
Welcome to Sherwood Secondary School Council



School Council News

School Council E-mail: sherwood.sc@hwdsb.on.ca
Chairperson: R. Gagnon Principal: R. Gallant

Summer 2009

Sherwood Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood

School Council Meetings

September 15, 2009	6:30 p.m.
October 6, 2009	6:30 p.m.
November 3, 2009	6:30 p.m.
December 1, 2009	6:30 p.m.
February 2, 2010	6:30 p.m.
March 2, 2010	6:30 p.m.
April 6, 2010	6:30 p.m.
May 4, 2010	6:30 p.m.

Sherwood
Home of the Saints
Since 1967

School Year 2009/10

- *Principal Mr. R. Gallant*
- *Vice-Principal Mr. J. Braun*
- *Vice-Principal Ms. E. Wilkie*
- *Superintendent of Education Ms. S. Stephanian*
- *Ward 6 School Trustee Ms. L. Peddle*

What's Happening at School?

As a parent you will get the most from the school system if you are informed, involved, promote learning and know whom to contact for information.

There are many ways to obtain information and stay connected. Sherwood teachers are available by telephone (a voice mail directory is provided in this package) if you have questions about classroom activity. Guidance Counsellors (905-383-3377, ex. 225) assist with course timetabling and program selection. Sherwood information may be found in the student agenda and on the website (currently under construction). School Council information is posted on the bulletin board near the Auditorium and meeting minutes, annual reports and

newsletters can be found on the School Council page of the Sherwood website. The secondary school calendar, Board policies and procedures can be found on the HWDSB website. Trustees are public officials elected to serve you, students and the school system. Trustees can help parents by providing information, advocating for children, working to change policies and helping parents access the system.

Please plan to attend October Parents' Night where you will have an opportunity to meet with teachers and briefly discuss your student's progress. Hundreds of parents attend, therefore, interviews must be short. If you require more than 10 minutes, please arrange an interview at an alternate time.

TIP—bring along the preliminary reports on Parents' Night if you don't bring along the student!

If you would like to share special skills, talents or experiences (e.g. coaching) or participate in career days, please contact the school or your student's teacher. Healthcare & Wellness and Business are two of many departments that welcome parents as guest speakers.

Please send your comments and suggestions to the School Council mailbox at sherwood.sc@hwdsb.on.ca or provide contact info if you wish to receive information. This is also an opportunity to let us know how communication between home and school can be improved.

How Parents Can Help at Home

Secondary school students are old enough to make many of their own decisions but they still need their parents to provide guidance and set limits.

What about homework? Students may bring home assignments that were started in class. Research projects, studying for tests/exams, practicing new skills are other forms of homework, as well as, organizing binders and workbooks and assigned reading.

Not all students study in the

same way. Some like to work in a quiet place while others prefer music in the background. Some students find it helpful to study with friends.

It also may help to have a regular homework time which becomes part of a routine. Try to get homework done earlier in the evening when students have more energy. Allow time for your son or daughter to relax before bed.

*Encourage use of the school agenda to keep track of assign-

ments and tests.

*Unless it is a project, homework should be a review of what students are learning in class so students should be able to do their homework on their own.

*Encourage your SAINT to spend some time reading by themselves each day.

*Talk to your children about school every day and be a good listener. It lets your SAINT know that school is important to you.

*Please make sure that a job doesn't interfere with school.

School Council Staff is on the Sherwood Website and our email mailbox is open all summer!

Do You Have Ideas for School Council?

School Councils are elected to advise principals and boards on ways to improve student achievement to make the education system more accountable to parents. By law, School Councils must be consulted on: (1) The process and criteria for selection and placement of principals and vice-principals, (2) Board codes of conduct and dress, (3) Policies for fundraising by school councils, and (4) action plans for student improvement based on standardized test results.

School Councils may also make recommendations to their principals and school boards on any

matter from improving the school property to changing the length of the lunch break to discussing school closings.

Principals and school boards are required by law to consider recommendations made by School Councils and to report back to them on how they plan to act on their advice.

School Councils are responsible for sharing information with parents and the community and seeking their ideas and views about matters under consideration by the Council.

Principals support the work of the Council by providing infor-

mation and notifying the school community about School Council meetings/elections and publicizing the names of Council members, annual reports and financial statements of Council activities.

Sherwood School Council and our Principal work in collaboration with Sherwood Staff and Student Council. As a parent or guardian of a Sherwood Student, you are invited to attend our meetings in the School Library. Dates are listed on the front page of this newsletter. Please complete and return the nomination form below if you wish to become a member.

Know What to Do to Fight the H1N1 Flu Virus



The H1N1 flu virus (human swine flu) is a respiratory illness that causes symptoms similar to those of the seasonal flu (fever and cough, runny nose, sore throat, body aches, fatigue and lack of appetite).

All strains of flu can be dangerous; however, good infection prevention measures can help protect you and others if this virus begins to spread rapidly.

PRECAUTIONS

- Wash your hands often and thoroughly—for at least 20 seconds—in warm, soapy water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when unable to access a sink.
- Cough and sneeze in your sleeve, not your hand.
- Keep common surfaces and items clean and disinfected.
- Stay home if you're sick and call your health care provider if your symptoms

get worse.

Knowledge is your best defence. There is a swine flu message from the HWDSB Director, a parent letter and a question/answer form on the HWDSB website www.hwdsb.on.ca. For more information you may visit www.fightflu.ca or Hamilton Public Health 905-546-2424, ex. 7970 or email H1N1flu@hamilton.ca

Nomination Form—Sherwood Secondary School Council, HWDSB

I wish to be a candidate for an elected position as a parent/guardian representative on the School Council for 2009/10.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell Home

Email address: _____

I am the parent/guardian of a student at Sherwood: Yes No

I am an employee of the School Board: Yes No

Signature: _____

Nomination received by: _____

The next Council meeting is in the school Library at 6:30 pm on September 15, 2009. Please return this nomination form to the school principal or Council chairperson before October 6, 2009.