also wish to recognize the year-long work of our Student Council and Student Body who are continually raising funds for numerous charitable organizations in our community.

### **Next School Council Meeting**

Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the school Library.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**

---