

# Agenda

## Parent Council – Thursday February 24, 2022

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### Attendance (names and emails)

Joanne Hall – Principal	<a href="mailto:joahall@hwdsb.on.ca">joahall@hwdsb.on.ca</a>
Diane Barlow - Vice Principal	<a href="mailto:dbarlow@hwdsb.on.ca">dbarlow@hwdsb.on.ca</a>
Paula Wardle- Teacher Rep	<a href="mailto:pwardle@hwdsb.on.ca">pwardle@hwdsb.on.ca</a>
Lisa Speziale – Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:lspezial@hwdsb.on.ca">lspezial@hwdsb.on.ca</a>
Jolene Andrews- Chair	<a href="mailto:joleneandrews84@gmail.com">joleneandrews84@gmail.com</a>
Nina Vallvé- Secretary	<a href="mailto:nina.vallve@ontario.ca">nina.vallve@ontario.ca</a>
Amber Yorke	<a href="mailto:amber.yorke@gmail.com">amber.yorke@gmail.com</a>
Christina Geissler – Con BIA	<a href="mailto:concessionbia@gmail.com">concessionbia@gmail.com</a>
Sharla Armstrong	<a href="mailto:hidingfromhubby@hotmail.com">hidingfromhubby@hotmail.com</a>
Chayda	<a href="mailto:chayda.adora@gmail.com">chayda.adora@gmail.com</a>
Michelle Noble	
<a href="mailto:Michelle.s.noble@gmail.com">Michelle.s.noble@gmail.com</a>	
Lisa Mantysaari	
<a href="mailto:Ronlisamkm@gmail.com">Ronlisamkm@gmail.com</a>	
Angela Ethelston	
<a href="mailto:Angelaethelston@gmail.com">Angelaethelston@gmail.com</a>	
Lisa Major	
<a href="mailto:Lisa_major@me.com">Lisa_major@me.com</a>	

Unfortunately, Mrs. Hobden can no longer reside on Council. Wishing her all the best!

### Principal's Report

Playground – City opening survey on March 9 through City website, school will send out survey

<https://engage.hamilton.ca/armstrongparkpyw>

PALS (physical activity leaders in school) program – have 25+ members in Grades 7/8. They were trained for 3 days on how to respond to situations. Had to sign contracts, with parents permission. They go into primary grades to assist. Since they cannot go out due to snow/ice, the PALS members have been playing games and interacting with primary grades. They are treated like real jobs with expectations and consequences

Annual Learning Plan, reading will be the focus going forward, what skills are needed to be a successful reader? Moving away from Board targets and focusing on steps to be a successful reader. Every student will be placed on chart.

Looking into a walkway barrier leading to the doors from the East 18th to bypass the parking lot

Extracurriculars are back. Sr. Boys and girls volleyball have started and intermurals have started for the younger students

#### Vice Principal's Report

New VP, Mrs Diane Barlow, been in education many years, most recently with Dufferin/Peel Board. She is being shared with Norwood.

#### Teacher's Report

Ms Wardle – Spirit days are upon us! The whole school is involved including teachers. Details on the website and a hard copy was sent home.

House colours ( red, yellow, blue and green) – all students have a colour please check with the teacher if they do not know. A group of staff have been boosting school morale/culture – (I am so sorry for the names I speled wrong) – Mrs Hall, Mrs. Gusenbauer, Mrs McElheron, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Wood, Ms Zoratsky, Ms Binstock, Mr.Neville, Mr Scheben

Plank challenge last week, this week is the Winter Olympics. Other challenges will be upcoming. Bianca and Ms Zoratsky send out challenges and collect data for points.

Each student can win house colour points which will go towards house colour and builds school spirit.

Extra curriculars back – senior boys basketball have a game Tues and senior girls basketball have a game Mon. Robotics club is operational too.

#### Treasurer Report

N/A

### Previous Business

N/A

### Community News

Winterfest (Feb 18 to March 6) activity going on at the Auchmar estate, there are activities through the Concession St BIA website tying into Winterfest.

