

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

25 High Street Hamilton, Ontario L8T 3Z4 Phone: 905.383.3377 Fax: 905.318.6561

EMAIL: sherwood@hwdsb.on.ca PRINCIPAL: Ms. M. Visca

VICE-PRINCIPALS: Ms. D. Alexandre and Ms. S. McNeill

www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood

SHERWOOD SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING **MINUTES**

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual meeting through MS Teams

Attendance

Staff Reps: Michelle Visca, Kelly George Daigleish, Dian Alexandre, Stephanie McNeill

Co-Chairs: Sandi Horton, Deborah Simon

Parent Reps: Jennifer Durly, Jay Edington, Shelley Stacey, Stephanie Baschiera, Eliza-Jane Scott, Michelle Bohaychuk, Melissa Wagner-Wong, John Popoola, Lisa Urban, Lisa Mantysaari, Mike Martin, Jennifer Ward

Absent: Connie O'Hagen, Katrina Pavlovic, Danijel Radojevic, Julie Carr, Shanda Licop, Carly Jones, Tracey vanGageldonk, Crystal Holland

Community Rep: n/a

Student Reps: Sara Alasadi, Areej Hussain

Proceedings

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair Sandi Horton called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with introductions.

2. HWDSB Land Acknowledgement

At 6:45 p.m. Principal Michelle Visca read the land acknowledgement. Ms. Visca would like parent reps to read the land acknowledgement at the start of subsequent meetings and to



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make a personal connection (different parent for each meeting). Ms. Visca to email land acknowledgement to parent reps.

3. Approval of Minutes

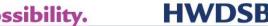
No issues were presented with regards to the October 2021 Minutes. Ms. Horton made a motion to approve the minutes at 6:48. Motion seconded by Ms. Baschiera and Ms. Scott. No one opposed. Minutes approved.

4. Student Council Updates – Sara Alasadi, Areej Hussain

- The food drive will run until November 27.
 - Items needed include canned food, personal hygiene products, boxed food, and toiletries.
 - There will be a pizza party for the winning class.
- Muslim Prayer Room set up in library, Friday prayers in upstairs Resource Room.
- School Council created a Tik Tok account, will begin posting content shortly.
- Winter Events
 - Winter Clothing Drive (jackets, hats, mittens, gloves) for Sherwood students, anything left will be donated to shelters.
 - Winter Spirit Days leading up to break as last spirit days in October were a huge success.
 - Door decorating to encourage school spirit and participation.
- Student Senate sending out Student Census next week about online learning/Covid, quadmesters, mental health.
- Ms. Visca thanked Sara and Areej for their contributions to the meeting and excused them.

5. Principal & Staff Updates – Principal communications, news, upcoming events

- Ms. Dalgleish informed Council the library has now opened to classes. It is a new space that is bright and welcoming.
- Lots of clubs and winter sports happening, volleyball tryouts for the girls were today with 45 attending. 30 students in Drama Club. Excellent numbers for clubs/sports.





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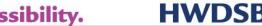
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- Ms. Visca announced reports will be available November 22 via School Messenger (final marks for first two courses). Watch for email, contact school re: any issues.
- PA Day on November 26, 2021
 - Focus school plan moving to equitable focus for positive wellbeing and mental wellbeing.
 - Various presentations for staff, continuous learning, and improvement.
- All grade 9 will be destreamed in September 2022: French, Science, English, Geography will no longer have Applied or Academic options. Math already destreamed.
- New grad coach, Monique Pitt for black youth who are struggling, offering postsecondary support.
- By-Laws
 - Ms. Visca thanked Council for their contributions to the new Sherwood By-Laws and did a run-through of the draft.
 - Maximum 25 voting members, determine minimum for quorum (4 25)members).
 - Committee may be appointed: Executive Assistant (Melissa Wagner-Wong) and co-chairs (Sandi Horton and Deb Simons).
 - To start membership, must attend meetings within the first two months.
 - **Elections Committee**
 - Include info in August email to families.
 - Everyone automatically becomes a voting member, unless more than 25 respond, then follow Election Procedure.
 - Electronic Vote one vote per email address before September 10. Posting must be within the first 35 days of the school year post elected members and first School Council meeting date.
 - Add to co-chair duties
 - Ensure quorum at meetings, suggested by Jen.
 - #8 Communicate, now #9
 - Questioning whether to terminate Council for remainder of school year, after four mandatory meetings held, if the quorum of voting





curiosity.

Sherwood Secondary School

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members agrees and/or if attendance goes down, especially for unforeseen circumstances, such as Covid. Possibly in April or May. Couldn't do it last year as it was not in the By-Laws.

- Jen questioned if we would have to reconvene and would we need a statement to that effect.
- Mr. Martin suggested having a clause to stop and start again, reinstatement if quorum voting members agree.
- Ms. Edington wanted to know how Council determines if next meeting is required/feasible, what is the qualifier? Ms. Visca responded if a member puts something forward and the group votes if a meeting is necessary.
- Jen suggested member puts forth to Principal that a meeting is warranted, or vice versa: the Principal could call the meeting (without a vote). Ms. Dalgleish agreed.
- Jen to add voting session (can voting happen by email?)
- Conflict of interest must declare. Conflict resolution not necessarily step by step.
- HWDSB Human Rights Policy serves as an anchor to related policies and furthers HWDSB's commitment to foster and maintain a culture of respect that permeates all HWDSB learning and work environments.
 - Covers guidelines for discussion or behaviour, conflict resolutions.
 - The member who caused the conflict may be asked to resign voluntarily or asked not to speak at further meetings (only attend). If non-compliant, in an effort to cease further harm, the Chairs "may" invoke article 8 of their duties and terminate School Council for the remainder of the year with the quorum of membership in agreement.





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- Ms. Visca asked Council if the topic not to speak at meetings should be a blanket request or issue specific. Ms. Scott believed it should be topic to topic.
- Check to see if a member can be voted out due to harm related to human rights, blatant racism, etc.
- Jen said the Principal can call the meeting or if members request it, will work on improving language for by-laws.
- Ms. Scott suggested "they" in place of "he" or "she."

6. Activities & PRO Grants - Ms. Horton

- Ms. Edington wanted to discuss PRO grants but lost her connection to the meeting.
- Ms. Visca read email from Ms. Edington
- Ms. Licop suggested student mental health events this could be support for parents to support student mental health.
- Ms. Visca proposed individual brainstorming with the co-chairs, perhaps a Teams presentation with a link for quad 3 or 4. Will reach out to the Board's Manager of Mental Health.
- Ms. Horton asked Council to send any ideas to Ms. Simon (debsimon@rogers.com)
- Ms. Stacey (an HWDSB employee) stressed the event cannot be child centric, must be for parents.
- Ms. Ward asked if mental health would include helping parents communicate with trans and neurodivergent teens.

7. New Business

- Ms. Ward asked how parents can find social workers. Sherwood has social workers through admin or guidance counsellor.
- Ms. Alexandre added that a social worker and a mental health worker are available through admin, and they can put a referral through.
- The Board also has a social worker for trans, LGBTQ+ students.
- Mr. Martin asked if that could be posted on the school website.





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8. Confirmation on Meeting Dates 2020 – 2021

- Moving forward, meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, January 18, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.
- Meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of the month, but not every month.
- Email Ms. Visca with questions or concerns mvisca@hwdsb.on.ca

9. Adjournment

• Meetings adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Melissa Wagner-Wong, Executive Assistant

possibility. HWDSB