

## **Highview School Council Minutes**

Date: Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Chair:** Ms. Sandi Horton **Principal:** Mr. Ian Pellizzari

### **Attendance**

**Parent Reps:** Sandi Horton, Paula Wardle, Michael Merifield, Melissa Wagner-Wong, Stephanie Baschiera, Pamela Wilson, Elaine O'Donnell, Julia Zimmer, Caitlind McVey, Elizabeth McCoy, Jackie Zip-Labreche

**Community Rep:** Annette Mills

**Staff Reps:** Mr. Ian Pellizzari, Ms. Barbara Depew

**Special Guests:** Travis Annett, Rhema Mateo, Joshua Mahaffy (first year college students attending for research purposes)

**Absent:** Melissa Noble, Melissa McGinnis, Lincy Patel, Muhammad Bahaaddin, Jenilyn Santos, Tom Stewart, Erin McGinnis, Jodie Bocek, Sandra Askew, Ann Pearce, Amanda Knowles, Ashraf Al-ibraheem, Charissa Low, Christine Wagner, Jenny Bognar

### **Proceedings**

#### **Call to Order/ Welcome and Introductions:**

Ms. Horton called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. All welcomed, introductions omitted.

#### **Acceptance of Minutes:**

Ms. Mills made a motion to accept February's minutes at 6:18 p.m. Ms. Baschiera seconded the motion, all in favour.

#### **Teacher's Report (Ms. Depew):**

FDK and Grade 1 Teams continue to work and learn collaboratively with Ms. Porterfield to improve literacy skills.

Grades 2 – 8 Team continues to focus on math and identifying learning needs.

All staff continue to focus on improving school climate/culture for all students.

Kindergarten registration is ongoing (currently 21 JKs registered). Mr. Pellizzari encouraged registration to happen now, as soon as possible, and not in the fall. Highview has a projection of 43 – 47 JKs. Word of mouth to get people to register.

Kindergarten Orientation will be held on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> with teachers, Board members, and EAs attending.

Board Game Club for Grades 2 and 3 ongoing.

Junior Girls Basketball ongoing.

Sr. Swim Team/Waterpolo coming soon. Meet in April.

Intramural Basketball for Junior Boys coming.

Yearbook is ongoing and doing well. All staff are being asked to take photos to share with the committee.

After School Scholars (Grades 3 and 6) ongoing (Mondays and Wednesdays).

There will be three spring fire drills when the weather warms up.

Important Dates to note:

March 2<sup>nd</sup>: PA Day

March 6<sup>th</sup>: Grade 3s went to Heritage Village

March 7<sup>th</sup>: Brent and Sarah Magic Show (very well received)

March 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>: March Break

March 19<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten trip to Westfield Heritage Village and Grade 6 trip to Canadian Warplane Museum

March 20<sup>th</sup>: Ms. Green's Grade 4 class trip to Sherwood Library

March 22<sup>nd</sup>/March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Dental Screening JK/SK/Gr. 2

March 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>: McMaster Venture Outreach Science Presentations

March 27<sup>th</sup>: Vision Works Clinic Form Deadline (Clinic on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>). Mr. Pellizzari informed Council that glasses for students will be \$20.00, but the fee will be waived for those in need. Children can only have eyes tested once a year through OHIP. This is a quick and convenient way to get all children's eyes tested.

March 28<sup>th</sup>: "Hamilton Best Dance Competition"

March 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup>: First Aid Training for Ms. Novogradac and Mr. Cochrane (there are four trained first aid staff members)

March 28<sup>th</sup>: School Council Meeting

March 29<sup>th</sup>: Fire Safety Presentations (K – Grade 4)

March 30<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday Holiday

Teachers excited about recess equipment (orders due next week).

iPads have been ordered.

Ms. Baschiera sent out Best Buy Grant.

Ms. Baschiera asked about Play Day (still TBD), EQAO (May 22<sup>nd</sup> – June 4<sup>th</sup>) and when we find out about class placement (will it still be in June?) Mr. Pellizzari answered that staff have not discussed it yet, but at his past school, they let kids know with their report cards as they do not want students to be anxious over summer. We may have classes without teacher placement yet due to the number of LTOs, leaves, etc.

Ms. Baschiera brought up that current Grade 6 students did not have EQAO in Grade 3; so this will be their first experience with it. Mr. Pellizzari said that the tests are based on curriculum, so students should be familiar with question style and content. Past questions with leveled answers are available to view on the EQAO website.

Mr. Merifield asked about the recent Hold and Secure that took place at Highview. Mr. Pellizzari said that he was happy with the staff's response. Every doorway had a staff member posted. Students were never in danger. Someone in the neighbourhood reported gunshots, but it was in fact, a car backfiring.

### **Principal's Report:**

The 2018 Profiling Volunteer Excellence event will be held on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Education Centre. All volunteers are invited to attend, please RSVP. Invitation passed through Council.

