

Minutes from WDHS School Council Meeting

Tuesday September 18, 2018

In Attendance: Karin Lang(Co-chair); Sophie Boers(Co-chair); GiNESSa Cetra-McColl (Secretary); Theresa Sgambato (Acting Principal); Brent Monkley (VP); Penny Deathe (Trustee); Michael Collette & Annette Nyland (Rotary Rep); Sarah Brophy & Jessa Boers (Student Rep); Louise Hooper; Carrie MacLean; Brenda Folk; Alyson Johnson; Dee Shea; Jennifer Vince; Jennifer Clarke-Brophy; Lianne Broughton; Lynda Newkirk

Absent/Regrets: David Delville (Teacher Rep)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Introduction

- All council members welcomed
- Members introduced themselves

2. Approve Minutes of the prior meeting

- Motion passed to approve the minutes of the prior council meeting of May 15, 2018 (Motion by Jennifer Clark & Louise Hooper).

3. Elections

- Karin and Sophie reappointed Co-chairs
- GiNESSa appointed Secretary

4. Community Representative – Michael Collette & Annette Nyland

INTERACT

- Is a service club for high school students and is sponsored by the Rotary Club but they are self-governing and self-supporting.
- Starting September 25th the club meets every Tuesday after school in Mr. McEwen's class room.
- Club completes 2 community service projects 1 of which furthers international understanding and goodwill.
- Club has 6-7 members but is looking for more kids to get involved.

SLAP SHOT – Student Leadership Award Program for Students High on Training

- For students 15-18 years.
- Weekend event in April at Adventure Learning Center at Canterbury Hills in Ancaster

- Slap Shot promotes honors, celebrates and fosters youth leadership.
- The weekend is filled with personal and leadership development activities.
- Please visit the Rotary Club's website for more information and application forms:
- <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/308>
- Application-<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000000308/en-ca/files/homepage/slapshot-2017-application-package/SLAPSHOT-2017-Student-Participant-Information---Application-Package.pdf>
- Rotary will be attending homecoming pep rally Oct 1st to present this to the student body.

ADVENTURES IN CITIZENSHIP

- Event that takes place in May and provides young Canadians to gather and gain a greater understanding of our country.
- Meetings with political leaders, senior officials and opportunity to learn about the workings of our democratic institutions.
- Rotary is able to only sponsor 1 student 16-18 years

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

- 2 students have gone away – Meghan Heary to Spain for 1 year and Tia Kozell to Japan for 1 year. Currently 1 student is here for a year – Victoria Stark from Austria.
- Both will be attending Waterdown for the year.
- Council members asked to keep exchange students in Waterdown in mind if they have any interesting event they would like to include the students in.

RYLA - Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

- Intensive training program young adults 19-25 years
- Allows participants to improve leadership and communication skills
- 7 day program offered each year

FOOD FOR KIDS

- Rotary is looking for volunteers to help with upcoming Rotary Brunches scheduled for October 13.
- The Rotary buys or collects food on a weekly basis that is distributed to schools that participate in this program. (Guy Brown, Mary Hopkins)
- This program is funded by the monies raised at the Rotary Brunches
- Next Rotary Brunch to be held on October 13th
- Volunteers are needed to transport food to the various schools. If you can help out, please contact Michael Collette at mcollette@cogeco.ca

5. Student Parliament report – Sarah Brophy & Jessa Boers

HOMECOMING – October 1st to Oct 5th

- Pep Rally Oct 1st

- Terry Fox Run - Oct 2nd
- Dance at Michael Angelo's Oct 3rd
- Awards Ceremony & Homecoming Game Oct 4th
- Tech Crew Video Game Tourney Oct 5th

Plaque Presentation to First Nation Students - November 7th 9:30am

- Plaque to be unveiled at school assembly
- Mr. Tidridge has undertaken the completion of this endeavor

6. Principal's Report – Theresa Sgambato

WDHS Goal – To ensure that all students and staff feel safe, supported and accepted.

- Teachers will be provided strategies on how to help/deal with anti-racism and anti-oppression.
- Enhancement of student/staff relationships.
- Target goal to increase by June 2020.
- This will be address at Sept 21st PA day meetings
- Further information provided in appendix.

GOOD NEWS

- Lots of sports and clubs to join!
- Students are encouraged to go to the main office for full list of all kinds of extracurricular activities.
- Website Link - <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/waterdown/teams-and-clubs/>
- Website Brochure –
- <http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/waterdown/files/2016/04/get-active-brochure-2015.pdf>

7. Teachers Report – David Delville

- Could not attend – sent regrets
- Awards Assembly Oct 11th
- Preliminary Reports sent Friday October 12th
- Parent/Teacher Conference Thursday October 18th
- Graduation this year will be on Thursday June 27th 2019 @ 6:30pm Hamilton Place

8. Board/HC-HY update – Penny Deathe

BOARD UPDATE – Waterdown getting artificial turf

- Hoping to have entire field done by Spring 2010
- There will still be a track around the field
- **University of Waterloo** recently released rating system for high schools. WDHS not on list.
- Actively searching for more information as it may affect students applying.

