

Ancaster Parent Council Meeting Sept 17, 2018

Attendees: Rhu Sherrard (chair), R. Gallant (principal), M. Currie (VP), S. Ferney (VP), Lisa Mancini, Pauline Boulos, Rosemarie McCutcheon, Barb Love, Jennifer Mattern, Roland Mattern, V. Fletcher (staff), Liam Outlaw (co-chair school council)
Minutes prepared by Pauline Boulos
Regrets: Lisa Collins, Sandra Starr

Previous minutes:

-May 2018 minutes approved by Lisa Mancini and Rhu Sherrard

-Feb 2018 minutes approved by Rosemarie McCutcheon and Venetia Fletcher

Student council report Liam Outlaw

1. Grade 9 night was very successful
2. Student council sweaters will be ordered
3. Semi-Formal is being planned for December
4. Spirit week will be the week of Oct 1st
5. Homecoming Oct 4th, there will be a dance in the evening as well

Club updates

-HOSA 70 members

-Make a wish

-Economics debate club

-Royal Gazette starts Wed and first issue released in November

-MMA

-HOPE

-Grade 11 reps are trying to bring TED talks over lunch

-Student voice

-Positive space

-GAA 80 members came out

-BAA will be running a BBQ for Terry Fox

-Cut cancer

-DECA also over 80 members

-60th anniversary of school coming up so will look into having an alumni event

Staff representative- Ms. Fletcher

- Renovations occurred over the summer
- Classroom brighter looking
- There was a transition for at risk students in August coming to AHS
- Grade 9 night – there were incredible senior leaders, FAB 5, 30 staff volunteering, 200+ grade 9 students
- Girl's field hockey team started with many new members.

- First staff meeting- focused on student achievement and equity and equitability, departments tailoring to their needs.

Principal's report Mr. R. Gallant

- Assembly on first day- they encourage student's to get involved.
- 1,200 students, 100 staff, 80 teachers, 6 EA, 5 Admin staff, 2 cafeteria workers.
- A lot of renovations over the summer occurred included new lighting and new flooring, will be getting new field and new windows
- A big thank you to Ms. Fletcher and all who were involved in Grade 9 night
- Terry Fox next week (Sept 26th)
- Orange shirt day next Friday (Sept 28th) to remember students in residential schools.
- Preliminary reports due Oct 5th
- Oct 17th is parent interview

Vice principal's report Mr. Currie and Ms. Ferney

- PA Sept 21st, Positive school climate and achievement, and equity and inclusion will be topics for discussion
- We are above board provincial rates for EQAO
- Math and numeracy initiatives for parents and teachers for Grade 1-8
- There has been a review of electronics policy and try to have a standardized policy. Try to use technology in a productive way.
- Open issues:
 - o Asbestos – concern with leaks, over summer did full asbestos abatement and removed all in East wing, ceiling and floor tiles replaced, upgraded electrical and put LED lights. East wing roof is being replaced, working evening and weekends to cause least disruption to students and for safety reasons.
 - o Cameras – board will be installing them.
 - o New doors, will replace all hallway doors and locks.
- Field upgrade – looking at getting a new natural turf field and track beginning of June-November 2019.
- We are scheduled for window replacement of whole school but don't know the date
- Other business: Global news article Waterloo Engineering ranking high schools. Average drop is about 16% for all students. Where it was more than that they published it. The sample size was small but we don't know for sure. Without a context it is just data. Only looked at 2018. We don't know all the information yet. Will report more once we learn more. Mr. Gallant is happy that student's are thinking about it and thinking critically.

Next Meetings: Oct 15th, Nov 12th, Feb 11th, April 15th, May 13th all at 6:30 in LC.
Meeting adjourned.