

Minutes from WDHS School Council Meeting Tuesday November 26th, 2019

In Attendance: Karin Lang(Co-chair); Lianne Broughton (Co-chair); Theresa Sgambato (Principal); David Delville (Teacher Rep); Michael Collette (Rotary Rep); Jenna Finnigan (Stu Rep); Ginessa Cetra-McColl (Secretary); Suzie Laroche; Vanessa Palmer-Newman; Michele Quinn; Dea Shea; Louise Hooper;

Absent/Regrets: Penny Death (Trustee); Brenda Folk; Mary Said

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome & Introduction

2. Approve Minutes of the prior meeting

- Motion passed to approve the minutes of the prior council meeting of October 15th, 2019 (Louise Hooper & Lianne Broughton)

3. Speaker – Theresa Sgambato – Anti-Bullying Update

BULLYING AWARENESS

- The school board is very committed to making schools a safe place.
- First Focus – Positive Culture & Well Being – Bullying happens EVERYWHERE!
- **Define Bullying**
 - Bullying is aggressive and repeated behavior by a student towards another student.
 - This aggressive behavior occurs in context when a real threat is perceived within a power balance.
- **Key Elements**
 - Intent to harm
 - Power balance
 - Repetition of aggressive threatening behavior
- **What are the forms of bullying?**
 - Physical
 - Verbal
 - Social
 - Electronic – Most difficult to control specifically if the student does not report it
- **SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE!**
 - Bullying MUST be reported
 - The culture of ‘snitches get stiches’ MUST change

- **How to know a child is being bullied?**
 - Not wanting to go to school
 - Not participating in activities
 - Acting different
 - Sudden loss of money
 - Talking about dropping out of school
- **How can parents help?**
 - Talk openly
 - Talk about feelings
 - Remind your child they have a RIGHT to be safe
 - Be a partner with teachers
 - Report/talk to police
- **How to help the child being bullied?**
 - REPORT IT TO THE SCHOOL
 - Instruct the child to walk away
 - Encourage child to talk to an adult they trust
 - **Call kids help phone -- 1-800-668-6868**
 - www.kidshelpphone.ca
- **What can students do?**
 - Respect EVERYONE!
 - Don't join in
 - TELL AN ADULT
 - Support fellow students – Don't be a bystander
 - Talk to a trusted adult
- **How can parents prevent bullying?**
 - Be a role model
 - Monitor social media
 - Seek help if you are concerned
 - Communicate with your child regarding their relationships
 - Support school policies
 - GET HELP FROM SCHOOL
- **How do I know my child is a bully?**
 - Coming home with new items that were not bought by you
 - Aggressiveness
 - Manipulative
 - Constantly putting others down
- **What to do?**
 - CONTACT THE SCHOOL
 - Take the problem seriously
- 57% of all bullying stops as soon as an adult intervenes
- School staff will immediately ask for the behavior to stop
- All teachers have a duty to report bullying
- The student that does the bullying will: get counselling and/or detention and/or expulsion and/or reported to the police
- The school CANNOT share the details of what happens to the 'bullier'

- ON FACEBOOK there is an app called – HWDSB HELPS
- Students have been made aware of this app
- You simply log on and are able to leave anonymous tips

4. Community Representative – Michael Collette

SANTA PARADE

- November 30th
- Volunteers are needed!
- Please visit -- <http://flamboroughsantaclausparade.com/> to volunteer

TRIVIA NIGHT FUNDRAISER

- Saturday January 18th at the Legion Hall
- Theme is music – however not all questions will be music related
- Team fee (6 to 8 players) \$160
- There will be cash prizes, games, silent auction, snacks and LCBO cash bar
- To register contact: Nick Brown at 905-536-2224 or INFO@BROWNFINANCIAL.COM

EXCHANGE STUDENT

- Need an OUTGOING exchange student
- Must be grade 11
- Student must go through a vetting process

BENGIAMIN BUNNY NURSERY SCHOOL

- Having issue getting to the end of the school year
- Need about \$8,000
- They are raising funds but Rotary may help

INDIGENOUS GROUP

- Looking for used hockey equipment for girls
- Contact Michael Collet – mcollette@cogeco.ca

5. Student Parliament - Jenna Finnigan

12 DAYS OF HOLIDAYS

- **Thursday December 5th to Friday December 20**

- **Dec 5 -- Door Decorating**
- **Dec 6 -- Dessert Day**
- **Dec 9 -- Holiday Colours Day**
- **Dec 10 – Letters To Santa**
- **Dec 11 – Holiday Nail Day**
- **Dec 12 – Holiday Hat & Sock Day**
- **Dec 13 – Snuggle & Movie Day & PJ Day**
- **Dec 16 – Girls’ Volleyball**
- **Dec 17 – Grab The Grinch (clothes pin tag)**
- **Dec 18 – Super Smash**
- **Dec 19 – Dodgeball Tourney**
- **Dec 20 –Talent Show & Xmas Assembly**

VALENTINE’S or WINTER SEMI FORMAL DANCE

- Thursday February 13th at 7 to 10:30pm
- At the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington (680 Plains Rd. W.)

6. Principal’s Report – Theresa Sgambato

ACTIVITIES

- Awards Assembly November
- Volleyball Tournament December 16th
- PA Day Friday November 29th - Dedicated to bully awareness and prevention
- Our grade 8 information night was well attended
- **TRADES INFO NIGHT** – Thursday Nov 28th 6-8pm at the Education Center

7. Teacher’s Report – David Delville

JOB ACTION

- Is not noticeable to the students
- Trips are still running
- Extra-curricular activities are still operating

OSSTF is standing up for

- Class sizes
- Full access to programming and courses
- Specialized professional supports for students with special needs
- A safe, equitable and supportive learning environment for all students
- Reasonable and fair compensation that matches the rate of inflation

GIRLS VOLLEY BALL TOURNEY

- Dec 16th
- Recognized by Terry Fox
- Got a banner and created a wall with momentous etc
- Earned \$2300

8. PIC Update – Lianne Broughton

PRO GRANTS

- Government will send a lump sum
- Will not be given to individual school
- It will be up to the board to decide what to do with the grant money

9. Board / Healthy Community Healthy Youth – Penny Deathe (update sent in via email)

BOARD NEWS

- Work to rule will begin November 26th at all elementary and high schools
- Bullying review panel has been selected & begin to gather input from the students, parents, stakeholders and partners.
- This information will be presented to the Trustees next May
- Voices Against Bullying will be contracted.
- Have already had a meeting with the founders of this group
- Both chair of the board and I have attended a forum and will continue to explore ways in which we can work together

HC – HY

- We will be re-branding and re-launching as – The Healthy Youth Network with the YMCA
- Schools will continue to include school boards, City of Hamilton, youth serving organizations and local community groups
- The official re-launch will be in the Spring
- The, ‘What’s Your Path’ project continues to move forward with a separate steering committee

10. BAKE SALE – Ginessa Cetra

- Bake Sale took during Parent Teacher Interviews October 19th
- As per usual, it was well received

- Thank-you to parent council members that volunteered their time and for their tasty baked goods
- Special thanks to our student volunteers: Ethan Lang, Bradeon & Isabella Hooper and Lauren Broughton

11. Open Forum

- Parent Council Meetings will change from the 3rd Tuesday to the 4th of every month.

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY MARCH 24rd @ 6:00 pm