



Sherwood Secondary SC Meeting Minutes

Date: November 6, 2007

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

In Attendance

D. Wilson, B. Gerrish, S. Shuttleworth, R. Gagnon
Principal R. Gallant, VP J. Braun, Student Council Presidents J. Shore & A. George

Minutes compiled by R. Gagnon

Staff Presentation

Prior to the business meeting Mr. R. Teufel and Ms. J. Brown, Physical Education Department Heads, highlighted Programmes of Choice specifically featured at Sherwood for this school year—Basketball, Girls-Only Phys. Ed., Hockey, Soccer, Volleyball. Regular Phys. Ed. classes remain part of the curriculum.

Approval of Minutes

October minutes approved.

Reports

1. Principal's Report

Principal Gallant announced that Ms. D'Agruma, Art/Drama Department Head, will be our staff guest at the December Council meeting. The girls Field Hockey team are SOSSA Champions and competed at the OFSAA Championship in Mississauga last week. The Awards Assembly will be held November 7 in the school Auditorium. Next year awards will be expanded to include all subject areas.

New Safe Schools legislation (Bill 212) starts in February 2008. More information will be provided at the next meeting. All things "Data" will be examined on the upcoming PD Day, Nov. 12/07 and the theme Differentiated Instruction continues with "Technology in the Classroom" on the next Learning Community Day Nov. 26/07. Parents are welcome to join staff from 12:30-2:30 p.m. in the Library for the LCD presentations.

Our Sherwood Community has been invited to attend the Remembrance Day Assembly on Friday, Nov. 9/07. Repertoire holds their spaghetti fundraiser dinner on Nov. 12/07. Mid-semester reports will be released Nov. 15/07 and new this year—Sherwood School will be posting an electronic newsletter on the school website. Four issues are planned.

2. Vice-Principal's Report

VP Braun reported on Safe Schools Committee activities (lockdowns, fire drills, evacuation plans). A lockdown drill is planned during November. There is a meeting scheduled with the school social worker to revise and improve current Attendance Policies.

3. Staff Report (given by VP Braun)

The planning for Grade 8 Transitions is active.

Confidential PIN letters arrive shortly in Student Services. This information is required for University/College applications. Christmastime is Sherwood's application deadline.

4. Non-Teaching Staff

No report.

5. Student Council

The first Saints (Halloween) dance was very well-attended. It was recommended that a “smoke” machine not be used by the DJ for future dances (it triggered the fire alarm). October bake sales raised funds for Student Council. Boxes are needed for the current Food & Clothing Drive which ends Dec. 19/07. Upcoming student events include a Coffee House, Air Band, Rakefest and Christmas Dance.

Open Issues

1. Plant & Safety

- a) The construction of trophy display cabinets has commenced with an installation date of Nov. 26/07. A secondary display case will be established near the High Street entrance for usage on a rotational basis.
- b) The installation date for bleachers has been postponed to Dec. 21/07. Murals and banners for the gym slated for December. It will cost \$8,000 for the brick work required to repair the hole in the gymnasium wall behind the protective padding.
- c) The woodworking dust collection system replacement was started but stalled waiting for work permits. The impact of this delay on the Fire Marshall’s deadline (Nov 30) is unknown.
- d) There has been no response from inquiries to HWDSB personnel or Trustee Peddle regarding the Science Room Fume Hood issue. Principal Gallant and R. Gagnon will continue to pursue a reply.
- e) The exterior school sign is to have a Coat-of-Arms mounted on the left side and on the right “Home of the Saints”.
- f) Lines were painted on the parking lot surface.
- g) Principal Gallant will seek improvements to exterior lighting and stair railings.

2. Parents’ Night Assessment

Great teamwork from staff, students and administrators acknowledged and appreciated for a successful evening Oct. 11/07. Library congestion will be addressed for the March Parents’ Night.

3. 40th Anniversary/Reunion Weekend

The Friday evening Open House was extremely well-attended. A smaller group of Sherwood Alumni and friends celebrated at the dinner/dance Saturday. Congratulations to Mr. P. Woods and committee for organizing excellent photo & memorabilia displays, entertainment, souvenirs, food; and to all the staff and students who assisted with the preparations. Repertoire Ensemble and Sherwood DVD “A Time to Remember” were superb!

4. Healthy Eating Programme

Principal Gallant reported that discussion continues between the school nurse, students, selected staff and cafeteria staff with regard to the Public Health “HEAT” programme. R. Gagnon put forward a parent concern regarding food allergies. Assessment is ongoing. It is noted that Sherwood is not an allergy-free school.

5. Sherwood Website

The posting of information on the Sherwood website is continual and expanding. Thank you to the webmasters who constantly strive to provide the most up-to-date material for this resource.

6. Learning Community Day Attendance

Student attendance regarding early dismissal days versus full days is to be examined and reported for the next Council meeting.

New Business

Correspondence

- a) At the request of our former Principal T. Kocznur, R. Gagnon read out-loud his thank-you card addressed to School Council.
- b) Exclusive to the Hamilton-Wentworth Public and Catholic Boards in Ontario is a 10-month pilot project "WHAT" (Wentworth-Hamilton As a Teacher) featuring real-time math tutoring to assist grades 7-9 students with their homework. Students require their Ontario Education Number (OEN) to register online and gain access to the tutors. This number is available from the school or their classroom teacher. Funded and initiated by the Ministry of Education.
- c) This is Canada Career Week in Hamilton. The HWDSB offers a Townhall Forum "New Career Thinking for Youth and Their Families" tomorrow night at Hillfield Strathallan College Artsplex, Garth & Fennell in Hamilton. November 7 is Take-our-kids-to-work Day for Grade 9 students. Careerapalooza event days are scheduled for Nov. 19-20 at the Hamilton Convention Centre.
- d) Superintendent K. Bain issued a memorandum to solicit the views of School Councils for their criteria with respect to the selection and placement of principals and vice-principals. This survey is due Nov. 23/07 to our cluster superintendent. Sherwood has a PPP Survey on file.
- e) Ms. C. Lea forwarded a message to notify Council of a staff change in Student Services. Best Wishes go to Ms. B. Smith who has been the Guidance Office Administrator for the past 10 months. She is leaving Nov. 12/07 and will be deeply missed. H. Ryce returns to Sherwood as her replacement.
- f) The HWDSB has made an electronic Parent Engagement Questionnaire available for on-line administration by parents in our school community from now until Nov. 16/07. The link to the survey is:
<http://surveys.hwdsb.on.ca/perseus/se.ashx?s=6A0A4CEE34AB5C09>
The Board's research department will compile results to learn more about what parents think about opportunities to get involved in school life. Answers are anonymous and confidential. Due to the short notice, it was suggested that Sherwood parents could be notified by synvoice and notification via the school website. In future, this opportunity will be provided annually in late October/early November.

Announcement

A proposal from R. Gagnon for a Sherwood open house to showcase our abundant student achievements, talents, programmes and encourage parental engagement; to provide access to the numerous classrooms (tech, healthcare, science) and refurbished gymnasium; and to complement an existing student evening event (music, art, drama) is suggested. Principal Gallant will approach cabinet.

Next School Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at 7 p.m. in the Library

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.
