



Chedoke School

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 20, 2021 @ 6 PM

Attendees: *Kristina Collier, Cindy Stewart, Mark Degner (P), Nicola Giles (VP), Emily Patten, Katie Duffy, Sherrie Coulson, Amy Zoretto, Tim Cummins, Lorraine Robinson, Timea Strifler.*

Student Council Attendees: N/A

Special Guest: N/A

Regrets: *Emma Topping (allocates vote to Sherri), David Armani, Abdul Muhdii, Charlene Elston, Kevin Benson.*

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:

No treasurers report this month.

Principal Report:

Celebrations

- Transition to remote learning for 389 students at Chedoke.
- Staff- Classroom Teachers, EAs, DECEs and LRTs - are meeting with classes and small groups.
- Students and parents are engaging and participating.
- New opportunities to know our students and their families and strengthen partnerships.
- Ms Main hired as 0.6FTE – replaces Mrs. Morgan who retired in December.

Devices

- We distributed 27 devices to students last week. The demand for iPads has definitely tapered off now. Most families appear to be ready and engaged in remote learning.
- Requests for a device can still be made by calling the school.
- HWDSB is using a central deployment so Principals submit their requests. Once approved, families are contacted for pick-up. This is now done on a weekly basis.
- Currently, devices are only being deployed in our school to students in Grade 1-8 students. Learning packages are available for Kindergarten students. Parents can pick up at the office or the teacher can email to the parent.

Attendance

- Ministry of Education has directed schools to take attendance everyday. Attendance is taken for students present at the MS Teams Meetings: 8:25 and 11:25. Safe Arrival Attendance calls are made each morning and the office makes another call in the afternoon if a student's attendance changes during the day without the office being informed.
- If your child needs to leave early or will be absent, you can use School Messenger to report the absence.

Special Education

- Ministry of Education has made provisions for students with pervasive needs to return to in-person learning during this closure. At Chedoke, nobody is in this category.
- Ministry of Education has made provisions for students in self-contained special classes to return to in-person during this closure. At Chedoke, we have such a class. The teacher, an Educational Assistant, and teachers who provide prep coverage for the teacher are coming in daily to support these students. The principal is on site daily to support the staff and students, as is a teacher who is qualified in first-aid. Currently 3 students attend the program daily and 8 receive online instruction from the teacher and EA.
- Learning Resource Teachers work with teachers and EAs to develop online programming for students, liaise with specialized support staff within the board to deliver service to students with special needs,

arrange for IPRCs, provide instruction directly to some students and coordinate the development of IEPs in our regular classrooms: Remote School 17 students, Face-to-Face in-school 68 students.

- One Learning Resource Teacher also delivers the Empower Reading Program online one hour per day/5 days per week to 7 students in grades 2 and 3.
- Specialized support staff from the board provide enrichment programming directly to 11 students who have a Gifted profile. They also provide social communication programming to 1 student with ASD.
- 1 Educational Assistant works in the self-contained special class. She supports 3 students in the classroom and 8 students online daily.
- 3 Educational Assistants continue to support 5 students who are registered in the Remote School. They also support the learning of 25 grade 2-8 students with special needs each week.
- 1 Educational Assistant supports 17 K-1 students each week with their literacy programming.

Transition to In-Person Learning (After School Closure Period)

- The school has prepared for this by determining capacity of all available rooms and carefully monitoring expressions of interest from parents.
- The school has prepared for this by determining capacity of all available rooms and carefully monitoring expressions of interest from parents.

Financial Support for Families

- Ontario is offering funding for parents to help offset costs during the 2020-2021 school year. The deadline to apply for this one-time funding has been extended to **February 8, 2021**. Search for Ontario Financial Support for Learners for more details.

School Improvement Plan

- We continue to focus our reading data collection on grade 1 reading. We are beginning to shift to gather data in kindergarten. Our Reading Specialist currently works directly online with 24 students twice each week.
- Our mental health and well-being focus continues to be to build capacity in all staff in the use of emotion coaching.
- Creating a safe-identity school is a priority in our equity work (LDR).
- Staff continue to receive monthly training in staff meetings, through the board's PD (through self-directed opportunities on The Hub and real-time sessions through MS Teams).

Teacher Report:

No teachers report this month. The teachers are overwhelmed with the positivity and would like to say a heartfelt, thank you.

YMCA: Running at 50% capacity. Currently receiving new guidelines from Public Health, possible mandatory testing. Staff are being trained in mental health, self regulation for students, supporting families during these times. The Children love coming to the centre. I am impressed that the children are having no issues adhering to the protocols. Thankfully, no illnesses have been reported in the centre. Families and staff have been very cooperative to ensure the safety of everyone.

Chair Report:

Questions/ Concerns / Motions:

Cindy: How is the attendance? Why is attendance done in the afternoon? Answer: A lot better than we thought it would be. Attendance is taken for safety reasons.

Cindy: Can we get the staff to keep the children engaged by encouraging the child to “raise their hand”? Answer: This concern can be raised with the individual’s teacher as they know the program better than anyone.

Cindy – “Teachers and staff are doing a fantastic job!”

Sherrie – Is there a reading specialist for intermediate readers or learners with special needs? Answer: Grade 8 students are provided with support and resources which includes a meeting with the High School, where a support schedule will be developed for students. Currently, the reading specialist will focus on Kindergarten as well as Grade 1-3 however a reading program for older students is being discussed and rolled out to grades 6&7.

Kristina: If we do go back to in-school learning, will students who were originally in-school be given “first dibs”? Answer: There will be no change. Each student will go back to their original teachers.

December meeting minutes approved.

Meeting Adjourn

February meeting date to be confirmed via email vote.