

Minutes from WDHS School Council Meeting

Tuesday February 19, 2019

In Attendance: Karin Lang(Co-chair); Sophie Boers(Co-chair); Ginessa Cetra-McColl (Secretary); Theresa Sgambato (Acting Principal); David Delville (Teacher Rep); Beth Morrison (Student Services); Penny Deathe (Trustee); Sarah Brophy & Jessa Boers (Student Rep); Jennifer Clarke-Brophy; Suzie Larochelle; Jennifer Vince; Dee Shen; Karen Wilson (Board Rep Mathify)

Absent/Regrets: Michael Collette (Rotary Rep); Louise Hooper; Brenda Folk

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Introduction

2. Approve Minutes of the prior meeting

- Motion passed to approve the minutes of the prior council meeting of November 20, 2018 (Suzie Larochelle & Jennifer Vince)

3. Grade 10 Literacy Test (OSSLT) – Beth Morrison

- Practice test was written in November and students requiring extra help have been identified and invited to attend lunch time sessions.
- After school Literacy Class running - February 21,25,28, March 4,7,18,21,25
- Classes run from 3-4pm
- Lunch time classes run by Beth Morrison and after school classes run by Jen Murray
- Writing news reports has been determined as most challenging, therefore materials have been supplied to all grade 10 teachers to review in class.
- Literacy assembly to be held during March 4th week. It will outline what is on the test, rules for the day, time table and answer any questions.
- A PowerPoint presentation will be made available on school website.
- Applied English classes will be working on a digital resource practicing the different section of the test. This is a new resource being tested by teachers.
- Grade 10 Literacy Test to start 8:30am on Wednesday March 27th.
- Grade 9 students will be working on a practice test
- ALL students are allowed extra time as per EQAO guidelines for the test.

4. TVO Mathify – Karen Wilson

- Karen is a representative from the board to promote math.

- Mathify is ON-LINE math help
- Students are able to register for this free service via The Hub
- Click on Mathify icon – type in name, OEN number, grade and birth date to get a verifying email and student is immediately registered
- Student is able to access homework help with live certified teachers
- Platform recently updated to provide live interactive help
- Available Sunday to Thursday 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm
- Very low wait time to access teacher – Usually less than 2 minutes
- Student can simply ask the teacher to check work they have already completed
- This service is available for grade 7 to 10 students
- More information available on the website - tvo.org/mathify

5. Parent Vaping Survey – Sophie Boers

- 3rd year Nursing Students from McMaster identified vaping as a serious concern providing research to both schools and parents
- Immediate suspension from school has been implemented
- The school cannot fine students caught but they can report it
- Minimum fine is \$305
- Please take just a few moments to fill in the survey - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GBPRHVQ>

6. Waterdown Scouts – Jennifer Vince

- Raising money to help send youth to World Jamboree in West Virginia.
- MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT on Saturday March 30th
- Doors open 6:30pm – Cash bar and silent/live auction
- 7pm Dinner followed by troop lead murder mystery
- Tickets \$50
- For tickets please call or email Jennifer – Jennifer@squirrellmaster.ca or 289-682-7447

7. Student Parliament Report – Jessa Boers & Sarah Brophy

- 12 Days of Christmas went very well!
- For Valentines tried to do ‘match making’ but results did not come on time due to snow days
- Did hold a Red/White/Pink day
- **February Frost Dance** on Thursday Feb 28th - Semi Formal

- Held at Michelangelo's Banquet Center
- Tickets = \$20 for students \$25 for guests
- There will be chaperones and security
- **Anti-Bullying Pink Shirt Day** on Wednesday, February 27th
- If pictures are posted with #pinkitforward the anti-bullying campaign will make money

8. Principal's Report – Theresa Sgambato

ARTIFICIAL TURF

- Meetings have started which will include input from; Student Parliament, Athletics and Parent Council to work out final plans
- Proposed start date is in April but May is more realistic

PROM

- Prom Planning for Graduates has begun!
- Friday May 10th Prom Night at LIUNA Station in Hamilton
- **All grade 12's wanting to attend prom must have all 40 volunteer hours completed!**

GOOD NEWS

- Senior Girls Volleyball playing for City Championship on Wednesday February 20th at 7pm

“Experience a Day” for grade 8s

- Was cancelled due to weather
- Attempting to reschedule for Friday May 10th since due to prom there will be less students in the school.

9. Teachers Report – David Delville

- Teacher's collective agreement expires in August
- Teachers have been told to hope for the best but be prepared
- Talks begin with government in April
- Both sides seem to be diligently working at facilitating negotiations with fewer grievances.

10. Board/HC-HY update – Penny Deathe

iPads

- iPads will continue to be supplied through to 2019 however it seems that having this technology has not been as affective as anticipated.
- Teachers are not making as much use of the iPads
- There is a call for keyboards or Chromebooks
- Each iPad is being leased for less than \$50/yr per student
- Board will re-evaluate and decide what technology will suit both teachers and students the best

New Elementary School

- The new school will be located in East Waterdown on Dundas close to Burlington
- Current issue is that the elementary schools are full but high school is not
- A solution may be to place grade 7 & 8's in high school
- <https://www.flamboroughreview.com/news-story/9194190-hamilton-board-still-committed-to-greenville-school-project/?fbclid=iwar1tu704rfrq-lhtagtsswbpxzhqjbzz3yin81tvi2vihuujhpk7ntkqqi>

11. Bake Sale – GiNESSa Cetra

- Bake Sale will take place same evening as Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Thursday March 21st from 5pm to 7pm
- Welcoming any homemade or purchased baked goods
- Money donations also welcomed to offset cost of drinks/plates/napkins/cups/etc.

12. PRO GRANT – Sophie Boers

- As per last year we have received \$1k
- Currently establishing a sub-committee to decide what topic to be presented
- Last year the parent council showed the documentary, “Screenagers” and held a discussion forum
- Estimated attendance = 50-60 parents and some students
- If interested in helping out, please contact Sophie

13. Exam Day Attendance & Bus Times – Karin Lang

- Some confusion this year as to whether students had to show up for classes that did not have a scheduled exam
- Other years students could stay home to study but this year many non-exam courses made attendance mandatory
- By doing this, kids were then left stranded at school until buses came at the end of the day

- Need to clarify if attendance is indeed mandatory and if so, potentially implement different bus times

14. Open Forum

- Question directed to Theresa as to why the ‘stabbing’ incident not communicated to the parents
- Theresa informed the council that since the situation was dealt with quite swiftly it was determined that there wasn’t a risk to any other students
- There are school board policies addressing situations like this
- Police also advise on what and when communications are necessary
- The situation involved a non-Waterdown student that was apprehended off school property very promptly by police

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY MARCH 19th, 2019 @ 6:00 pm