

**Waterdown District High School
Parent Council**

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday February 13, 2024, 6:30pm-8:30pm

1. Welcome:

In attendance: Alison Morris (co-chair), Lianne Broughton (co-chair), Chantal Verrier (secretary for meeting), Derek Zuccolo, Penny Deathe, Stella Duncan, Greg Clark, Erica Kirkland, Rebecca Hessels, Lindsay Jack, Graeme Nobel (Trustee)

Regrets: MaryAnn Slagter, Tim Louks, Tracy Segal, Jo Odell, Dave Delville, Jackie Parry, Sarah Barkwell

2. Approval of November 2023 minutes:

Alison approves; Lianne seconds

3. Community Representative's Report - Erica Kirkland

Rotary Club – Snack for Exams

Donated \$1000 and members attended every morning. Health snacks available to all students between 0800-0830. Kids were very appreciative

Rotary Club also running a pancake breakfast on Family Day, all funds go to a kid's program

Ribfest - June 28-July 1. In the planning stages, need volunteers.

Interact club - clothing drive last November, all donated to the Women's shelter

Current project – raffling a Sony Play Station, all donations going to purchase solar lighting to replace kerosene lamps in Africa – tickets going on sale next week

Exchange student program – still in progress.

4. Guest Speaker - Derek Zuccolo - Head of Student Services

Presentation on new course selection Xello program. Delivering to classes this week. Course selection to be submitted by the end of the month.

5. Student's Report – Stella Duncan

Parliament has been busy with the second school dance, spirit days, Christmas competitions. Valentines Candy grams, MSA bake sale tomorrow.
Parliament now looking at gaining a better understanding of what's going on in the school in terms of clubs and who knows what is available. Looking at marketing these clubs more.
Full Parliament meeting scheduled later this month.

This current Parliament has raised more money than all other parliaments combined. Mostly sending money out but have quite a good nest egg for school projects.

New drop-in events:

Writing group – every Tuesday in Library at lunch. Guest, Sam
Music group – during lunch hour, Mrs. Hills – music teacher
Going to share these on Instagram

Sports - spring sports starting - end of February, soccer, badminton, track and field slow and fast pitch, grade 9 junior football and basketball

Intramurals to begin again during the school day

Tuesday night badminton up and running again 6-8 - drop in

6. Principal's Report - Gregory Clark

Cafeteria is open! Feb 12

New VP – Nupi Gokhale

Last dance – approx. 500 students with no issues.

Board provided new multi year Strategic Plan – on the Board's website

PA day between semesters, our school had 35 staff who gave time to welcome all our Grade 8's experience a day at Watertown. Not done at any other school.

Final reports went out this week

7. Teacher's Report - Dave Deville - regrets

8. PRO Grant/Parent Engagement Grant Discussion

PRO grant: submitted application should hear back Feb 22-23. Hoping to replicate evening from last year.

What's your path. Kyle Cleveland, speaker from Niagara College was a success last year.

Gap year – build up this topic, what it means, do a more fulsome presentation, opportunities, options/opportunities

Michelle - gap year association - should she have a table?

Parent engagement grant - 500\$

Include Student Council, some parents that come to meetings, parent volunteers in building, coaching

Do a lighter meal is one option

Vote on that next meeting

9. **Parent/Teacher interviews**

April 4th

We have \$1100. Enough for end of year BBQ

Still need to look for donations however.

Do a scale down bake sale

10. **Trustee - Graeme Noble**

Focused on temporary location reviews.

Redrawing/reconfiguring of students all over areas all the way up to Balaclava being affected.

Applied for funding, hear back end of this Spring. Applied for two projects this time around.

By 2026 – portables:

Alan A - 10

Flamborough Center - 2

Mary Hopkins - 3

Guy Brown - 6

WDHS capacity – 1600, currently at 1150

Athletics bus: Waterdown had two buses, stopped working, the board won't replace buses for the schools.

Issue with risk and procurement, liability issues, related to insurance

Waterdown not on a bus route

Take the idea of getting buses back to board - cost wise,
Contract the buses on a one-time basis?
Teachers who had licences would drive the bus.

11. **Health Youth Network update - Penny Deathe**

Heart team - tomorrow dating game valentines' day, promoting healthy relationships
February is beyond the bystander month - different training and social media

Funding for program ends March, applied to Public Health for 5 more years.

Interest from Halton Board to take it there.

What's your path - up to 50 professionals on speaker's bureau. Teachers can book to come into there classrooms.

Youth Portal and Parent Place - need a communication strategy to get word out - next year plans. Developing cartoon characters high school students in situations like a comic strip
Funding proposals submitted for several programs

Paint challenge is back June 26 - volunteer opportunities available

12. **End of year staff BBQ discussion, planning**

Send out email to meet and discuss or do zoom

Need to pick a day after exams normally

13. **open forum**

Nothing

14. **Next Meeting:**

Tuesday March 26, 2024. 6:30pm