

Monday October 23rd School Council Meeting

Welcome Remarks from Principal Mrs. Nelson.

Attendance was taken with 25 in attendance.

Voting occurred for School Council.

Co- Chairs Saima Mirza, and Kylie Gallagher- Voted in by K Cannell and C. Gagnon.

Vice Co- Chairs- Ryan Davies, and Sarah Momani -Voted in by S. Welton and A Pereira.

Treasurer- Tarnvir Kaur Voted in by Asmaa Salama and Shelan Abdullah- Miller.

Secretary Carly Gagnon- Voted in by Theresa Conte, and Kirsten Cannell.

Introductions by new Co-Chairs/and Opening of Meeting occurred and was opened by Asmaa Salama, and Steph.

Mrs. Nelson welcomed everyone to our first School Council Meeting of the school Year, and provided updates beginning with Principal/ Teacher's Report.

Principal/Teachers Report:

- Shannen Koostachin has 830 students currently enrolled.
- 57 teachers, 8 EAs, and 3 Support Staff.
- School also has an ASD support team in kindergarten, and in primary/secondary.
- Jaclyn Mitchell is our school's teacher representative who will attend these meetings.
- School will also have a youth Practitioner that will be on site in the coming weeks.
- Welcomed Colin Hazel who has been acting as a Temporary Vice- President.
- Welcomed Anna Ricci who will be joining the Shannen Koostachin Team as the school new Vice-Principal on November 6th.
- Welcomed New Superintendent Gerry Smith.
- Introduction of the MAD (Making A Difference) group. This is a student lead/run group, that reports on all the exciting events, and activities that are occurring in the school such as school dances, kidney drives, etc. This report will be shared at the next Council meeting.
- School's Open House was a huge success with just over \$300.00 raised through popcorn sales, water bottle sales, and the food trucks.

- Our school is looking at hosting an official School Opening with Shannen's family in the near future. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 this was unable to occur, and we are looking forward to honoring this family, and the future of our school.

- **Cellphones:**

Last year there was a lot of misuse around cellphones with the students. Teachers have done a fantastic job at decreasing the amount of social media misuse by implementing a new policy called the "Pocket System". Students are to turn their phones off, and place in the pocket during classroom time, and at recesses. Students have been more engaged with each other and are building strong social skills due to this new policy being rolled out. Lunch Expectation guides have also been posted in each classroom to act as a friendly reminder to students.

Treasurer's Report:

- School has a current balance of \$9220.72 which has been raised through various fundraisers such as milk/pita/ pizza days, and last years raffle baskets.
- Proposal will be sent out and submitted in a few weeks for new technology to utilise from these funds such as tablet's computers, etc .

Staff Professional Development:

- Teachers have been involved in a New Language Curriculum this past professional development day. Teachers are looking at UDL's (Universal design for Learning), and advocate learning.

Trips:

- Trips are being planned and organized at the moment. If you wish to attend class trips you must have your Volunteer Police Check completed and handed into the office. Your Police check is good for three years. Please see office for the Volunteer form, or the HWDSB webpage for more details.

Fundraisers:

- Tuesday October 24th- Kelsey's Fundraiser. 10% of your order will go back towards our school.
- World's Finest Chocolates Fundraiser to come soon with more details. \$45.00 can be made on each chocolate box sold.

- Monies raised during our Fundraiser will go towards updating and upgrading technology needs.
- Pizza Days will resume once dates are organized. Council voted that they would support with Volunteering only by distributing of Pizza, but will not manage the administration components of this, and will allow the school's admin team to continue with this. Nine voting members agreed to this and was passed.
- Food Trucks at schools Open House was done by the school.
- If individuals are looking to Donate, they can always donate to the Hamilton Foundation for Student Success at <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/foundation/donate/>

Athletics/School Clubs:

- Lots of Athletic teams. And programs occulting such as Three Pitch, Cross Country, Volleyball.
- School Choir is underway and are excited to showcase their talents soon!
- Checker's, and more clubs to come throughout the school year!

Other Business:

- Mrs. Nelson discussed that Council must have four meeting per year. The next meetings will occur on Monday December 4th, at 6:00pm, Monday February 5th, and Monday April 8th.
- Discussions were opened by Co-Chairs if any parents had any questions or concerns.
- Parent Council member asked if Council could decide where the money goes to. Mrs. Nelson informed Council that proposals must be submitted and was based on school needs. If parents wish to donate money towards something specifically, they can go through the Hamilton Foundation for Student success <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/foundation/donate/>
- Meeting was closed by Ashley P, and Stacey K.

If parent's have any questions or ideas regarding the schools/students educational and development needs please email shannenkoostachinSC@hwdsb.on.ca.