

Balaclava School Council Meeting Agenda

Date: January 15th at 6pm, 2019

Attendees: Cheryl Hue, Jacky Small, Ellie Millard, Marty Adams, Cathy Pyper, Jennifer Lukawecky, Nancy Lenarduzzi, Lisa Perosevic, Meagan Wilson

Meeting Held: 6:02pm-8:05pm (I am guessing on this:) It wasn't recorded. Do you remember?

Item #	Discussion	Name
1	Volunteer to take notes	Jacky Small
2	Approval of Minutes	Jennifer L.
3	Business Arising from Previous Minutes	All
4	Principal's Report	Meagan Wilson
5	Chair's Report	Lisa Perosevic/Cheryl Hue
6	Home and School Report	Ellie Millard
7	New Business	All

Item 3: Business Arising from Previous Minutes

1. Optimist Money - Heinz's request for proposal was due in January
 - o We're hoping to use the money for music equipment
 - o Meagan stated that she was not given an amount, but submitted likely more than will get covered.
 - o Question raised: Is this more of school council decision or conversation?
2. Dress Code Progress
 - o Cheryl shared Rebecca Newcombe's email, who was unable to attend: board guideline
 - o School to make recommendations
 - o Meagan met with school leadership team
 - o Stdt leadership wants to add in "ear-buds" as part of the technology expectations; they should not be worn in class unless teacher permitted as are devices should be in lockers unless teachers say it's okay to use
 - o **ACTION: Meagan to bring this up with staff too for their input**
 - o Guideline document/table given by Cheryl discussed what needs to be included in the Balaclava dress code policy
 - o Spaghetti straps wording in the policy - should it go or not from the Balaclava policy?
 - o POSSIBLE ACTION: Wording should be changed such as; undergarments should not be visible through clothing such as: spaghetti straps, halter tops, see thru tops/blouses, low cut shirts, etc.

- Jacky shared the **5 Bs** used at her school - the 5 B's should not be visible: bum (underwear), belly (crop tops showing mid-drift), back (crop tops showing back), breast (low cut shirts/blouses/tops), bra straps
 - Length of skirts and shorts - should the policy say the length of the students' fingertips when arms are fully extended down at one's sides" like it currently does?
 - Fashion now is that you cannot buy long shorts
 - Guidelines vs policies - should be something that's enforced by administration of the school
 - **ACTION: To find out if we can change the Balaclava dress code regarding spaghetti straps to the comment above? Cheryl to contact Sue Dunlop to ask if Balaclava needs to follow HWDSB guidelines.**
 - 21st Century Competencies - Update from Meagan based on Teacher feedback and brainstorm of which 21st Century Competencies would be beneficial to Balaclava
 - Meagan spoke about 21st Century Competencies as communication, and critical thinking -things that are not taught in isolation.
 - Teachers are to use these competencies throughout their whole teaching.
 - Marty spoke about schools in Australia: sounds more like flexible curriculum something that Canada education does not do
 - What is 21st century competencies? Lisa gave handout
 - Building confidence, inclusion, real-life situations, equity
 - Lisa commented that if the competencies are not a Board initiative, the school will likely not focus on them.
3. Does Balaclava want to investigate its participation in Hamilton Schools Adventure Running Challenge?
- No interest from members attending.

Item 3: Principal's Report

- December Food Drive and Toy Drive were both a success
- Students went down to Queen Victoria to give toys and serve lunch & we received cards from them
- Holiday concert & play - thanks to Home & School for play hours - it was fantastic
- Swim team practice - end of Nov.
- Mass Band at WDHS
- Volleyball season wrapped up with a teacher/student game
- Indoor soccer coming up - tournament days (Gr. 5-8)
- Checkers has started
- Roof: approved to be fixed, sent out to tenders, to be completed during the summer, capital expense from the board
- Officer Melissa - presented to Jr. Classes and will return to discuss internet safety with intermediates, and with Gr. 7 & 8 about vaping
- After school programs: Art Innovators, Hip Hop Club, and Mad Science coming
- Gr. 8 Events: transition to high school (Jan. 30th - day at WDHS), Jan. 16th Parent info night at WDHS
- Jan. 25th PA Day

- PD - all students & teachers are feeling safe + key focus on improvement in Mathematics
- Meagan handed out Math survey/questionnaire (pink paper); it's to look at every student in general to see what trends are happening overall in all grades and not only for EQAO Gr. 3 & 6 - it is to be used as the school's improvement plan and looked at in Feb & March staff meetings
- What is role of parent council? **ACTION: Meagan to speak about role of parent council next meeting first**

Item 4: Chair's Report

1. Pro Grant Progress
 - We have \$1000.00 = Home & School wants to do a Math night
 - Pro-Grant Project title: Methods to Improve Wellness and Decrease Anxiety (\$1000) - Home School are saying that Math causes anxiety so they want to use the money for a Math night
 - The money needs to be spent by June 2019
 - Open House ideas that could use this Pro-Grant; student led activities that are taught to parents; or booths, have visitors like a nutritionist, a zumba or yoga instructor, mediation instructor, Social worker (doing a presentation of some sorts like anxiety), emotional freedom technique (Tapping), karate, art, dancing, math, other
 - **ACTION: Lisa to send out a survey/questionnaire asking parent likes of mentioned above activities**
 - Use volunteers to lead these stations
 - **ACTION: Lisa to follow up with Home & School to see if they have moved forward with the purchase of the math kits**
 - Rural schools committee - no meeting yet this year.....however they have said there is Ministry money again this year that we could use. Criteria for use: bussing and/or outdoor equipment. Amount is \$3605.00
2. Nomination of Secretary? Still no interest, so we plan on alternating the role each meeting.

Item 5: H&S Report

1. Unfortunately Ellie had to leave before we got to this part of the agenda.

Item 6: New Business

1. No new business brought forward

Next meetings:

Feb 26, 2019

Apr 9, 2019