

Dundas Valley Secondary School Council Minutes
25 January 2022, 6:30pm
Virtual Meeting

Present: Gail Cipriani, Michael Murray, Scott Barr, Jennifer Warren, Zoey Heeney, Dara Coulter, Susan Moelker, Cathy Veldman, Nancy Nemeth, Julia Zacharia, Tommy Lombardo, Kris Traherne, Amanda Ljucovic

Regrets: none

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM
- Land Acknowledgement: By Gail Cipriani

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

- Dara Coulter, seconded Zoey Heeney

3. President's Report – Julia Zacharia

- Have not met recently due to 2 x snow day delay. Next mtg will be 27 Jan.
- Focusing on Mental health. Put a box out for students to leave feedback regarding their mental health concerns etc. Good response. Trying to connect people with each other by using games on social media, planning other options too.
- Semester 2 planning to start peer support group again, asking for gr 11 & 12 students to help gr 9 & 10's.
- 1st issue of Newspaper was done. Had 15 articles. Well received
- Valentines Day – want to do candygrams- waiting on less restrictive Covid protocols.

4. Teacher's Report (Jen Warren)

- currently focusing on gr 12's. Western University application has been extended, it was 13 Jan. There are already 21 potential gr 12 grads by end of Jan. College application deadline is 1 Feb.
- gr 11's were given presentations on "backward planning" for gr 12 courses, this is based on choosing classes that will be needed for what they plan to do as a career. Great resources for career exploration are found on the IPP in XELLO. Currently offering lunch-time sessions showing how to explore the Ontario college websites.
- Global connect class supported the gr 8 info night, this was held 24 Jan. they shared the story of the DVSS school culture.
- For gr 10's. Lots of interest in the four SHSM programs, students engaging in the pre-SHSM activities
- OSSLT round 2: planned to run 23 March - 18 May. Link for a practise test: d1c1qqn86e6v14.cloudfront.net
- Gr 9's will get presentation early Feb on course selection for gr 10. March 4 is the deadline for XELLO which is the program students use to select classes. Has fun activities too – find it on HUB, under Guidance page.

5. Principal's Report

- Jan 19 – finally back to in-class learning after Covid HWDSB closures and 2 snow days.
- Jan 24 gr 7/8 Info night.
- Jan 26 – gr 9 courses information session
- Jan 27, last day of culminating activities
- Jan 28, last day of Quadmester instruction.

- Jan 30 – student success Day period 1
- Feb 1 - student success Day period 2
- Feb 2 - PA day
- Currently on track to resume regular semester system for next semester (2)
- Are committing to commencement model again for gr 12 – recognising entire class – not just graduates.
- More renovations planned – washrooms in circle, changerooms in west gym, full reno – not just update – current storage room to become a gender neutral changeroom
- New Covid screening measures now active. Staff and students to enter daily screening through online again. Fundamental public health measures continue to be enforced (screening daily, PPE, hand washing, physical distancing)
- N95 masks now avail for all staff. 3-ply masks avail for students. Follow-up with students if they refuse to follow protocol.
- Covid testing – there is currently a limited supply of PCR tests avail to staff/students that develop symptoms during the day.
- Covid reporting to school is now voluntary
- Students are to remain in their morning class for lunch or eat in the cafeteria and LLC based on their morning class
- Athletics and extra-curricular activities are still temporarily paused but to be reviewed Jan 25th.
- Asynchronous learning for students who are self isolating SHORT term is avail, fill out “temporary excusal” form
- Semester 2 eLearning – families/students who wished to make this change contacted student services from 12-19 Jan

7. PRO Grant update Zoey Heeney

- This is an application for grant from Ministry of Education. It issues funds to help school promote participation and engagement to parents /caregivers. It’s often an event. In past years the school hosted speakers in-house, but currently looking at a virtual event due to Covid. Lots of interest on Woodland Cultural Center, which is a NFP organisation which preserves First Nation history/culture through online presentations. Trying to choose one under 1 hour long and planning to have it available by end of April.

7. Other Business

- none

Next meeting 15 Feb, 2022 at 6:30pm.

Adjourned @ 7:48 pm