

Mary Hopkins School Council Minutes  
Wednesday, April 28th, 2021  
6:30 pm - 7:20 pm



Attendees: Charon Buck, Ashley Black, Carley Casey, Cara Leitch, Jeanette Weatherill, Lorelei Wilder, Cheryl Dalrymple, Erika Cantin, Steph Sparham, Susan McCusker

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

[April Agenda:](#)

- 3) Treasurer's Report:
  - N/a
- 4) Principal's Report:
  - April Principal [report slides](#) (Remote Learning; Growth & Development Health Unit; Student Census)
  - BIG thanks to staff and students for transitioning back to remote learning so well!
  - Parents and caregivers may request to opt out of class(es) during remote learning by reaching out to the school. There is a PDF form to fill out and submit
- 5) Staff Report:
  - Nothing to report! Going day by day ...
  - In terms of "asks" School Council may have for Trustees: we may see more cuts, send letters to local MPPs to voice concerns and advocate for student well-being
- 6) New Business:
  - Crosswalks: By-Law do not cover crosswalks, they cover traffic/parking in bus zones. Crosswalks are a Police matter
  - Crossing guards: re. crosswalk at Mill and Elgin: the school will have to reach out to the city department that supports this program, and they will send someone out to survey the traffic, flow assess need
  - Connecting with Trustee, Penny Deathe:

- little gym, very supportive of having this looked into. MH is completely removed from the closure list = no longer an excuse not to fix this!
- Ms. Buck: “never say never for a school closure. We have no info, other than the school is growing”
- FTE (enrollment) numbers HAVE increased
- Mrs. Chambers needs a proper room and space to run the Music program; Kindies do Gym in class when the weather is bad - we need the second gym space!
- Re. blacktop: this is a Board issue. If they clear ours, they have to do ALL schools. It is not equitable to fundraise, as not all schools will be in the same position to raise the same amount of \$\$\$
- School Council, still submit a proposal, we may be able to get SOME concessions (ie. Church pathway maintenance)
- Carley will submit this, but Board is making cuts right now, is in a deficit due to Covid, so ask for small enhancements
- Request has gone to Sue Dunlop as well as Facility Services (Ms. Buck confirmed the messaging went through)
- Response received (to Carley, via email) May 5th from Ms. Deathe: “The Facilities Operations Supervisor has been working on this for a couple of years with the Principal. Facilities has been able to review the space and is hopeful that we will have a revitalized space in the next few months. Our first step is to address any water infiltration by means of interior trenching and sumps and then monitor the space to ensure that the sumps are addressing all moisture entering the floor. Once we confirm that the sumps etc. are working, we will refinish the space (new lights, paint, sports floor, fans, etc.). The plan is to have the work completed in the next few months, depending on how it goes to address the moisture.”
- Ms. Deathe has also agreed to attend May Parent Council Meeting and maybe Sue Dunlop as well
- If anyone has any questions for either of them, please email them to Carley at: carley.casey@outlook.com by May 14th. Carley will compile all the questions and create an outline for the meeting in the hopes that it runs smoothly with it being virtual (fingers crossed). Carley has also agreed to provide Ms. Deathe and

Ms. Dunlop with all the questions in advance so that they have time to prepare any information they may need

- Grade 5 Farewell: could be a virtual celebration, could be celebrated in cohorts, outside, could be a drive-through celebration where students pick up diplomas; all remote learners will be included in any scenario, as well
- IF we go back this year, will all or most staff be vaccinated? Many staff don't live in Hamilton, so have different schedules/requirements for vaccination
- Will vaccinations play into school starting up again? School staff do not hear any info in advance: we all hear it at the same time, as the Government makes announcements

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, May 26th, 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!