

Mary Hopkins School Council Minutes
Wednesday, February 24th, 2021
6:30 pm - 7:15 pm



Attendees: Charon Buck, Ashley Black, Carley Casey, Cara Leitch, Jeanette Weatherill, Lorelei Wilder, Cheryl Dalrymple

- 1) MS Teams online welcome, round table introductions, land acknowledgment
- 2) [January minutes](#) move to approve, Carley; second, Lorelei

[February Agenda:](#)

- 3) Treasurer's Report:
 - N/a
- 4) Principal's Report:
 - Term 1 reports: email/text link sent out to access via Parent Portal. School only received around 4-5 calls, which might indicate this is a better delivery for reports? Less paper, easier to retrieve...
 - Covid-19 screening protocols: always refer to the [provincial site](#) for most up to date information and daily school screening requirements: these are frequently updated
 - Part 1 presentation (framework) on HWDSB anti-racism/anti-oppression curriculum ([Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild](#)) Please see [Slide Dec.](#) March School Council will look at classroom material, what this curriculum looks like IN the classroom
 - Co-learning stance: there are no experts in this, we are all learning together, with the children too. When unpacking with kids, equal does not mean fair: we don't all come from the same places/experiences
 - Not racist = inactive state; Anti-racist = proactively taking steps to ensure racism is not present. We need to be proactive; we can't just sit and wait for a complaint. We need to ensure inclusivity is present, and that there are no barriers for students
 - Foster an equitable and inclusive environment for **anyone** who comes in to the school, so that they feel included
 - As seen in the Land Acknowledgement slide of the *Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild* slide dec, Wampum belts are now in every HWDSB school. Classes can request to borrow these,

and students learn about [Wampum belts](#), as well as the [Dish With One Spoon](#) concept, so that classes have a frame of reference for the Land Acknowledgement

5) Staff Report:

- For students returning to in-school learning, Ms. Buck heard repeatedly how much kids enjoyed time with their families; Ms. Black notes that this is the first transition from remote to in-school, and other than some tired kiddos and little bit of an up & down start, it's been really nice to be back! The snow has been amazing, the social aspect great for everyone
- Question for in-class staff: why are windows opened throughout the day?
 - Air flow, fresh air, as masks must be worn all day
 - There have been no noted concerns, kids are comfortable, but staff are conscious to respond to a child who MAY be uncomfortable
 - As a reminder, please either dress children in layers, or pack some in bag

6) New Business:

- Snow removal: City of Hamilton responsible for sidewalks; Contractors, for parking lot; Caretaker for pathways from parking lot into school, sidewalks into entry points
- Plan for next year for the blacktop, **before** ice/snow build up? Quotes for snow removal... can School Council cover this, once we are fundraising again?
- Safety concerns regarding (crossing) the corner of Mill and Elgin - who can help? School? City? Trustee? How do we get crossing guards in a neighbourhood?
- Our bell times for September 2021 will be 9:15 am – 3:35 pm. More details can be found in this [letter](#).

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

Next meeting: **Wednesday, March 31st, 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!