

MINUTES

Norwood Park School Council

Date | time Nov 2, 2021 | 6:30 pm *Meeting called to order by* Shannon-Leigh Chandler

In Attendance

Shannon-Leigh Chandler

Rhonda Moules

Paula Masys-Pollock (paulamp@rogers.com)

Sara and Christian Decloet

Stevie Kenyon (steviekenyon@gmail.com)

Lisa Major (lisa_major@me.com)

Carolyn Reid (carolyn.reid@outlook.com)

Allison Hornby (horbytwins@gmail.com)

Kim Baker-Everts (ms.k.baker@gmail.com)

Ashlea Gilhooy (ashleagilhooy@yahoo.com)

Amber Yorke (amber.yorke@gmail.com)

Approval of Minutes

Approval of September minutes pending.

Opening

Mme. Moules shared a ppt slide showing the **indigenous land acknowledgement** and, in honour of the recent Day of Reconciliation, invited a moment of silence for attendees to take personal reflection.

Principal's Update

Temporary Vice Principal was Lisa Neale until Nov 2 and will be John Whitwell Nov 8-26.

Field upgrade start is delayed until end of November; locates are taking longer than expected. DPA has been moved to the tarmac and 14 squares have been painted to align cohorts.

Extracurricular activities continue ...

Cross country is complete, entry in heats was a bit confusing but everyone performed well and we had new and excellent coaches.

Volleyball for 7/8 is on now.

Clubs are starting based on student expressed interest. So far the focus will be on grades 7/8 as there is a higher chance they are vaccinated and cohort mixing is less of a public health concern. So far there has been interest in a Drama club, a Coding club, and an Eco club. Although school council had discussed supporting an equity and inclusion (LGBTQQIP2SAA) club, no student interest has been identified, even during the equity work that took place using the external consultant.

Upcoming days: Grad photo, retakes, and photos for remote learners will be November 18th. Treaty recognition week. Remembrance Day with virtual and in class activities. Progress reports home Nov 19th. PA day Nov 26th.

Direct donations to the Hamilton Foundation for Student Success can be made in 3 ways:

- 1) credit card online <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/foundation/donate/> and note “for Norwood Park” in the additional comments section
- 2) cheque made out to “Hamilton Foundation for Student Success” with a note “for Norwood Park” mailed to Amy Leeming Cote at HWDSB Education Centre, 20 Education Court, Hamilton ON L8N3L1
- 3) by credit card over the phone 905-527-5092 x 2436

Charitable receipts are issued for all donations of \$20 or more.

Budget

No change to the school generated funds budget.

Purchase order for **school sports uniforms** has been processed. Instead of ordering 15 of one colour and 15 of another, we ordered 30 of the same colour and ensured a range of sizes (ex. 2 mens XXL, 6 small, 3 XL youth, 2 L youth, etc.)

Bike racks have been paid by HWDSB facilities and we will be getting 3 in total.

All teachers will be getting **new laptops** through the HWDSB central budget.

Committee Reports

Chair (Shannon-Leigh)

- **Virtual bookfair** is set for November 8-22; communications will be coming soon (cc Jennifer Wilson to ensure notification through School Messenger). Shopping will be done online so, although traditionally the fall fair is French-focused, shoppers will now be able to purchase both French and English books. Orders will come to school, prepackaged by family, for students to bring home. Shannon-Leigh will look into options for pickup in case families don't want children to see what they ordered. Mme Moules used the credit from last bookfair to purchase 30 books for teachers on antiracism (recommended by the board's equity consultant).
- **Norwood Park Spirit Wear** designs are in the works and online ordering will be launched before December. There will be 2 logo options. Having an extra logo option only increased the price by about \$1 per sweater but to have 3 options the price would have increased significantly. We can also change

the logos for the spring order for variety. Orders will be shipped to school; logistics for pickup will be worked out similar to bookfair.

Home and School Liaison (Ashlea)

- They will be running a **community food drive** at 3 separate locations and on 3 different dates (TBA)
 - Mme. Moules shared that school after-hours rentals are resuming so this may be an option for H&S
- H&S's Ontario federation met with Minister Lecce to advocate for the return to **volunteers** in schools across all boards

Questions

Sara: will there be virtual **Parent /Teacher interviews**?

Mme. Moules: no direction yet from the board, currently at the discretion of the teacher.

Sara: disappointing as other boards are offering this touchpoint.

Paula: kids reporting **washrooms** are an ongoing issue – are there any plans for renewal?

Mme. Moules: they were repainted last year and stalls and doors redone as part of the master facilities plan. Parents haven't seen the updates but they are quite nice. She will check if there are any other plans.

Paula: It is important to also consider inclusivity so kids feel comfortable using the washroom. Not having girls' pink and boys' blue.

Mme. Moules: thinks washrooms are neutral colours but will check on this and any plans to change. Norwood also has an all-gender washroom. She will speak with Facilities to get an update on any washroom-related plans.

Amber: classroom **flooded**, what is being done to rectify that?

Mme. Moules: there was a leak in the window of one classroom where water pooled on the ledge. A work order for new window has been placed.

Amber: will **lunch monitors** be reinstated? She is getting the impression that some classes are extremely loud, kids can't eat, and the chaos is very overwhelming.

Mme. Moules: has been visiting and has not noticed anything concerning about noise levels or eating. Monitors are not allowed due to public health mandates related to cohorting and contact-tracing. Encouraged parents to call her to discuss one-off situations.

Shannon-Leigh: requested that teachers communicate planned **theme days** so parents have adequate time to prepare.

Mme. Moules: yes, and a reminder about equity and inclusion is also important so no days are placing undue burden on families. She will speak with the teachers.

Paula: **grass lines** are missing to define cohorts.

Mme. Moules: likelihood of being back on the grass in the near future is low and fence lines / student memory should suffice if there is opportunity, but if there is a chance they will be using the grass again for a long time they will look into having the cohort line repainted.

Next Meeting

November 30, 6:30 pm (virtual meeting to be sent by Mme. Moules)