Coldest Night of the Year Sat Feb 26 – fundraiser for Neighbour to Neighbour

Book Crawl third Saturday of every month -next Sat March 19 in person 10am to 1pm

Beautiful Alleys – Sat April 23, students can use it for volunteer hours or distribute flyers for volunteers hours

Sidewalk Sounds third Saturday of every month from May to September schedule and list of performers on website soon

Concession is getting a Dollarama at 503 Concession, opening late Spring

Streetfest is back! Saturday June 11

All these activities are on the Concession St BIA website : <https://www.concessionstreet.ca/>

### New Business

Family engagement subcommittee has decided on activities that are already underway.

February: Design your own Playground (emailed out in Newsletter, posted online, flyers up on doors, hand outs at school) Mrs. Wardle will email the flyers out to their parents.

March: Poetry/Creative writing contest (theme tbd but will be communicated at the beginning of the month). Templates can be made for the younger grades whereas the older grades can be freestyle.

April: Community Scavenger Hunt. Much the same as last year but also adding a more challenging element for older kids to be more engaged. Similar to the BIAs Easter Bunny Hop where we have Eagles inside some locations that will get families into businesses and connecting to the Community.

May: 30k in May exercise challenge. Also like last year. We are going to test out various apps to see if there are any that will be easy and accessible to use. Teachers may be kicking it off in school and all participants – no matter what access – can participate/will be included.

June: Trying to keep open in case there is a possibility that we may potentially be able to host an in person event by this point and if that is the case, we will strive to host an event for our families if that option is available to us.

New Park: Tying into our first activity, the City has reached out for input. They want to connect with the Community. As of March 8th, a Community survey will be available online and that will be shared and communicated when it goes live. Mrs. Pauls has requested a virtual meeting with School Council and school staff so we will also make this date known. She has informed me that work will begin in July and the goal is to have it complete by the time school begins in September

PRO GRANT: we have applied for a PRO Grant. It is between \$500 - \$1000 to get parents involved. Layla Staats' film "Blood and Water" - a story on the modern day impact of intergenerational trauma from Residential Schools, and the Journey of Reclamation to Traditional Teachings. Through Teams, show the movie and have a Q&A after. Focusing on parents but everyone is welcome to watch as it will create good dialogue and understanding. Waiting to hear back if grant approved. There is a performance of Layla Staats on the Concession St BIA website. Thanks Lisa!

Grad: last year, we used some of our money to create Grad bags for our graduates. It had cinch bags, rally towels, note pads and pencils. If grads will be missing out on past celebrations, we want to make a contribution to grads again. There is a chance that a ceremony will be possible, perhaps a dance. We will have to wait and see but suggestions on how we can make a difference for our grads would be appreciated. Please message me with any ideas

### Other Business/Open Questions

Lisa – can we register GLA for clean alleys? Get a GLA team? Advertise through school? Beautiful Alley will provide gloves, masks, grabbers, bags. Sat April 23, Meet at 555 Concession St. BIA will sponsor food and refreshments. Jolene recommends putting together a Council team while advertising for our families to register themselves

Nina- any recommendations on how to discuss war in Ukraine with kids? They can talk to teachers and Board has provided talking points, also on Instagram.

<https://hwdsbonca.sharepoint.com/sites/communicationsandcommunity/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2Fcommunicationsandcommunity%2FShared+Documents%2FTip+Sheet+for+Adults+Supporting+Children+and+Youth+aft>

er+a+Distressing+Event+2022.pdf&parent=%2Fsites%2Fcommunicationsandcommunity%2FShared+Documents&isSPOFile=1

EQAO – kids worried and they've been on covid time for the past 2 years. The EQUO questions are based on curriculum. For kids worried (although they shouldn't be) there may be a Math Blaster after school for grades 3 and 6 – more details to follow.

Reminder to send Jolene emails on any ideas!

Next meeting: March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, 2022

Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm. Thanks for coming!