

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL OF
SIR WILLIAM OSLER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HELD AT 330 GOVERNOR'S ROAD,
DUNDAS, ONTARIO

January 18, 2017

Council Members Present: Phil Moruzi, Dara Coulter, Mathew Gibson, Jane Nash, Sajah Stiller, Katherine Spencer, Harold Hoff, Heather Phillips, Catherine Roberts, Nadine Sayliss, Martha Aimola, Sarah Van Geffen, Jetta Turkstra , Mieke Ewen

Parents/Teachers Present: Lisa Neale, Mark Verbeek, Nancy Kucic, Corinne Wallace, Chan Moruzi, Greg Davidson, Kim Moon, Carolyn Murray, Laurie Wright, Mark Stevenson, Flavia Kessler Borges, Shannon Clark, David Turkstra, Alyson Kowalchuk, Daniel Brousseau, Christine Boston, Andy Bone, Chris Bye, Meagan Sanderson, Jeanne Albert, Jane McLean, Lori Lofchick, Maria Dufour, Merle McDonald Terhlan, Rachel Haalboom, Veronika Pribyl, Steve Deighton

Regrets: Yvonne Johnson, Isabella Piatek

Absent:

- 1. Call to Order**
Phil Moruzi chaired the meeting. A quorum was present with 14 of 16 members present, the meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.
- 2. Review of minutes of last meeting.**
No amendments necessary
Approved via email
- 3. By-laws:** were sent out to voting members via email. No changes suggested.
- 4. Parent Activity Committee** - movie night did very well and there is a plan to have another one. The total amount raised is unknown at this time. A Valentine's Dance-a-thon is planned for Thursday, February 16th, 2017. Pledge sheets have gone home. Donations are welcome. The Health Action Team would like to have fruit kebabs donated by parents and fruit juices to provide a healthy option at the dance-a-thon.

5. Treasurer’s Report:

Pita Pit - \$4687.16 has been collected. However, invoices to have yet to be paid.
The pre-allocated funds have been transferred over twice. Therefore, \$3,103.33 needs to be transferred back to the main fund or reallocated to something else.

6. Principal/Vice-principal Report:

Celebrations

Staff Update

Grade 1 Mrs. Redgers is on maternity leave, Grade 4/5 Mrs.Cianfrini retirement. Welcome to staff members: Mr. Karatas, Educational Assistant, Mrs.O’Coin, Grade 1 and Ms Nicolaides, Grade 4/5 .

Student Learning & Achievement and Positive Culture & Well-Being

School Annual Plan - Positive Culture & Well-Being / Student Learning and Achievement

- Effective instructional strategies of comprehensive literacy and interventions in all Kindergarten to grade 8 classes
- Allow students to develop better self-regulation skills through mindfulness strategies
- Using Collaborative Proactive Solutions as a response to working with students
- Helping to build resiliency by focussing on math processes through the use of open tasks

School-Wide Practices to Support Student Growth and Learning

Instructional Practices to Support Student Growth and Learning	
POSITIVE CULTURE AND WELL-BEING	STUDENT LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote an environment that encourages risk taking, discussions and choice; • refer and explicitly teach classroom norms to cooperate, collaborate, respect and listen to others; • use of CPS strategies and tools (e.g. ALSUP, Plan B conversations, understanding that students do the best if they can), particularly with students who demonstrate the most challenging behaviour; • regular use of conferencing and self-reflection with individual students to identify progress and perseverance skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing and applying feedback from success criteria to improve student student work and/or articulate learning needs; • student will work in a variety of ways (i.e small groups, tech tools, discussions, learning centres) that allow for collaboration and problem solving; • use of relevant, real world and student generated learning tasks that promote student voice and choice; • focus on use of high yield strategies that support rich student learning and thinking (e.g. use of problem solving, reflect and connect in mathematics, focus on Higher Order Thinking skills in reading- inferring, analyzing, synthesizing).

Math is Everywhere

Staff Learning Session focussed on:

- Making mathematical connections in the real world
- Engage in discussions about mathematical norms & growth mindset
- Explore further how number talks can improve mental math and computation skills.
- Actively participate in "doing the math".
- Build an understanding of how math processes can be used to develop a deeper understanding of the mathematics.

Upcoming learning opportunities: Book Study, Making Thinking Visible with Instructional Coaches, Gr. 6 Teacher iPad System Learning, Lunch & Learns

Grade 8 Transitions

Grade 8 Option Sheet Presentations are booked and we look forward to having Student Services staff from DVSS on

January 19th presenting to classes 8A, 8B and 8C and Student Services staff from Westdale on January 31st presenting to classes 8FI. This event is for students only.

