

Mary Hopkins School Council Minutes
Wednesday, November 25th, 2021
6:45 pm - 7:15 pm



Attendees: Charon Buck, Gail Arruda, Ashley Black, Carley Casey, Cara Leitch, Jeanette Weatherill, Lorelei Wilder, Tanya Kenesky

- 1) MS Teams online welcome, round table introductions
- 2) [November minutes](#) move to approve, Carley; second, Cara

[January Agenda:](#)

3) Treasurer's Report:

- nothing to report as there has been no fundraising, nothing going on
- Ms. Buck: \$500 Parent Engagement funds given out each year; Mary Hopkins amount spent on online reading subscriptions in both French and English. (This amount is spent on something right away, such as a guest speaker, and so does not hit financial statement as it is not a school-generated fund)

4) Principal's Report:

- Remote learning: staff did a great job of planning ahead, ensuring logins, etc.
- Managing learning at home:
 - Huge demand, everyone is stressed; hopefully Feb 10th IS our return date
 - *[Board announced](#) Feb. 3rd that in-person classes will resume Monday, Feb .8th
- End-of-week Spirit Days until return to school:
 - January 28th, Read My Shirt Day
 - February 5th, Mismatch Day
- January 29th PA Day: staff consolidating assessments, working on report cards which will be sent home February 19th electronically via parent portal. There will be no interviews linked to these reports, but teachers MAY reach out or parents and caregivers can always be in touch with the school at any time
- French Immersion (FI):
 - currently, Grade 4 FI students at MH the oldest cohorts
 - Students will move on to Flamborough Centre
 - Mary Hopkins will then be a true 50/50 Dual Track school
- [Kindergarten registration](#) opens February 1st:

- Closed to out of catchment
- Will have a better idea of enrolment once the Board sends projections out mid-Feb: perhaps around 510-515
- Since last year, only online
- Tables may be set up outside the school over multiple days with scheduled time for parents and/or caregivers to come and show paperwork (just need to authenticate, not copy)
- Priority is for kids to have opportunity to see class and meet teacher prior to September
- [Learn. Disrupt. Rebuild @HWDSB](#), Ms. Buck sits on this team at the Board:
 - Part of K-12 curriculum
 - Receiving module by module to roll out to students
 - Everyone messaged out together
 - Ms. Buck will will present in more detail at next School Council meeting

“At Mary Hopkins we recognize it is our responsibility to assure that all students feel safe, accepted and supported. Part of that commitment is to align our curriculum and classroom programs with lessons that support diversity, inclusion and identifying and eliminating barriers for all students. To support this goal, Mary Hopkins staff will be implementing the HWDSB curriculum Learn.Disrupt.Rebuild. To find out more about this resource, its modules and links to the curriculum, follow the link below. Families can reach out to the classroom teacher or Principal if they have additional questions.”

5) Staff Report:

- Bigger learning curve than anyone expected
- Attendance IMPRESSIVE; not a fun way to learn, but kids have been FANTASTIC :)
- Everyone is making the best of it, especially with TECH ISSUES :(
- Staff are making accommodations for how things can be “handed in;” finding creative ways to get kids moving
- Staff request, especially with younger online learners: parents and caregivers, please help get learning environment set up so teachers can see kiddos. A lot of work going on in the early grades is visual, sharing work
- Hard to tell how kids are doing with cameras off - please reach out to teacher if your tech does not allow for video or if there are other barriers

March Break – The province announced that it is postponing March Break until April 12-16 as part of the efforts to keep schools open and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Inclement Weather](#) – The decision to close HWDSB schools is made in conjunction with the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board based on information at that time. The board will make every effort to cancel all school operations by 6:00 a.m. School closures will be announced to families via School Messenger, Twitter, Board Website and local media.

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, February 24th, 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!