

WATERDOWN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes -- November 29, 2022, 6:30 pm

1. Welcome:

- In attendance: Alison Morris (chair), Lianne Broughton (chair), Greg Clark (Principal), David Delville (Teacher Representative), Michael Colette (Community Representative), Penny Deathe (guest speaker), Derek Zuccolo (guest speaker), Graeme Noble (trustee), Jennifer Vince, Tim Louks, MaryAnn Slagter, Cheryl Pretty, Tracy Segal, Suzie Laroche (recorded minutes), Jackie Parry, Gina Allen
- Regrets: Lindsay Jack, Rebecca Hessels

2. Approval of minutes:

- Tim approves; Tracy seconds

3. Student Report (by Maha):

- Winter formal for all grades . . . December 22 from 6-9 in the gym, cost of \$20/student and \$25/guest . . . Poster coming, payment through School Cash online shortly
- 12 days of Christmas start on Dec. 5 (different clubs do different days): buy out to watch FIFA's ¼ finals on Dec. 9, 10-12; PJ Day with a buy out to watch a Christmas movie: cards sent to seniors; assembly Dec. 23 with school talent show, etc.
- Food and Coat Drive on Dec. 9
- Culture Day (Nov. 24): passport was signed by different cultures and winner got a food gift card

4. Community Representative (Michael Collette):

- Paul Harris Fellows Award to Nathan Tidridge and Sophie Boers
- Santa Claus Parade went well
- Battle of the bands:
 - Not enough interest instead Annual Talent Contest
 - To raise money for Food 4 Kids, which is in high demand this year
 - Rotary can afford 30 students

- Contest open to grade school, high school, college, university
- To be held in school gym in spring
- Entry fee
- Prizes for winners
- Top winner to play at Rib Fest

5. Guest speakers: Derek Zuccolo (Guidance Councillor) and Penny Deathe (Founder of Healthy Youth Network):

Penny:

- What's your Path (annual event founded in 2013):
 - Pathways for students transitioning from secondary to post
 - Helps connect teens to needed resources to figure out their future
 - Creates a bigger network so that students get more clarity on path
 - Ongoing support on What's your Path hub
 - Speakers about different pathways
 - 160 speakers signed up to come talk to students
 - Online speaker bureau being populated now
 - Teachers have access to speakers' list
 - Other resources: take your child to work day have businesses signed up; connect to coop; job shadowing; portal for health support, looking after all of students' needs
 - Portal has been created, not officially launched until next fall
 - Funding: Turkstra funded early initiative, money from paint challenge, in talks with RBC for funding

Derek:

- Student Services:
 - Student Success Team
 - Transitioning into and out of school
 - Successful Post-Secondary Fair held at lunch, with colleges and universities mixed together
 - Trade fair this year
 - Help with applying to college and university, choosing courses for next year
 - 1-on-1 support after mid-term marks
 - Message about course selection to be sent with report card

6. Principal's Report (Greg Clark):

- Family-Teacher Interviews seemed to go well, very positive
- Waterdown honours Remembrance Day (2 assemblies):

- Mr. Julseth spoke about a relative in WWI
- Mr. Flosman's Museum of Hope . . . displays created by students, students speaking about their display, very impressive
- Open House for grades 7-8 from feeder schools on Nov. 17:
 - Staff helping out
 - Big turnout
 - Families go around the school
 - Jr and Sr Bands played
- PA Day (Nov 25):
 - MDI Survey about students' sense of wellbeing, safety, tone; huge response; rich picture of what students think; results isolated based on demographics; grouped staff went through data about one demographic to see how the school can make things better; continuing to use MDI could get a greater picture and help see if the school is making a difference; potentially some data could be shared with families
 - Departments worked together also
- Jr Boys Volleyball did very well; went to SOSSA and lost their game, but are still champs
- 1,100 attending students at Waterdown High this year

7. Teacher's Report (Dave Delville):

- Winter Concert on Dec 14 at 7 pm, \$5 for adults, free for children
- CUPE negotiations . . . No one really knows; talks still happening

8. Debrief:

- Parent-Teacher Interviews:
 - Pizza by Johnny pizza slices and drinks for sale (profit of \$70)
 - Lots of supplies left
 - Donated coffee given to staff
- Bake Sale for March interviews:
 - Suzie will host and form a team
 - Team will bake, ask for donations of food, set up, man the baking sale booth, tear down
 - Ideas so far: Ask students and parents for baking help; Cheryl will contact Fortino's for donations; Cobs and other places will be contacted
 - Anybody who would like to be part of the hosting committee, please reach out to suzielnoel@gmail.com

9-10. Parent Engagement Grant (\$500), PIC (Lianne Broughton) :

- PRO Grant has to be applied for by end of Jan 2023; then school board decides; idea for grant money . . . maybe work with Penny and What's your Path??
- PIC meeting: about fundraising, ways to spend money, collecting ideas, money to be used for outreach, etc. (Lianne will email list of ideas)
- PIC Connects . . . 5 sessions in 5 locations; at WDHS on Dec. 6, 6:30-8:30 (Council members invited to attend)

11. Healthy Youth Network Update (Penny):

- Gender-based violence ally program (15-24 years old more at risk)
- HEART (Healthy Education About Relationships Team):
 - wants to train high school students and also wants to go to elementary schools
 - Student led
 - Sophie Boers program coordinator
 - Social worker on team
 - Focus on healthy relationships, green flags in healthy relationships
 - Coaching boys into men (need approval from board)
 - Recruiting now
 - February . . . Be more than a by-stander month

12. Open Forum:

- Graeme Noble introduced himself . . . new trustee, graduate student at University of Toronto, his contact available online
- Sacha presentations . . . not sure why they did not take place

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Future meeting dates: March 28, April 25, May 30, 2023