

HIGHVIEW SCHOOL COUNCIL

1040 Queensdale Avenue East, Hamilton ON, L8T 1J4 (905) 385-2341

E-mail: highviewSC@hwdsb.on.ca

School Council Meeting - Wednesday November 20th, 2019 - 6:15 PM in the School Library

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|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions | J. Bognar |
| 2. Acceptance of October minutes | J. Bognar |
| 3. Principal's/Teacher's Report | I. Pellizzari/M. Sakins |
| 4. Treasurer's Report | M. Wong |
| *Designate Money to School Trips? | M. Wong |
| *Aquatic Sports Equipment? | J. Bognar |
| 5. Fundraising Committee Update | J. Zimmer |
| 6. Online Business Recap & Online Voting Protocol | D. Speicher |
| 7. Land Acknowledgement | J. Bognar |
| 8. Anti-Bullying Presentations | J. Bognar |
| 9. New Business | |
| 10. Motion to Adjourn | |

Principal: Mr. I. Pellizzari **Vice Principal:** Mr. J. McLean

Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (1). The purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents.

Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (2). A school council's primary means of achieving its purpose is by making recommendations in accordance with this Regulation to the principal of the school and the board that established the council.



HIGHVIEW SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

1040 Queensdale Avenue East, Hamilton ON, L8T 1J4 (905) 385-2341

E-mail: highviewSC@hwdsb.on.ca

Date: Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Chair: Ms. Jenny Bognar **Principal:** Mr. Ian Pellizzari

Attendance

Parent Reps: Alexis Delchev, Amanda Knowles, Becky Griffin, Charissa Low, David Speicher, Elaine O'Donnell, Elizabeth McCoy, Jamie Donoahue, Jenny Bognar, Julia Zimmer, Lorelee McGuirl, Matthew Douglas, Meghann Chartrand, Melissa Noble, Melissa Wagner-Wong, Mike Merifield, Sandi Horton, Stacy Krystal, Stephanie Baschiera

Absent: Antonio Infante, Brandi Holdsworth, Jackie Zip Labreche, Sandra Askew

Community Rep: Annette Mills

Staff Reps: Ian Pellizzari, Melissa Sakins

Proceedings

1. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions (Ms. Bognar)

The November meeting was called to order at 6:18PM by Dr. Speicher (Secretary) who explained the sign-in sheet, which was introduced to make the process easier. At 6:20PM, the Ms. Bognar (Chair) welcomed everyone.

2. Acceptance of September Minutes (Ms. Bognar)

At 6:21PM, Ms. Noble made a motion to accept the September Minutes, motion seconded by Ms. Zimmer, all in favour, motion passed unanimously.

3. Kons and Kernels (Emily O'Brien)

Emily O'Brien came to explain how she founded the company. Her story of how her parents broke up and she turned to alcohol and bad relationships. Substance abuse, jail time, and involvement with the cartel.

- Ms. Bognar asked how she does her school talks. Emily said that she usually does general assemblies
- Emily does a fundraising program with smaller bags – fundraising information was given to Ms. Nobel.

Emily and her guest left the meeting following her report.

4. Principal's/Teacher's Report (Ms. Sakins / Mr. Pellizzari)

Ms. Sakins gave an overview of the activities from Highview in the past month and let us know what is planned for the next month. Her report is summaries here in brief, but the full report is at the end of this document.

- FDK to Grade 3/4 attended the "Image: A Concert for Peace" November 5, 2019.
- Nov 18 was "HWDSB Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week"
- Dates in November and December were highlighted
- Dec 17 – holiday concert, 8:30AM
- Themed days that are coming up – Ms. Sakins and Ms. Massia changed the November theme day to be yellow and black for the Tiger Cats who were headed to the Grey Cup.

Discussion:

- Ms. Nobel said that the kids raved about the veterans and it was great to see them. Ms. Clarke arranged it. Poster left in the foyer by a Grandfather of one of the students.

5. Treasurer's Report (Ms. Wagner-Wong)

Ms. Wagner-Wong provided a summary. The food money for the month closed tonight so an accurate amount was pending.

Approximately \$7709 available in the account.

- Gr 8 were asking for \$458
- It was asked if the \$10 for each trip subsidy is something that we could possibly do this month
 - ~520 students x \$10/student = \$5,200
 - There was a proposal to increase to \$15/student but not enough funds until next week.
 - Most teachers use the funds in the spring so there was not an urgency to get this passed.
 - Ms. Wagner-Wong passionately did not want to set aside funds that we don't yet have.

