

DUNDAS VALLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday September 24, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Location: Virtual meeting, MS Teams

Present Online: Kim Collier, Jennifer Warren, Nancy Nemeth, Zoey Heeney, Cathy Veldman, Rebecca Hoo, Nicole Gregan, Michelle Lee, Kait Hunt, Edwin (last name?). Regrets: Tammy Lombardo & Jennie Feijer

1. **Welcome, Introductions.** Meeting called to order 6:31pm.
2. **Approval of minutes** - motion to approve by Nicole Gregan, seconded by Cathy Veldman & Kim Collier
3. **Council Election** – New Executive positions: - Co-Chairs – Zoey Heeney & Rebecca Hoo. Secretary – Cathy Veldman. Voting members at large: Zoey Heeney, Rebecca Hoo, Cathy Veldman, Kait Hunt, Jennie Feijer.
4. **President's report** – No president's report this month, removed from agenda
5. **Teacher's report – Jennifer Warren.**
 - The 2 Guidance teachers for DVSS are Jen Warren & Mr. O'Connor. They saw over 200 students in 8 days, made over 180 timetable changes for 1st semester. Appointments can now be made for 2nd semester changes. All 200 gr 12 students will be seen individually within next 2 weeks regarding their plans after school, grad requirements etc.
 - There is also a gr 12 meeting in cafeteria on 30 Sept regarding universities, colleges & apprenticeships. Jan 15 is deadline for university applications, 1 Feb is deadline for colleges.
 - Jen sends weekly updates to gr 12's regarding scholarships, links and websites as resources. These are also posted on the school website.
 - Gr 9's will be shown soon how to log in to Our Republic to log their volunteer hours.
6. **Principal's report – Kim Collier**
 - Recent PD Day – topics covered were: -
 - o staff expectations of/toward students (how to treat each other, anti sex trafficking, health & safety).
 - o Also changed the School Improvement Plan to be from January to January.
 - o Student Portraits – this involves understanding classroom landscape, adjusting teaching methods according to the class/student learning style. I.e. taking into consideration student voice & choice.
 - o Reimagining Wellness: building community in class, includes mental health focus and indigenous student support.
 - o There will be 2 more PD days this semester – 1st & 22 November
 - o 25 Sept – cross country meet at Christie's.
 - o 26 Sept – Spirit Day, also is Terry Fox walk/run, a BBQ lunch, then a home game of Sr Boy's football against Waterdown High.
 - o 30 Sept – Nation Truth & Reconciliation Day – wear orange
 - o 9 Oct – SCHISM launch
 - o 16 Oct – IEP plans go home
 - o 21 Oct – Prelim reports go home & sent digitally
 - o 29 Oct – Family/teacher (meet the teacher) night

- 1 Nov – PD Day
 - 6 Nov – Gr 9 – Take child to work day
 - Exam Days will be Jan 23, 24, 27 & 28th. (29th is make-up day), Final exams are June 19, 20, 23 & 24th. (25th will be the make-up day)
 - Capital projects done over summer were dust collectors in the tech wing were fixed and upgraded. Upcoming projects will be to revamp the west circle, west circle accessibility will also be addresses, doors to outside on the circle wing will be painted.
 - School operation issues to be addressed with students – the Castlewood Plaza has reported damage by students. Graffiti on back walls and gas line damage.
 - Pick up & drop off by parents can ONLY be done on the east side of the school, by the track parking area, due to interference with school bus drop off/pick up at the west entrance.
 - An invite has been sent out by HWDSB. Its accepting applications from students and parents/guardians/caregivers to join the HWDSB Human Rights and Equity (HRE) Community Advisory Committee. The committee provides advice, input and feedback using human rights, anti-racist and anti-oppressive approaches to support HWDSB's commitment in identifying and addressing inequities in the education system and to create learning and working environments that are inclusive, equitable and welcoming as outlined in its Equity Action Plan.
7. **2024/2025 council outline (what to expect in these meetings this year.) - Zoey Heeney.** This is a platform to bring suggestions for programs, get information on school activity etc. . This could include: a school report on the focus for the school year; Board Policy reviews; possible visit by school board trustee/superintendent; PRO grant for school (ministry funding to school to enhance community/parent involvement); a solution to get the school tennis courts restored.
- The school council by-laws will be emailed to each member of council early each school year and the meeting minutes and agendas will be emailed ahead of the next meeting. These will also be available on the school website. To contact the council co-chairs, email dundasvalleyesc@hwdsb.on.ca.
8. **Other business.** None
9. **Next Meeting Dates:** A vote was taken to decide if there would be 4 or 6 meetings this year. It was decided at 4. These will all be hybrid meetings starting at 6:30pm. Meeting dates are: - 5th November, 21st January, 8th April & 27th May.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm