

Strathcona School Council Meeting - Oct 1st 2024

Start time 6:05pm

End time: 6:52pm

Attendance

John Gris - Temporary Principal

Shelly Osbourne - Teacher

Erin Fuller

Andrew Downey - SAGE

Julia Lillicrop

Cam Segger

Theressa Berry – SHASA

Jennie

Magdalena

Matt Calvano

Opening Address & Land Acknowledgement

John Gris opens with We Gather Our Minds Opening Address (poem by Elizabeth Doxtator inspired by Thanksgiving Address)

Mr. Gris gives context to opening address

Mr. Gris delivers HWDSB land acknowledgement

Minutes From Last Meeting – Not available at this time

Elections to Council Positions

Erin Fuller volunteered to Council Co-Chair position representing SAGE program

Chair's Report – Not available at this time

Teacher's Report – Shelly Osbourne

Terry Fox Run – September 27th - Great turn out and it was amazing to see all the students participating. Thank you to all who donated.

Checkers Club (Osbourne) – Hoping to begin on October 16th (Day 5, 2nd Nutrition Break) in the library and expecting to run for approximately 6 weeks, breaking for the month of December to begin again mid-January

There is a Checkers tournament in March, and starting a checkers team to compete is being considered.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – Many classes honoured this day and our Indigenous community and friends with cultural activities, such as Lacrosse, dancing, reading cultural texts, such as My Powerful Hair (Carole Lindstrom) and with Our Orange Hearts (Phyllis Webstad). Our Grade 4/5s have been doing announcements and expressing calls to action, written by students, regarding government policies and Indigenous People. For example, “We call on Canada to give school’s that teach First Nations kids enough money for those schools to give a fair education.”

Cross Country – We have 45 students in grades 3-5 participating on this year’s cross-country team! They have shown a lot of talent and dedication and will be heading to Christie Lake Conservation Area on October 7th for our Cross Country meet.

Swim Team – We have 30 students on our Swim Team this year! Our biggest yet. Tryouts were held last week, and all made the team. Practices will be every Thursday until the end of the month.

Bus Safety Presentation – October 16th

Photo Day – October 21st

An Invitation to attend Brott Music Festival – unsure if anyone is going to participate.
November 14th 9:45 or 11:30 (Feel the Music Emotions in Concert)

We’ve had a great start to our school year. Most students have settled easily, and we are looking forward to the 2024/2025 school year!

Principal Report

Safety Wellness and Inclusion

- Rabbit and Bear Paws Assembly – September 23rd
- Terry Fox Walk/Run
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Program

- HWDSB Multi-Year Strategic Plan
- Staff Meeting – Literacy and Numeracy Learning
 - o To support our Literacy – hoping to raise funds for the Forest of Reading – 1-2 sets of 10 Canadian Hard-cover books per class
- PA Day – Ministry Priority Day – includes Safety and Ministry of Labour requirements (bullying prevention, concussion management, fire safety, etc.)
 - o Student engagement and well-being
 - o Wellness/Engagement Activities
 - o Responding to Hate
 - o Human Rights
 - o Anti-Sex Trafficking

Facilities

- Fence has been installed along back part of partition wall
- Playground to be painted – hoping to raise funds for activities and games

Points circled back to and/or expanded upon by Mr. Gris included the following:

- Multi-year Strategic Plan
 - o The tagline: “Be you. Be excellent.”
 - o The Board improvement plan priorities:
 - Literacy achievement for every student
 - numeracy achievement for every student
 - preparedness for the future of every student
 - engagement for every student
 - well-being for every student
- Forest of Reading – students can vote on these well written Canadian books
- Human Rights – we are duty bearers and people who have human rights as well
- Re-imagining wellness 2.0 on board site shows examples of ways that teachers are engaging with students

A participant noted that Open House at Strathcona and at Kanétskare have been consistently occurring on the same evening.

Mr. Gris apologizes, explains that meet-the-teacher nights were held off until after any classroom assignment reorganization.

Future meet the teacher events will try to prevent coinciding with Kanétskare

Another participant asked if there is somewhere to access previous minutes, materials and reports, etc. Mr. Gris will see these are available.

SAGE Update - Andrew

- Holding Fall Fling Sat Oct 19th 10:30-1:30, a SAGE fundraiser
- 3 or 4 whole school fundraisers planned, one of which is Fresh from the Farm
- Looking forward to working together – all are welcome to Fall Fling
- Looking for vendors, including a licensed food vendor
- looking at doing it on school lawn

SHASA – Theresa

First meeting this Thursday at 6:30pm through Google Meet. New members welcome!

Member drive

First pizza day next Thursday and is the second Thursday of each month.

Last year pumpkin patch in kindergarten area – students got to take home a pumpkin

February event raised \$700 food for kids

Food pantry

Holiday card offer for seniors

Book fair

Krispy Kreme

Open streets – 3 fun events, dragon costume, etc.

Michael Jacques author came in and books by this author were purchased

Staff appreciation spreads

Pizza to empower reading

Dundas valley, trips

Seussical the musical

Fun group, gets a lot done!

Make sure events are no barrier – let's try it!

Setting next meeting date: Tuesday, November 26th at 6pm