

# Dundas Valley Secondary School Council Minutes

16 Nov 21, 2021

Virtual Meeting

**Present:** Zoey Heeney, Gail Cipriani, Michael Murray, Dara Coulter, Susan Moelker, Cathy Veldman, Nancy Nemeth, Scott Barr, Jennifer Lawson, Jennifer Warren, Brian Coombes, Julia Zacharia, Tommy Lombardo, Chan Moruzi

**Regrets:** none

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 6:31 PM
- Land Acknowledgement: By Scott Barr

## 2. Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Motion to approve:

- Dara Coulter, seconded Susan Moelker

## 3. President's Report

- Congrats to students for completing first quadmester.
- Buying boxes of candy - Costco
- Planning a spirit week – leading up to the Winter break
- Newspaper club has started. Ms. Wood is helping students and a student has come forward to do photos for the paper
- Also, will ask the scorekeepers at athletic meetings to take photos for newspaper due to limited people being allowed to go to games (Covid)

## 4. Teacher's Report (Jen Warren)

- Quadmeter 2 started yesterday – 15 Nov.
- last week (10-12 Nov) were student success days, they took place instead of final exams. Gr 12's still had exams but other grades used these days to achieve their course credit by demonstrating they have the skills to pass. These days were primarily to target students who were not passing, but it was open to ALL students if they wanted to improve their grade. These days are a lot of extra work for teachers and students, but it has been very successful as they are tailored to specific students and their needs. A shout out to Steve Davie, his resource team and the teachers: +- 1200-1300 credits were achieved this quadmester, only about 20-30 credits were not achieved. Student Success days are available in all schools across the HWDSB

## 5. Principal's Report

- For Quadmester 2. Period 3 will be the AM class and period 4 will be the PM class.
- Lockers will be based on proximity to a student's AM class, each student is required to bring their own combination lock for their locker
- Nov 19: Quadmester 1 final reports go out via the Parent Portal.
- EQAO – gr 9 Math was done during quadmester 1.
- Destreamed Math has started this year, 2 new topics have been added:- Coding and a Financial component (e.g. Money management) .

During the 1<sup>st</sup> quadmester there was only 1 math class, there are 3 math classes in Quadmester 2.

Mr. Leonard, Mr. Davey & Mr. Murray all looked at how to make the new curriculum work best. Also how to help students with the EQAO. Nov 4 had a practice EQAO test, Nov 5 & 8 was the actual EQAO. It was done completely on an iPad. An APP was added to all the iPads, which has a "safe exam" mode, this blocks students from accessing any other functions/programs during the test, to stop plagiarism.

- Teachers provided resource support days for students who needed extra help/support after Covid absenteeism. This will be done again.
- OSSLT – gr 10 literacy test. Grads of June 2022 don't need to do this, but after this year it will be required again. It's usually a morning test for gr 10's only, done in Spring. Support and prep work will be done on Nov 29 & 30 with students to instruct how to do this in the correct format online. This will be 2x 60 minute sessions. Gr 11 & 12 do this in Fall, Gr 10's in Spring. All done on an iPad.
- Prelim reports (paper copy) go out week of Dec 6.
- Flex Day – Dec 8 – this is to support students where the curriculum is compressed, the current quadmester terms are a good example of this. There is MANDATORY attendance for all students on Flex days, it's for them to demonstrate their knowledge. It's a catch-up day, not a day off. Staff are hoping this day will still be put aside for individual help of students and for it to continue after the quadmester model is over, also hoping students take this opportunity to use their voice and ask for help to improve their marks.
- school photos are scheduled for Dec 15 & 16.
- Student success day – celebration of credits earned; less than 20 failures achieved this past flex day.
- Library now open after a few delays. There is a teacher librarian, and a learning resource teacher as well as a student success teacher available for students in the library. There is also a lot of tech available for students to use. The plan is also to display student artwork in the future. The reno is not complete – still needs network drops, but it is almost done. Improvements are: new skylights/lighting, a study area, conference rooms with blue screens available for video taping etc.
- The library upgrades were expensive. Covid has restricted fundraising in the school. The school board only funded a small % of the costs. The school has created an account with "FlipGive". Our account is called "Team DVSS". People can download the APP and use it when purchasing things at participating stores and online merchants, even buying gift cards. A small donation is made to your team when you make a purchase, like a cashback APP. Proceeds go to the library renovation costs.
- next PA day is 26 Nov

## **6. Other Business**

- Lunch rules – still 75 minutes long, is it still 75 minutes inside OR outside, without the option to come in before break is done – what about during winter months? There are 7 entry points into the school, but students are to use ONLY the door specifically assigned to them due to contact tracing restrictions. Also because of lack of supervision of the doors. Yes, the students will have to continue to stay out/in for the entire time as this is based on public health guidelines, and not a school level decision. Parents and students will be notified if this changes.

**Next meeting Jan 18, 2022 at 6:30pm.**

**Adjourned @ 7:50 pm**