



## Sherwood Secondary SC Meeting Minutes

Date: September 11, 2007

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

### **In Attendance**

D. Hill, J. Jaskula, J. Dillon, A. Bartley, D. Wilson, R. Gagnon  
Principal R. Gallant, Teacher Rep. M. Murkovich, VP B. Wallace, VP J. Braun, P. Woods

The Chairperson, new Principal, Sherwood parents and staff were introduced.  
R. Gagnon outlined the numerous communication resources available for parents.

Minutes compiled by R. Gagnon.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The 2006/07 School Council electronically approved the June minutes prior to summer break. The Annual Report was distributed electronically to the members and posted on the SC Bulletin Board. It is anticipated that the 2006/07 Annual Report will be posted on the School Council webpage in short order along with any other outstanding SC meeting minutes and our summer newsletter.

### **Reports**

#### **1. Principals' Report**

Principal Gallant reported our current school enrolment at 1216 with a projected enrolment of 1170 for October 31, 2007. Sherwood School is staffed by 75 teachers, 10 Educational Assistants, 5 Secretaries, and 6 Caretakers. Principal Gallant visited the classrooms to welcome Grade 9 students. Other activities scheduled for Grade 9 Orientation include an assembly and barbeque. There will be an Awards Celebration at the school Nov. 7/07 at 9 a.m. Department Heads and Principal Gallant will be meeting later this week. There is a "Character Builds Information Session for Parents" on Sept. 19/07 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Sir John A. MacDonald Secondary School. The John Howard Society is presenting parent support workshops "Setting Limits & Boundaries with Your Teen" on Oct. 10/07 from 6-8 p.m. at the Amity Building, 225 King William Street, Suite 201, Hamilton.

Vice-Principal Braun spoke about Safe Schools—starting a staff committee; 2 lockdowns/year continued; installation of new classroom lock devices; 2 security cameras from the Board outstanding; Students aware of Code of Conduct, e.g. Cyberbullying. Learning strategies for 16 & 17 year-olds were discussed, e.g. General Learning Courses, Co-op Placement.

Vice-Principal Wallace announced parents are welcome to join staff in the school Library at 12:30 p.m. for the upcoming Learning Community Day, Sept. 28/07. Topics include "Character Education" and "Differentiated Instruction".

#### **2. Staff Report**

Mr. Murkovich reported that 80-Gr. 9 students attended Movie Night during Welcome Week. A student success strategy "Caring Adult Mentorship" established—at-risk students and teachers are linked. Regarding the Guidance Office, timetabling ongoing but there will be no

more changes after this week. College and University visits/assemblies begin for the senior students. Applications are due by Christmas. Photo day is Sept. 14/07 and the Terry Fox Run takes place Sept. 27/07. Multiple "Fall" sports are underway. School trips planned for this year: NYC Arts Trip in October; Grade 12 Europe Trip in March to Italy; Grade 10 History trip to Ottawa in April; Music Repertoire to a Festival in May.

### **3. Non-Teaching Staff**

Absent—No report

### **4. Student Council**

Absent—No report

R. Gagnon expressed a desire for School Council to partner with Student Council and asked P. Woods to take this suggestion to Student Council. Teacher-Advisor to Student Council, P. Woods, was in immediate agreement to have a parent rep. visit the Student Council morning meetings (1/month).

### **5. Community Representative**

Suggestions were made to recruit a Community Representative for Council this year. No rep. at present. One suggestion was to involve the school nurse leading to a discussion about Public Health support/resources and the "Healthy Choice" programme introduced in the cafeteria. It was noted that second-lunch cafeteria food was depleted. School Administration will follow up with food service provider.