Motion

That Ms. Wagner-Wong (Treasurer) sets aside \$10/student (\$5,200 total) for now and we reassess the amount in January 2020. Motioned: Ms. Wagner-Wong. Seconded: Ms. McCoy. Discussion for and against: None. All, but 2, were in favour. Motion Carried at 6:40PM.

This leaves us with \$2,500 in reserve RIGHT NOW.

6. Fundraising Committee Update

Ms. Zimmer gave an update on spirit wear (went home yesterday) and poinsettia sales.

Ms. Zimmer also said that Ms. Toth requested stopwatches and swim caps for the swim team.

- 30 swim caps and 4 stop watches = \$102
- Mr. Pellizzari said that if a teacher needs funding, they should come through him/the office first and not approach a member of the council directly.
 - Funding can not be used on things the students keep as we'll be favouring some students over others and students that are involved with everything get more funding than others. We need to be fair to all students.
- The discussion was dead and the issue will go through Mr. Pellizzari.

Poinsettia sales are now over. There was some difficulty with school cache online.

7. Online Business Recap and Online Voting Protocol (Ms. Bognar/Dr. Speicher)

Ms. Bognar gave an overview of the business had on the Highview School Council Facebook group.

Dr. Speicher brought up the online voting protocols to ensure that everyone agreed with how online business was to be conducted. Last month voting occurred through a mixture of polls and online discussion making it difficult to follow the over consensus.

- Mr. Merifield asked if there was a way to get prompting notifications. These are all dependent upon the user's settings.
- Ms. Bashiera wanted clearly designed protocols and online voting only used for time sensitive issues. She felt that lots of funding was being spent online with rushed votes.
- Mr. Pellizzari asked what we meant by the "Facebook group" as teachers and a student rep (if we get one) also need access as they also get a vote on business.
- Ms. Horton asked, "what if we were to have discussion on Facebook, but did a vote via e-mail?"
- Ms. McGuirl said that strategies for online voting needed to be investigated (bigger vs smaller issues)
- Dr. Speicher suggested that all money involved goes through in-person monthly council meetings.
- Mr. Pellizzari said that if we open up online voting what if people call in, proxies, etc... at monthly council meetings. We could be opening up a huge mess. Consensus needs to go through people who are there in person.

Motion:

All business requiring funding goes through monthly council meetings where the person must be present to vote. If an issue is time sensitive, an online Facebook poll handled by either Jenny or David will be conducted with a clear time deadline laid out. If an online vote is needed voting will occur through the polls with discussion via comments. Motioned: Ms. Wagner-Wong. Seconded: Ms. Bashiera. All in favour; none opposed. Motion Carried at 7:12PM.

8. Land Acknowledgement (Ms. Basheira)

Ms. Basheira wanted to introduce an indigenous land acknowledgement at the beginning of each meeting.

Motion: To open each meeting a land acknowledgement such as the following used by McMaster University "McMaster University recognizes and acknowledges that it is located on the traditional territories of the Mississauga and Haudenosaunee nations, and within the lands protected by the "Dish with One Spoon" wampum agreement. Seconded: Mr. Douglas.

- Reference:
https://healthsci.mcmaster.ca/docs/librariesprovider59/resources/mcmasteruniversity-land-acknowledgment-guide.pdf?sfvrsn=7318d517_2
- Discussion:
 - Ms. McGuirl asked for the land acknowledgement to be sent out.
 - Mr. Pellizzari shared that a land acknowledgement is read out at the systems level, but sometimes someone from the group speaks to it instead of reading it. If someone at the table has any personal ties to the land agreement, they can provide a personal story that speaks to the issue about what it really means. The school does have a wampum belt and we could use it at the meetings.
 - Mr. Merifield asked what this had to do with school council, and stated his position on the issue. Ms. Baseira shared about the indigenous report, mindful way to acknowledge what happened.
 - Ms. Wagner-Wong asked that due to the political/sensitive nature can we do a silent vote.
 - Mr. Pellizzari needed to investigate see if this issue needed to be addressed and voted on.

