

# Dundas Valley Secondary School

## School Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Location-East Campus Library

**In Attendance:** Em Delsordo, Simon Goodacre, Anne Waldie, Dan Popovich, Kraig Matthews, Jennifer Kleven, Sharon Holford, Colleen Evans, Margot Carnahan, Mary Orlik, Linda Howie, Merle McDonald, Sue Van Egdome, Shelley Stirling-Boyes, Mary Beth Kennedy, Ramona Jerome, Susan Kennedy, Jane Dean, Denise Johnson, Kathy Schaefer

- 1. Welcome:** attendance list passed around.
- 2. November Minutes** amended by Sharon Holford ; moved by Mary Orlik; seconded by Sue Van Egdome and Margot Carnahan.
- 3. Public Health Nurse – Maureen Kelly:** The public health nurse is employed by the City of Hamilton. The nurse would like to help prevent problems before they happen (tobacco and substance abuse). Work with grade 9's: self-esteem, communication, skill building and youth engagement. Studying tip opportunities created by students, on-line tips created by Ms. Lawson. Different students have different ways to study. If anyone is available on Fridays, Health Action Team meets and would welcome parent representation.
- 4. DVSS Vision – Mr. Brochu:** Creating a vision statement for DVSS – commitment to student achievement and the core objectives of HWDSB and MOE. With a focus of Human Rights: character and citizenship. This aligns with the specialized learning program: global connect. The goal is to change the world through our youth. How can we, as parents, help our students learn and graduate with this vision?
- 5. Student Council Report:** Kraig Matthews: December Activities: The winter formal was a success with 400 students attending. The Winter Assembly took place: clubs made presentations, there were fun activities offered. Upcoming Activities in 2<sup>nd</sup> semester: a social event is in planning stages to be more inclusive for students. 50% of Deca members qualified to attend competition in Toronto. The price of the yearbook will go up at the end of January, yearbooks can be ordered on Josten.com.

## 6. Principal's Report:

**Construction Update:** There were a small number of people in attendance at the meeting. The construction is on schedule. There is a lot of construction occurring inside the school. The occupancy permit will be scheduled for September 2015. Small things can be completed while the school is occupied. The shops will be shut down in summer 2016 to undergo renewal. The option for future meeting setup (late April, early May) is to be discussed. The name for the contact at the city for Safe Travel Routes is needed. Governors Road and the

safety concerns are a City matter – contact Arlene Vanderbeek. Margot will be writing a letter outlining concerns; will share with School Council members. Everyone is encouraged to voice your concerns to Arlene (power in numbers).

**Looking for Input:** Em will be putting together a presentation and placing it on the website, asking for input from parents. Goal is to educate parents about terminology used in teaching/learning, so that they can better engage with teachers, to better understand what's happening in the classroom.

**Lockers:** All lockers will have to be emptied by Jan. 26/15 and locks removed. West Campus: There will be about 395-400 students requiring lockers. There are 197 available – students will have to share. East Campus: students will be assigned lockers when they attend their semester 2 period 1 class.

**PD Days:** January 28 & 29 – unless there is a snow day, then exams are postponed until the following day.

**Semeter 2: January 30:** All students will be at the East Campus in the morning for semester 1 exam review. Semester 2 periods 3 & 4 will take place in the afternoon at the scheduled campus.

7. **Staff Report – Mr. Popovich:** Despite the challenges of this year: two campus model, new computer system, coordinating, everyone has been flexible: administration, students, parents. Success!

#### 8. **Other Business:**

**Council By-Laws:** There are some issues that should be addressed: how many voting members, how to deal with self nominees that don't attend, how to deal with email voting. The draft by-laws hopefully will be sent out for review prior to our February meeting.

**EQAO Literacy Test Volunteers: March 26** Volunteers are needed at the East Campus. Let your friends know. Contact Simon or Jennifer if available.

**Trustee's Council – 2 reps needed** A new initiative put together by school board trustee Greg VanGeffen – a working group to share political issues. Each school will present a 2-3 minute report on their school and report back to council. The first meeting is Feb.12 - Jennifer and Colleen will attend. Council members will rotate as reps for subsequent meetings.

9. **Meeting adjourned** at 8:25pm. Next meeting: February 17, 2015, 6:30pm East Campus library.