## **Open Issues**

### **1. Plant and Safety**

- a) Woodworking Dust Collection System—Engineers visited Sherwood Aug. 30/07. Tender will close Sept. 13/07 with work to begin shortly thereafter. The classes will be displaced while work is finished. The Fire Marshall has extended the deadline to Nov. 30/07.
- b) Gymnasium—Floor in gym to be glued this week prior to installation of bleachers in October. Mural is next (over the Christmas Break?) on the gymnasium work list followed by banners. It was noted that there is a loose goal-post on the playing field.
- c) Location of display/trophy cases to be determined by school administration before a firm installation date is set.
- d) Ceiling Tiles is an asbestos issue to be addressed through an established process.
- e) Principal Gallant to pursue Science Room fume-hood-issue with Board personnel.
- f) The school logo and "Home of the Saints" to be added to the exterior, newly-installed Sherwood School sign.
- g) Auditorium lights were replaced and remain in working order.

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

### **1. Correspondence/Announcements**

- a) Timetable Conflicts—deferred, K. Stevenson absent
- b) Once Council and funding is in place for this year, a decision regarding the possible purchase of an educational, mental-health DVD will be made. Further discussion required.
- c) The Ontario Ministry of Education is offering Parents Reaching Out Grants for School Councils, 2007/08. The online submission deadline is Oct. 19/07. The grants will be awarded through a review process with particular consideration to schools that did not receive funding for 2006/07 to a maximum of \$1,000. Sherwood Council will need to decide participation, application and subject matter at the October meeting.
- d) The Hamilton Spectator and the Industry-Education Council of Hamilton are seeking nominations to recognize an outstanding educator from the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. Submissions are due Sept. 21/07. The Executive Council will select the winner based on the criteria and objectives of the award programme. The award will be

presented Oct. 10/07 at Liuna Station. Sherwood will be nominating a staff member for this leadership award.

- e) HWDSB Corporate Communications announced the arrival of the new “Media Desk” on the Board website. This provides an opportunity for sharing Sherwood success stories with the community. Principal Gallant forwarded this information to staff members.
- f) Two parent representatives needed by the HWDSB for two committees pertaining to Safe Schools regarding Bill 212 (Progressive Discipline and School Safety) passed June 2007. A **Revisions Committee** scheduled to begin Sept. 25/07 will review the changes required by this legislation and work to develop implementation plans for schools and the Board (changes to suspensions/expulsions, forms, letters, rights of appeal, partnerships). Superintendent Pam Reinholdt will also be establishing an HWDSB **Safe Schools Advisory Committee** with meetings set to begin October 2008 to provide advice on policies, procedures, protocols to be presented to the Board and issues pertaining to safe schools. Please contact I. Drozd if you are interested ([Irene.Drozd@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:Irene.Drozd@hwdsb.on.ca)).

## **2. Nomination Forms/Summer Newsletter**

A School Council newsletter was mailed to Sherwood families during the summer with information for parents about School Councils including a nomination form for Council membership. Reminder to please return nomination forms to the Principal or School Council chairperson to declare your intent by Oct. 2/07. New and old members are welcome!

## **3. Responsibilities of a SC Member**

Deferred to October meeting.

## **4. Parents' Night**

Fall Parents' Night is Oct. 11/07. School Admin. will examine teacher placement for that evening. R. Gagnon drafted an informational flyer for parents to be handed out by student ambassadors. Handout material approved. Further planning/discussion required at the October meeting.

## **5. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Sherwood's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Reunion is Oct. 19 & 20/07. P. Woods presented sample ball caps (\$8) and polo shirts (\$20) that are available for purchase. Proceeds from the clothing sales are going to Ronald McDonald House. Plans include a golf tournament; dinner/dance; Walk Down Memory Lane—yearbook photographs, art displays, music and food/drink.

## **6. Topics of Interest for 2007/08**

R. Gagnon encouraged parents to bring ideas to the table for our next meeting and suggested course textbooks, e-learning as a couple of discussion topics.

## **Next School Council Meeting**

Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at 7 p.m. in the Library (membership meeting).

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:05 p.m.**

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