



Sherwood

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Sherwood Secondary School Council Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2015

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Additions to Agenda – VP report from Mr Monkley, Student voice survey, New grade 9 handbook and transition process Ms Lea

2. Approval of previous Minutes. Minutes will be also be posted on the school website

3. Principals Report – Mr Pratt

- Semester 2 staffing is complete, finalizations were done today. Extra staffing was received due to student populations. Some class sizes will be large. There will not be a lot of flexibility to change classes
- Mr Pratt presented a power point presentation outlining Sherwood and the role of the Principal, his personal background and the definitions of school board, trustee and the role of school council
- Sherwood is looking at changing their focus and is looking at student input more closely. Student enrollment is close to 1100 students

Vice Principal Report – Mr Monkley

- Parent involvement is needed for the Positive School Climate Meeting. Please let Mr Monkley know if you are able to sit on this committee. Students will be involved as well. Committee will be discussing how to improve and make school a more positive environment. Students need to feel that they are respected and important and that their voice matters. Meetings will be outside school hours. Mr Monkley feels that this year the tone feels very good at Sherwood and that it's a very positive place. He also feels that students are supported in the classroom and that it's the best he's seen since he started here.

Staff Report – Ms Brown

- Gym is almost done. Padding will not be secured until February but able to play athletics with temporary padding. Sound system will be done during exam week. Kids want to have a pep rally.

- Recently met with new Athletic Director at the Board and talked about school fields. Sherwoods field might be the worst. A new turf field will be installed at Churchill. Plan is for 2 Mountain schools to get theirs done as well.
- A “Climb for Cancer” event will be a school wide event to raise money for Cancer. Each school will have a team of 20 students and 2 teachers. This event will be at Tim Hortons field. More to follow.
- School Board is implementing a Literacy Learning Directions team. This team is to meet and plan activities for teachers to use in class that will lead into the literacy test. Literacy techniques will be spread to all classrooms. Plan is for the literacy test to be done electronically and that the practice test could qualify as their test. Tests would have to be marked quickly and results given back promptly for this to happen.
- Staff encourages parents contact them directly regarding students. Email works best for quick updates. Some teachers offer their personal email to students and parents. Some teachers also have twitter accounts as well for communication regarding school activities.
- Guidance department identified mental health issues are prevalent with students. There will be lunch and learns for staff regarding anxiety, self harm, suicide, substance abuse and gambling. Mr Murkovich will be taking the lead on this.

Staff report – Ms Lea

- A new handbook has been developed for Grade 8/9's and has been sent to feeder schools
- The option sheet has included an English sheet and French Immersion sheet
- There are a total of 10 feeder schools for Sherwood
- November 5th was option day, Grade 8 classrooms were visited and observed
- French Immersion students also had student voice forum
- Two of the team building exercises for students of the feeder schools are/were the recent floor ball tournament and in May 2015 we will be hosting Amazing 8's to Saints. Amazing 8's to Saints is based on the Amazing Race and various activities are planned for the students. Historically this event has been very successful
- Grade 10-12's completed a student voice survey of what courses they would like to take
- This will help in the process of deciding what courses to offer
- Option assembly is February 11 and 12 and during the last week in February students will complete their option sheet online
- Any changes for Semester 2 schedule will be handed out during exams

Student Council report

- On Mondays representatives from different clubs will be meeting and sharing information with each other to avoid conflicts of booking events on the same day and time
- In late February early March council would like to have a school dance (Semi formal). It was suggested that they look at the school calendar prior to planning

4. French Immersion Update – M Hudson

- Students have been to Sherwood to observe classrooms and see the programs offered. We will be offering the same compulsory programs as Westdale. Family Studies will be offered as well. Option sheets have been posted online. School website will be updated with a French Immersion department. Anticipated enrollment is 99 students from feeder schools. The Department Head will be selected as part of the staffing process in April as well as other staffing. Transportation policy has been approved. Funding has also been secured. Plan is to have activities at Sherwood in the Spring for new students as well as the first week of School.

5. New Business

- Revitalization budget for Sherwood is 31 million dollars
- Construction on the Science labs will not be starting in Semester 2 due to asbestos and the HVAC system not being able to isolate the air supply to the rest of the school. The planning committee and the Board will decide what the next steps will be regarding the cost of a new school and or renovating and fixing Sherwood and what benefits the school community more. The Architects and Engineers will do up a report and present it to the Board. A new Board of trustees was elected back in November 2014 and it is their role to decide what needs to happen. They will probably ask our council for input. We have also invited the new Superintendent to a meeting to update us. As a council we need to have discussions around what we feel is important prior to the trustees visit.
- The new sound system will be installed in the auditorium next week
- There is still some concern over the “Hillpark” students transitioning into Sherwood. Ms Jones has met with those students and asked them their concerns and the mentoring EA has been working with them diligently. Some are still not responsive but others are doing well. Any suggestion that may help their transition is welcome.

Next meeting: Tuesday March 3, 2015 6:30 pm in the Library