

Mary Hopkins School Council Minutes  
Wednesday, October 28th, 2020  
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm



Attendees: Charon Buck, Gail Arruda, Ashley Black, Carley Casey, Cara Leitch, Sumaira Waqar, Jeanette Weatherill, Jenn Marshall, Susan McCusker, Astrid Millett, Lorelei Wilder

- 1) MS Teams online welcome and roundtable introductions
- 2) [September minutes](#) move to approve by Carley; Cara seconds

October Agenda:

- 3) Treasurer's Report:
  - The goal is spend what we raise funds for (which we have done)
  - iPads and Laptops: constant purchase; don't do ONE big purchase because the devices and licences all expire at the same time, so it is too costly to replace many versus few
  - Aim to have at least 1 in each classroom; ideal is 5-6 iPads in each class, 2 laptops
- 4) Principal's Report:
  - Halloween: "Fall Spirit Day," Friday, Oct. 30th; staff and students were invited to wear Fall colours OR costumes, but they had to be able to function in these all day
  - No food sharing; any classes permitted to bring in food for parties must be nut-free
  - Class parties were teacher-led initiatives, not all-school
  - Progress Reports sent home Oct. 29th: these are a first indication if a student is meeting expectations. Learning skills are identified (ie. self-regulation, organization) and no letter or numeric grade is assigned in this report
  - Due to [Remote/In-Person Transition for Elementary Students](#), there are now more teachers than students = classes were re-organized, and class sizes are slightly larger; sadly, we are saying goodbye to Ms Harrison
  - Re-Org highly unlikely during next opportunity for transition
  - Ms Brown, our Reading Specialist, is currently focusing on Grade 1 reading, and will continue to move through the gaps seen in the school from there, only working with students in one cohort at one time
  - [COVID response process](#) mapped out for HWDSB school communities

- Who is a Close Contact in a School? Public Health has worked alongside our school board to create two infographics. These will help families to better understand how contact tracing works in a school. For additional support around questions, we also have a public nurse who is assigned to our school. Please reach out if you are unsure about how to approach a specific situation or scenario. [Who is a Close Contact](#) | [Close and Casual Contact Assessment](#)
- [Safe School Survey](#) for grades 4s and 5s (Juniors and Intermediates) at MH to reflect student voice, the last piece for the anti-bullying task force
- Fundraising still on pause, even virtual ones (Mabel's Labels, Indigo); rentals also on pause (not allowed gatherings on school property) = no possibility of a movie night
- Outdoor/Blacktop: reverse-recesses in effect: grades 3-5 on one, grades 1-2 on the other, allowing for safe distancing. [Reminder about cold weather/outdoor play](#)

5) Staff Report:

- Ms Black sent out an email to staff to see if there was anything they wished to share with School Council, and there were no responses

6) New Business:

- Online families: Ms Buck to add line item in messaging to remind/encourage online families to stay connected to MH
- Scholastic book orders: is there an MH-specific code that is accessible to online families, just as in-school families access via the paper flyers? Can classroom/individual orders be handled online, and orders mailed to homes? This will create an equitable process for all families - Ms Buck to confirm if Scholastic falls under fundraising, or if we can participate

Agenda items may be submitted at least 7 days prior to the meeting date by emailing our chair ([maryhopkinsSC@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:maryhopkinsSC@hwdsb.on.ca))

Next meeting: **Wednesday, November 25th, 6:30 pm** on MS Teams: link to be sent out via school website (subscribe at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/maryhopkins/subscribe/>) and via parent Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/678475858900639/>). All are welcome!