

EK SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: March 16, 2021

MS TEAMS

Attendance List: Cindy Stranak, Lisa Baetz, David Thorne, Jen Matthews, Jane McNally, Natacha da Silva, Steve Wong, Nicholas, Laura Van Alphen, Lori Prevec,

PRESENTER	AGENDA ITEM	INFORMATION	ACTION REQUIRED
Cindy Stranak	Review & approval of March Agenda. Approval of February Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes – Lisa Approves, Natacha 2nds Motion to approve the agenda – Jen Matthews Approves, Lisa 2nds	
David Thorne	Land Acknowledgement	Land acknowledgement read by D Thorne. Reiteration of relevance of LA, and importance of being custodians. At last PA day, D Thorne discussed with staff the dish with one spoon treaty, which is a promise. The dish = the bowl = Southern Ontario. We all eat out of the same bowl with a spoon, not a more aggressive fork / knife. The wampoon, the belt is given as friendship. All belts are given to schools and ours is in the office, but not shared recently b/c of COVID.	
David Thorne	Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild. @ HWDSB & Principal's Report	<p>Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild: The Ministry of Education asked boards to work on this initiative re: Anti-Racism & Anti-Discrimination. "LDR" is meant to be a community of care. Schools and educators can not wait for complaints, there is a need to take a proactive approach.</p> <p>Note that the Ontario Human Rights Accord is modelled on the United Nations Declaration of Humans Rights.</p> <p>Human Rights Reports for schools clearly indicate there have been problems. Hamilton was recently declared as the city with the largest number of hate crimes per capita. (As of February, 2021) The status quo is not acceptable. Anti-Black racism was discussed</p>	

		<p>as deeply entrenched in Canadian institutions, and unconscious bias affects all.</p> <p>LDR presentation slides are attached.</p> <p>After School Discussion about 'crazy hair' to 'wacky hair'. Talked about mindful entry points into celebrations – ie, not all kids can have access to all celebrations with the same ease. For example, in the case of a “Jersey Day”, as not all families can afford a Jersey.</p> <p>CE asked how teachers learn this information and then digest it and then provide as instruction to students? The answer: there are lessons, but there is also supposed to be an open-endedness and topics of discussions. LDR applies to JK to Grade 12. Have to leave it up to teachers to implement this information.</p> <p>LP commented that teachers also implement this information using their own resources. For example, they can use books</p> <p>CS noted that there were presentations about LDR at the parent involvement committee.</p> <p>DT: Sue Fox was the temporary VP. However, her contract has ended and she was not able to continue on. There is currently no one in the VP pool. Superintendents are looking into another option. In the meantime, Tiz Penney is coming out of retirement for the VP role. She is bilingual, with us for a full day every other day.</p> <p>CE – what does the VP do? DT: It is effectively a Principal in training, a position to support the Principal. The .5 designation is determined by the school population. Dual track is considered additional need. Middle school is also taken into account.</p>	
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Jen Matthews	Staff Report	<p>On the PA day teachers received more training re: de-escalating kids and building personal connections with kids to validate their feelings. This was valuable.</p>	
Cindy Stranak	Parent Involvement Committee Update	<p>Discussion around budget allocations at the board. Looking to put \$\$ into improving student achievement, 21st century learning (electronics), and mental health.</p> <p>The Director of Education was asked about “what about next year”. They do not see a change for September, even though adults may have the vaccine, there is an anticipation that the classroom will not look different. But this was just the Director’s thoughts, it does not constitute a promise or policy.</p> <p>LDR was discussed by the team who developed it – there is a website. Send in questions if you want to learn more, talk to them, etc.</p> <p>Next meeting is cancelled for April b/c of the break. The next meeting will be held in May.</p> <p>LB – it has come to attention that some people did not receive their notification for FI acceptance – it may have gone to their junk folder.</p>	