

**Waterdown District High School  
Parent Council**

**Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, April 28, 2024 - 6:30pm**

**1. WELCOME**

In attendance: Alison Morris (co-chair), Lianne Broughton (co-chair), Tim Louks, Chantal Verrier (recorded minutes), Greg Clark, Penny Deathe, Tracy Segal, Rebecca Hessels.

Regrets: Erica Kirkland, Jackie Parry, Stella Duncan

**2. APPROVE MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:**

Tracy read minutes approved, Alison seconds

**3. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE – ERICE KIRKLAND**

Regrets – Alison has updates

Rotary donating funds for staff luncheon, also working with principal to get helmets for football.

Football coach asked for possibility they are working together to get funding  
Waterdown rotary having exchange student from Argentina. Looking for pet free household

Would like to hold exchange student for 3 months.

Sponsoring student to attend rotary student leadership awards in Ancaster this weekend. Intensive leadership experience.

Last spring 2 students attended

Sponsoring student to attend adventures in citizenship program in Ottawa – 4 days tours, attend lectures special events, understanding of Canadian leadership, last year Stella went.

One student we are supporting for prom

**4. GUEST SPEAKER – CATHY HILLS, HEAD OF MUSIC**

Senior band in attendance.

Lots of community involvement and band opportunities. Very busy program. Several Seniors moving on to post secondary next year. Cathy remains connect with many who contact her for help and support with projects.

Cathy also runs a drop in music lunch for anyone interested in practicing their own instrument or trying something new.

## **5. STUDENT REPORT**

Stella sends regrets

## **6. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – GREG CLARK**

Hosted IFTA celebration in cafeteria for families and students fasting in Ramadan....as we did last year our Muslim student association organized the event, so many different families came.

Family/teacher interviews - well subscribed

PA Day on eclipse day – we have teacher directed program, dozen staff members plan the day – bets kind of PD is staff generated focused on their needs.

Led break out sessions, those with expertise in areas put on workshops, Julie Buckell supporting students who have ADHD.

Also break out session on how do we better support our disengaged students in this building

Great conversation and ideas came from it

April 12 was spring fling dance, awesome again 500 students no problems on the Friday night. Students thankful for the event.

Grade 10 literacy test April 16-17. All grade 10's have to write, either re-write it next year or take a course to pass before graduation. 200 plus students wrote it, all online.

April 22 earth day – concerns brought forward about litter in the community, perhaps Waterdown Students help with clean up. Colin Buist, geography teacher led charge and organized campus clean up. Half dozen classes involved picking up garbage.

Future ready night April 24 – Kyle Cleveland spoke to about 100 students and families double what we had last year.

Feedback was very positive

Superintendent visited, gave her tour of school she was impressed.

Mid semester reports went out 26<sup>th</sup> – students success team looking at data and determining strategies for students who are struggling.

Every PA day we do an exit card for our staff, we look at what staff tells us about the day, helps to plan for the next one.

We have older teachers and new younger ones, so a nice perfect balance.

## **7. TEACHER'S REPORT – DAVID DELVILLE**

Regrets

## **8. PRO GRANT / PARENT ENGAGEMENT GRANT DISCUSSION**

9 tables in cafeteria, way more students this year  
Kyle Cleveland (guest speaker) will come in the Fall to speak to grade 11's  
Need to speak directly to the students – huge benefit.  
He would be open to do it again next year

Volunteer lunch – not going to be planned on council meet night, not sure times just yet.

We made 243.00 at teacher interviews, all donated this year.

Lianne

volunteer event, not a good idea to do it same night as the music night

It can be done still in June but depends, After the art night

Need to figure that out by email

Include student volunteers and other volunteers within the school

## **9. PIC PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE – TIM LOUKS**

Nothing to report – next meeting in two weeks, have no minutes from last meeting yet so nothing to share at this time.

## **10. HEALTH YOUTH NETWORK UPDATE –PENNY DEATHE**

What's your Path team meets every couple weeks, Derek is on that committee, discussing how we can help around What's your Path and how to integrate it in other areas.

Next year want to have a student led What's your Path team to direct the What's your Path program

Talked about art show, June 30, art show and career fair, careers in the arts we will also have speakers there focused on arts using what's your path speaker's bureau  
Hoping to bring in former students about career in the arts

Meet HWDSB rep for special needs transition to post secondary

Talking maybe doing something in the fall supporting students with special needs challenges, barriers, mental health, doing a career fair specifically for that group of students

Heart program is wrapping up for the year. Have breakfast coming up in 2 weeks  
They decide to go by grade, secured a female speaker just looking for a male speaker.  
Breakfast that has grown over the years  
We take only 100 students last year fully booked  
Youth portal looking at something new for next year  
School newsletter, taking it out into the community, working with school newspapers  
partnerships with youth community / youth news papers.

Paint challenge June 26

CHCH providing our MC last year, this year, Emily, reporter.

## **11. END OF YEAR STAFF BBQ DISCUSSION, PLANNING**

Calling it a luncheon not bbq, sandwiches and salads.

Biggest thing we need is help to contact companies for donations.

Costco - for the sandwiches.

Salads, chips

Sobeys? Individual chips great donations

Plates, cups, juice, drinks

Deserts

We have some water

Fork knives cups, foil, salads, bought Sobeys plates ice tea lemonade bottle water

We can hit up Sobeys, No Frills, Fortinos, Walmart

Sweet paradise

Tea at white house – urns of ice tea??

Jitterbug and Bliss Kitchen donated salads

After donations, we send out email to parents to see who can then donate food

Penny – youth centre – professional chef – may donate

Beginning of June send out message to school looking for donations

Fortinos donated buns last year

Look at getting cakes form costco

Carlisle bakery

Harrington lanes

June wed 26 – lunchtime

Final amount to spend? 1100 plus 240??? Can confirm  
Doesn't include what Rotary and Healthy Youth will donate

Families like to donate ..etransfer Alison and spent from there last year

Figure out gifts for retiring teachers... Greenhouse – plants one year?

Plan for allergies – gluten free how many teachers

## **12. OPEN FORUM**

Lianne's final meeting tonight!!!!