



Chedoke School

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 16th, 2020 @ 6 PM

Attendees: *Kristina Collier, Cindy Stewart, Emma Topping, Mark Degner (P), Nicola Giles (VP), Emily Patten, David Armani, Katie Duffy, Sherrie Coulson, Charlene Elston, Amy Zorzetto*

Student Council Attendees: N/A

Special Guest: N/A

Regrets: *Tim Cummins, Abdulmuhamdi Enshassi, Lorraine Robinson, Kevin Benson, Timea Strifler*

Land Acknowledgement:

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt represents the treaty relationship between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and Anishinaabe with respect to sharing the land and resources thereon.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

Meeting Norms:

- Please keep yourself on mute, with your video off
- This PowerPoint will be shared
- Questions will be addressed throughout the presentation and at the end. Please use the 'raise your hand' feature and wait for the chair to recognize you before speaking. You can also post questions in the chat line.

Treasurer Report:

Current Account Balance of \$1173.53

Principal Report:

- Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Restore School Community
- Academics

Mental Health - Staff have been working on "Learn Disrupt Rebuild", following last month's meeting. Recently we focused on the concept of "Identity" (trying to understand identity from the inside out) The staff are learning to understand their own identities to help the children discover theirs. Mr. Hughie is training the staff with a focus on emotional coaching.

Academics – Continue to identify at risk learners – In the New Year our focus will be on Kindergarten. Continue delivering support to our home-schooled students. Huge thank you to staff & students for their support during these particularly tough and tiring times.

Questions/Concerns – elaborate on mental health training – What is the specific training and support provided? The pandemic has shown that mental health is an issue. We continue to check in with students – verbally or through pictures. Also, with colours to communicate and help the child become self-regulated. Extra recourses for students who require more assistance, such as social workers are being provided.

What resources are available for older students? Calming room available on both floors to have a one on one conversation with an EA. Resource teachers, Admins and Social Workers are available to older students also.

Suggestions - Cindy is a member of the Bully review panel, she recommends that the Parent Council be more involved in Mental Health issues at the school, particularly for the older students. It has been suggested that a list of Parent Council members be sent to parents, providing an alternative channel of support. Nicola and Mark both support this suggestion. Information such as, what is School Council? Can be published on the school website.

Can we send resources to parents online, on issues such as, "How to deal with stress?"

Caution - to all Parent Council members, when giving advice, it is recommended to redirect parents to Mr. Degner or the student's teacher. When all efforts have been exhausted, Mr Degner will forward to the appropriate person.

School Photos:

Great news! Individual student photos have been approved. No class photos at this time. More information to follow In January 2021.

Teacher Report: from Amy Zorzetto

- A huge thanks for all the patience and support to the entire team at Chedoke.

- Classes 7A and 7B made a huge batch of Holiday Cards that will be given out to seniors at various locations in the city. Ms. Sikora delivered them to a friend yesterday so that they can quarantine before being handed out. The kids did an awesome job and wrote some lovely messages in the cards!
- Kindergarten classes have also been working on virtual cards / images to send over holiday cheer

Chair Report

Kristina thanks parent council members for supporting the purchase of 4 iPads during November's meeting. iPads have been purchased and are on their way to classes to support our students and their technology growth.

We welcome our new VP, Nicola Giles, with open arms, and hope that she has had a wonderful two weeks so far getting to know staff and students. Mr. Degner and the team at Chedoke work well together and with parent council, and we look forward to sharing that bond with Mrs. Giles as well. Congratulations on the position of VP, and hoping to hear more from you in the future.

Motion:

Emma – 'motion to spend up to \$1000 on iPads or any other school needs'

Cindy – second.

Motion approved.

Meeting Adjourn

Once again, welcome Mrs Giles!

Happy Holidays everyone!! Best wishes and stay safe during the winter break!