HEALTHY COMMUNITY & HEALTHY YOUTH

- Received seed grant to help develop model to establish needs
- Goal is to help students plan for their future and to learn about the possibilities available for them.
- Volunteer opportunities for students to participate.

WARD INFO NIGHT – Wednesday October 3rd

- Will be examining the new Health & Physical Ed curriculum (does not impact high school).
- We Help – Presenting Mental Health Campaign

GIG ECONOMY

- A new trend amongst millennials in which independent workers are contracted for short-term engagements.
- Looking to establish a Youth Leadership team
- Team will have 6-8 students between the ages of 12-24 and will require 1 lead student
- Team will meet once a month
- Students will earn volunteer hours
- Please contact Penny Deathe at pdeathe@hwdsb.on.ca

9. PIC – Parent Information Committee – Lianne Broughton

- PIC is an advisory group to the board and the trustees and is made up of representatives from each school's Parent Council across the Board.
- Meets every second Tuesday of the month
- At last meeting compared new and past curriculum
- Examined new cannabis laws and how they can potentially impact the high schools.
- Next PIC meeting is Oct 9th

10. Bake Sale – Brenda Folk

- Subcommittee Brenda, Louise, Ginessa
- Next bake sale to be held during parent/teacher night October 18th
- Set-up will be between 3-3:30 pm in the Atrium
- Goal is to reach approx. \$500 so as to fund donations and year-end teacher BBQ

- Last year's teacher BBQ hosted on June 27th was very well received by those in attendance.
- \$55 currently in the kitty and have plenty supplies for future use.
- If you are able to donate a baked good for the upcoming event, please bring it to the school on the night of.

11. Library Closed First period – Sophie Boers

- Sophie inquired as to why library was closed during first period.
- Theresa and Brent explained that due to a significant influx of student registration, staffing required to be assigned to actual class time.
- Currently there are 1218 registered students
- WDHS was staffed based on 1150 students
- Unfortunately a parent volunteer cannot staff the library a teacher must be present

12. Crosswalk – Karin Lang

- Constant groups of students are crossing Parkside Drive mainly in front of fire station
- Requesting a proper crosswalk be installed
- Penny sent inquiry to Judy Partridge

13. Front Gardens – Karin Lang

- Clean-up to be done before parent/teacher interviews
- This typically happens during periods 3-4
- Two dates will be selected in case of rain – September 28th or October 5th
- Volunteers are required

14. Open Forum

- No items

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY OCTOBER 16, 2018 @ 6:30pm

Appendix 1

Presented by Theresa Sgambato Acting Principal

Positive Culture & Well-Being

Goal: All students and staff feel safe, supported and accepted.

Target #1: The number of students who feel safe, supported and accepted will increase by June 2020.

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide professional learning for staff on how to use student survey data and anti-racism and anti-oppression strategies.
2. Leverage effective practices in schools that enhance student-staff relationships, including a focus on students identifying a caring adult, through the mental health strategy, We Help.
3. Implement the next phase of the High Priority Schools plan.

Target #2: The number of staff feeling safe, supported and accepted will increase by June 2020.

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide professional learning on anti-racism and anti-oppression strategies.
2. Develop and implement a staff census to understand the diversity of our employee community.
3. Develop and implement a strategic wellness and absence management plan.

Student Learning and Achievement

Goal #1: All students reading.

Target: At least 75% of Grade 1 students achieving at or above provincial standard on their June report card.

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide professional learning on comprehensive literacy instruction, assessment and interventions for reading specialist, kindergarten and Grade 1 educators.
2. Leverage effective literacy practices in classrooms, including a dedicated daily focus on reading.
3. Refine the measures used to monitor the progress students make towards becoming effective readers by the end of Grade 1.
4. Implement the next phase of the High Priority Schools Plan.

Goal #2: Improvement in mathematics.

Target: The gap between HWDSB and the province for those students performing at or above the provincial standard on the junior (Grade 6) EQAO math assessment will be narrowed by June 2020.

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide professional learning on comprehensive math instruction, assessment and interventions for grades 4 through 6 educators.
2. Leverage effective math practices in classrooms, including a focus on fundamental concepts and skills.
3. Refine the measures used to monitor the progress students make towards understanding math concepts by the end of Grade 6.

Goal # 3: All students graduating.

Target: At least 83% of students will graduate within 5 years, by August 2020.

STRATEGIES:

1. Provide professional learning on student success strategies for grades 7 through 12 educators with an emphasis on applied-level math.
2. Leverage effective student success practices in schools, including a focus on approaches for student's in-risk of not graduating.
3. Refine the measures used to monitor the progress students make towards graduation.

Effective Communication

Goal: Improve internal and external communications.

Target: Implement year one of the 2018-2021 Strategic Communications and Engagement Plan.

STRATEGIES:

1. Mobilize knowledge for staff through a new intranet and staff directory.
2. Standardize digital platforms to improve communication with staff, parents and students.
3. Implement Parent Portal for parents, guardians and caregivers in all schools.