A reminder for parents / caregivers: [Grade 8 Option Sheet Nights](#) **Resources:** [DVSS Grade 9 Handbook](#)
[Westdale Grade 9 Info Book 2016 – 2017](#)

Grade 8 Presentation – January 24, 2017

Officer Drozd from Hamilton Police Services will be at SWO in the Learning Commons presenting to Grade 8 students on a topic connected to health and wellness, safety and security. She will be facilitating a session entitled: Substance Abuse: Life Up in Smoke.

Operational

Grade 8 Graduation Photos are coming soon! Click here: [February 1st, 2017](#) to view details and flyer.

MARK - SWO Learning Commons

Over the last few months a committee has been collecting data, samples and expert feedback connected to the Sir William Osler Library and working towards the transformation to a Learning Commons. With input from experts in design and staff, the first phase has been completed and the new concepts are being sourced for completion of the newly designed SWO Learning Commons. To read more: please go [here](#).

Teachers have been providing feedback and input on the new resources to be allocated to the Learning Commons. From this information gathering additional books will include a focus on the curriculum based non-fiction books from K-5 and reading for pleasure fiction books for 6 - 8. Books will include French and English. Ms. Wilkinson attended the Multi-Vendor Book Sale to scope out resources.

At this time we would ask School Council to consider purchasing the primary furniture for the library (\$5800) and additional books (\$1000).

Community Networking

Growing Together is a community education guide for parents, children and youth listing courses, groups and workshops available in Hamilton. Here is how you can view online the [Growing Together course and workshop guide](#), for January to August 2017.

Teacher Report will include:

1. Upcoming trips (Mtl/Couch/ any other ones I find out).
2. Gr 8 grad: (date / some changes to merit designations, ie. Honours 80% to 89% and Distinction at 90% or above).
3. SWO happenings:
 - *Clubs: Go Girls, Chess Club
 - * Athletics: Bball, indoor games
 - * Music: C. Broer's post indicating DVSS band success is a credit to the music program at SWO
 - * N. Persaud involvement of delivery of the MindUp program
 - * SWO preparing 2nd annual SWO Winter Carnival

The following points were voiced by attendees (parents) in response to the Principal's Report:

- Is there a school policy on tech use?
- Answering a question with a question is not an answer with all due respect. As leadership there needs to be some direction and consistency. Reasonable accommodation needs to be provided.
- Students continue to use technology while outside at break. How is this monitored? How does this promote active recess?
- A request for a copy of the Code of Conduct to be shared with council/parents was made. There have been 2 months since the last meeting; thus, sufficient time to develop one.
- What will happen if parents stop sending their personal devices to school?
- A concern was shared regarding the potential for cyberbullying at recess.
- What is the ratio of devices to students?
- Could you give an example of a lesson where a teacher is using technology? Concrete examples from a classroom will help parents have a better understanding.
- What are your specific take-aways from this meeting?
- The school's blog – is it a source of information?
- Code of Conduct – Where are the tabs for the parent website? Is there a place to give feedback to the board?
- I am not sure that when I signed the media consent I understood what it covers? Could you please clarify? Also, what is the process to withdraw my consent?
- Can a teacher take a picture of my child and post it in their personal social media account?
- If a teacher has a picture of my child on their personal device, then it is a breach of confidentiality.
- I have looked on the SWO website and noticed a reference to digital citizenship. Can you please explain this?
- There is a need for accountability and transparency, particularly around technology and communication. There was time given and no report has come back. There is not a clear understanding by the students. There has not been progress. We request mutual respect.
- Who has the authority to change the BYOD policy?
- What are your take aways from this meeting? Have you had talks with teachers? How have they gone and what are the next steps?
- How are the devices policed? What are the next steps?
- How does one monitor the progress of the strategic mandate at the classroom level?

7. Teacher's Report: (Madame Kucic)

Successes:

- The Angel Tree gift drive was a success.
- The Go Girls program (for Grade 7 and 8 girls) has been very well attended.
- Mrs. Broer has posted a list outside of the office that highlights SWO grads who are now in their high school band.
- Ms. Persaud is leading a mindfulness project in the primary grades.

Upcoming Events:

- SWO Wonderland will be held again some time in February
- Grad committee – meeting coming soon. Grad will be on June 22
- Camp Couch – June 14, 15,16
- Montreal Trip – open to Intermediate FSL students (Core and French Immersion); 3 day/2 night trip; May 10, 11, 12; sample itinerary was shared; Cost will be \$478.98 per student. A request was made for funds to help offset cost for the Montreal Trip; information night would be next week; date will be announced.
- **MOTION:** To hold a popcorn day to specifically support the FSL trip (Moved: Jetta, Seconded: Nadine) **PASSED**

8. **New Business:** none

9. **Next meeting: February 22, 2017**

(Chair)

Sajah Stiller
(Secretary)