Open House will be on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Photo Days for 2018 – 2019 School Year:

- October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018: Individual and class photos
  - o Mr. Pellizzari brought up concerns to Edge Imaging regarding pictures being delivered too close to Christmas in 2017, so he picked the earliest date possible in October (10/01/18), the day after classroom reorganization
- October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018: Retake Day and Class Photos
- February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019: Grade 8 Graduation Photos
- April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019: SK Graduation Photos

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Ms. Wong shared Treasurer Bognar's report as she was unable to attend the meeting. \$9,238.53 still available to be spent.

Staff grateful about subsidy and asking how to access it.

Ms. Sakin's class prepared a card to thank Council for arranging their pizza party.

Ms. Horton said she hoped Fundraising Sub-Committee Chair, Ms. Noble, would have chocolate sale numbers by April meeting. 252 boxes were ordered, 6 were unsold and 44 are still outstanding. Class 4A helped with the fundraiser, so Ms. Noble had hoped that Council could thank them with a pizza party. Ms. Baschiera made a motion at 6:41 that Council would sponsor a party. Motion was seconded by Ms. O'Donnell. All present Council members voted in favour. Motion passed.

### **Kindergarten Orientation:**

Mr. Pellizzari is wondering if any Council members would be willing to speak to new parents, explaining what School Council is about and encouraging them to join in the fall. Orientation will be from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. on May 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, starting in Ms. Depew's classroom with Mr. Pellizzari and Mrs. Corbin-Harper speaking, then parents will be free to wander. Could Council prepare a flyer with meeting info, etc.?

### **PRO Grant Ideas:**

Ms. Bognar started the process; if Council can make a decision on what event we would host, she will complete the application. Ms. Baschiera made a motion at 6:45 for a Legoland Night. Mr. Merifield seconded the motion. All present Council members voted in favour. Motion passed.

### **Best Buy Grant:**

Already mentioned earlier in the meeting.

### **Yearbooks:**

In previous years, Office Administrator Doris Griffin ran the yearbook program. Since Ms. Griffin left however, the Yearbook has no longer been produced. Mme. B. took over the program for the 2017 – 2018 school year. She would like to sell the Yearbooks for \$15.00 each. If we sell over 150, the cost would be \$15.00, however, if we sell less than

150, the cost increases to \$17.00 each. Mme. B. hoped Council would be willing to subsidize the \$2.00 difference if less than 150 Yearbooks are sold.

Mr. Merifield asked what grades were covered in the Yearbook and Ms. Horton responded by saying that the whole school would be featured.

Ms. Zimmer made a motion at 6:48 for Council to subsidize the \$2.00 charge per yearbook in the event that less than 150 are sold. Ms. Mills seconded the motion. All present Council members voted in favour. Motion passed.

### **Open House Update:**

Where do we stand with food trucks? Ms. Horton asked Council whether they wanted food trucks or not. Mr. Merifield responded saying it was nice to have the trucks, as Open House is over dinnertime and everyone enjoys the trucks. He asked if we should call trucks to see if we are in good standing or if we have been blacklisted due to the events at Meet the Teacher.

Ms. Zimmer offered to look into the food truck situation and Ms. Horton offered to email Ms. Toskas, as she organized food trucks for school events previously.

### **New Business:**

#### *Gym Expansion*

Mr. Merifield asked about Highview's gym expansion. He explained that if we are on the shortlist, then we need to be seen, but how do we do that? Should we have a Sub-Committee?

Ms. Baschiera called the Superintendent, but he is unsure. She will call again soon regarding a Sherwood update and an update on Highview.

Regarding Sherwood, it was once again passed up by the province for rehabilitation. Once South School starts, Barton site will be surplus, and there will then be a case for Sherwood.

Mr. Merifield asked how we ensure that Highview gets noticed. Challenge kids to get active in the community. Book challenge (read a certain number of books). Students cleaning up parking lots. Get Highview's name out there!

Mr. Pellizzari said that parents are allowed to advocate for Highview.

Ms. Horton said that the Board is not quick to respond. Whiny parents however, get results.

Ms. Wardle offered to create a template of a letter to pass through Council and Ms. Baschiera would organize and forward the letter.

Ms. Horton and Ms. Wardle brought up the cons of our current gym: not enough room for parents to attend events, fire hazard, cannot have full assemblies.

#### *Change to Morning Routine*

Mr. Pellizzari explained to Council that announcements have been moved from first thing in the morning to just before first nutrition break, which starts at 9:55 a.m.

Staff happy with the change, as it is streamlining learning. Highview struggles with a gradual arrival (24 lates one day this week, 40 lates another). 8:15 is the start time and the first block of learning is so important. We need to continue to work on lates, and encourage students to arrive on time.

Mr. Pellizzari has been greeting cars in front of the no parking zone, as too many are stopping there and that space is meant for busses or as a loading zone. By-law officers will ticket if they see parents stopping there.

Lates are a huge disruption to office staff.

Ms. Baschiera asked if this situation was unique to Highview. Mr. Pellizzari answered saying most likely not, although Highview does have an earlier start time than most schools.

#### **Next Meeting/Motion to Adjourn:**

Next Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

Ms. Mills made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 p.m., Ms. O'Donnell seconded motion, all in favour.

Meeting adjourned.