- Dr. Speicher ***motioned to refer the issue to a committee*** to give Mr. Pellizzari 1 month to investigate the issue and report back to student council at the December meeting.
- Mr. Pellizzari said that Lisa King (board consultant) can come to our meeting and speak to us about this and was going to line up a visit.

9. Anti-Bullying Presentation (Ms. Bognar)

- Connections couldn't be made with the Toronto Raptors.
- Kids for Kids does a 45-minute presentation (Gr 1-4 and Gr 5-8) for \$675 + tax
 - Ms. Krystal asked if the magic show will include JK/SK
- Ms McGuirl spoke to Curtis Bell (Toronto Argos wide receiver and author)
 - \$500-1,000 depending on the number of assemblies
 - He's a native and African-American
- Mr. Douglas wanted to see something that involves JK/SK
- Mr. Merifield said that his kids like Brent and Sara but things that we should change it up a bit
- Pink Day (anti-bullying day) is April 10, 2020

Motion

To set aside \$1,000 for an anti-bullying presentation. Motioned: Mr. Douglas. Seconded: Mr. Merifield.

- Discussion: Mr. Pellizzari said that some information on the various people and links should be added to the minutes/Facebook discussion. Ms. Bognar said that she would deal with this.
- All in favour; none opposed. Motion Carried at 7:41PM.

10. New Business

- Ms. Griffin asked if there was anything for sponsoring a child/family over Christmas
 - Ms. Nobel said there is lots going on, if anyone is interested speak to Mr. Pellizzari
 - Mr. Pellizzari said that Ms. Rolonda Bowman tried to pull together some names of people who could use support. Anyone that wants to sponsor a family can put together a basket and bring it to the office. There is no price limit.
- Ms. Bognar had a request from a parent with regards to lack of outdoor play due to too much ice on the payment
 - Mr. Pellizzari stated that walkways are cleared and salted. Playgrounds are not plowed or salted.
 - Mr. Pellizzari makes the final decisions and kept kids inside due to safety.
 - Some discussion about how the yard is plowed and salted occurred.

Motion: To have another movie night on January 23, 2020 with the movie to be determined.

Motioned: Ms. Bognar. Seconded: Ms. Low. All in favour; none opposed. Motion Carried at 7:52PM.

10. New Business continued...

- Ms. McGuril brought up the issue about decorating the doors of the school.
 - Laurie Lamarre is a professional and charges \$20-40/hour.
 - Ms. Nobel asked which doors were to be painted...inside or outside.
 - Some discussion occurred regarding graffiti.
 - Mr. Pellizzari needed to ask the facility supervisor to see if this is an issue, thought this would be more of a mural.
 - Mr. Merifield asked if she can do more of art submissions from the kids and have it indoors.
 - Ms. Wagner-Wong said that we need to be careful as it's in the board's policy that we can't pay for maintenance issues and it needs to be more of an artistic nature.
 - The issue was postponed as more information is needed.
 - Mr. Pellizzari agreed to look into it further. If it is artistic in nature then it needs to be put to the board.

Adjournment

The next meeting was to be held on December 18, 2019 at 6:15PM. Ms. Miss expressed concern that we wouldn't get many people out as it is too close to Christmas holidays. It was agreed to move the meeting forward one week to December 11, 2019.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM by Ms. Zimmer, Seconded: Ms. Nobel. All in favour; none opposed.
Motion Carried at 8:15PM.

Minutes recorded by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Speicher', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David J. Speicher PhD DTM
Secretary, Highview School Council



Highview Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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PRINCIPAL: Mr. I. Pellizzari
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Mr. J. McLean
www.hwdsb.on.ca/highview

School Council: Teacher & Principal/Vice-Principal Report

November 20th, 2019

- Student Council has been started with the intermediate grades – Mr. Moore is facilitating this group.
- The Positive Space Club has started at Highview. They have been meeting twice a week. Conversations are student driven.
- Classes from FDK to Grade 8 attended “Imagine: A Concert For Peace” on November 5 at the First Ontario Concert Hall. The children enjoyed listening to the orchestra play and the choir sing as well as watch the acrobats perform to the music.
- The primary/junior swim team had a swim meet on Nov. 7th. The students represented Highview very well. There were numerous first, second and third place ribbons awarded which is more than in the past. Coaches were Ms. Toth and Ms. Hallford.
- Our new FDK/Grade 1 Reading Specialist has started at Highview. Ms. T. DiDonato is our half time Reading Specialist and beginning on December 2, she will be attending Highview half time. This will give us more support to reach the HWDSB’s goal of 75% of Grade 1 students reading at level by June.
- Grades 4-6 students attended the Hamilton Bulldogs game today (November 20).
- Remembrance Day Assembly – many classes prepared poppy wreaths to display at the assembly and classes also presented poems and songs to honour our veterans. Thanks to Ms. Martin and Ms. Clark for coordinating this assembly.
- November 12th – Grades 8 and older were invited to listen to a guest speaker: a veteran who spoke about his experiences. Thanks to Ms. Clark for organizing this visit.
- November’s theme day is Superhero / Black and Yellow Day to celebrate our superheroes, the Hamilton Tiger Cats as they play in the Grey Cup this weekend. Superhero / Black and Yellow Day is on Friday November 22. Thanks to Ms. Sakins for facilitating all of Highview’s Theme Days!
- Our FDK Team and Grade 1 Team are working & learning collaboratively to improve literacy skills with our youngest students.
- Our Grade 2-8 Team continue to focus their learning on identifying learning needs and on teaching Math.
- Our Grade 6 Teachers/Students continue to be supported through Mr. D. Morrison, Math Facilitator that is at Highview half time.
- Grade 4-6 Teachers are engaging in ongoing Math Professional Development Sessions supported at the system level and through Mr. Morrison, Math Facilitator.
- French Teachers participated in a half day learning session on “All Students Speaking with Confidence in French”.
- Mme. Berrafati engaging in ongoing collaborative learning sessions around students learning French along with other intermediate and secondary French Teachers.
- Grade 1 Teachers along with ESL Teacher and Reading Specialist focusing learning on “Milestones for English Language Learners”half day session on November 27th
- All staff continue to focus on improving School Climate/Culture for all of our students.
- Ms. Wigood attended a session for “Mental Health & Well Being” Reps November 19th...learning to be shared with staff at Staff Meeting.
- November Staff Meeting and November 29th PA Day will focus on Positive School Climate.
- Fall Fire Drills: We have completed 3 successfully.



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- Lockdown Drill: First Lockdown drill completed. One more in the New Year. Will also be doing 1 "Hold & Secure" Drill and 1 "Shelter in Place" Drill.
 - "Bomb Threat Evacuation Drill": Completed the 1 necessary drill with Constable Dinning present.
 - Sr. Girls Volleyball ongoing into November
 - Jr. Girls Volleyball ongoing into November
 - Book Fair... Sales of \$5938.75 which is about \$800 higher than last year! This equates to **\$3313.82 of credit to use at Scholastic.**
 - School Council Food Days ongoing (Pizza each Thursday, Pita/Smoothie & Subs each once a month)
 - Looking for donations of craft supplies, newspapers, plastic containers for the art room.
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- Nov 5 "Imagine, A Concert for Peace" Excursion FDK-Grade 3
 - Nov 5-8 Annual Book Fair in Library
 - Nov 6 Sherwood "8's to Saints" Day
 - Nov 7 Junior Swim Meet
 - Nov 7/8 Parent/Teacher Interviews (PA Day)
 - Nov 11 Remembrance Day Assembly
 - Nov 12 Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (CCAT) Administration to Grade 4 Students
 - Nov 14 Grade 7 Immunizations Round 1
 - Nov 15 Photo Retake Day
 - Nov 18 "HWDSB Bullying Prevention and Awareness Week"
 - Nov 20 Bulldogs Game Excursion Grades 4-6
 - Nov 20 School Council Meeting
 - Nov 21 Sherwood Parent Information Night for Grade 7 & 8 Parents/Students
 - Nov 22 Theme Day-Superhero Day/Black & Yellow Day in support of Ti-Cats
 - Nov 28 Westmount Grade 7 & 8 Information Night
 - Nov 29 PA Day – No School For Students

Important December Dates:

- Dec 17 Holiday Concert (Parent Performance @ approx. 8:30 a.m.)
- December's Theme Days: December 6 – Red, Green and White Day
December 13 – Ugly Sweater / Wacky Hair / Wacky Hat Day
December 20 – Pajama Day
- We will also be doing a "Toque Tuesday" in December with the date TBD.

Keep up-to-date by subscribing to our School Website: <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/highview/subscribe/> and the Highview Parents' Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/HighviewParents/>