

**WATERDOWN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, Library

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement, Tracy/Sarah

In attendance: ANNSUYA SHELL, AMY RICHARDSON, SUSY WATSON, TIM LOUKS, LINDSAY JACK, PENNY DEATHE, ROB FLOSMAN, JEANETTE SZABO, KAREN MATTHEWS, GREG CLARK, REBECCA HESSELS, TRACY SEGAL, SARAH BARKWELL, TOBI HOFER

Regrets: GINA ALLEN, SAYEEDA MANES, JACKIE PERRY

2. Review and approval of the previous meeting minutes

- Motion for approval of previous meeting minutes by Rebecca, seconded by Jeanette
- Previous meeting minutes approved

3. Community Representative - Karen Matthews (Rotary)

- Food4Kids breakfast at the Royal Canadian Legion on the morning of November 30th from 8am to noon, this is the day of the Santa Claus parade, and there are opportunities for students to volunteer at the breakfast for volunteer hours
- Snacks handed out to students during exams in previous years was well accepted by the students
- Talked about Healthy Community-Healthy Youth, Karen will send flyer to Greg

4. Guest Speaker - Rob Flosman, Assistant Head of Canadian and World Studies

- Museum of Hope was moved from the high school to the Legion in Waterdown
- About 1000 visitors per year to the museum
- Rob presented slide show, talked about how the Museum of Hope has evolved and student involvement in the museum from the Genocide history course
- Murray Dryden, father of Ken Dryden, is coming to visit the museum and will donate artifacts related to hockey
- Rob presented hours for the Museum of Hope leading up to and including Remembrance Day

5. Student Report - student TBD, Student Parliament

- Summary of Student Parliament activities provided by Susy Watson (parent)
- Halloween dance organized for October 30th from 6:30 - 9:30 pm
 - Ticket sales at lunch in the Warriors Den for \$15, tickets also available on School cash-on-line
- Student parliament planning for a Christmas Dance for students, no details on date for this event

- Warriors Den was set up in the school cafeteria
 - Manned during periods 3 and 4 for lunch
 - Ping pong table and arcade game have already been set up and can be used by the students during lunch, ping pong paddles can be signed out in the Warriors den
 - Foosball table purchased and will be set up soon
- Student parliament has 5 new representatives from the younger grades
 - 2 reps from grade 9 and 3 reps from grade 10
- Athletic Council organized a Terry Fox Run to raise money for cancer research

6. Principal's Report - Greg Clark

- Grade 9 Day was held on Sept. 25th
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Sept. 30th - students encouraged to wear orange shirts, class reflections
- Oct. 1 - music department trip to Hamilton Philharmonic
- Oct. 2 - post-secondary fair - 26 schools represented, during periods 3 and 4
- Oct. 10 - raised \$1200 from Terry Fox activities
- Preliminary reports have just come out for students
- Leadership Team met with feeder schools to enhance our partnership, helps to make a smoother transition for incoming students
- Student Services to issue certificates for the students on the Honour Roll in the next few weeks
- First semester Grade 10's will complete an on-line literacy test during their english class
- 2023 survey will be reviewed during a PA day, it was a survey completed by about 500 students and it was about their well-being and their sense of belonging
- At Liuna Station there will be a post-secondary Pathways Event for students in grades 11 and 12, there will be about 70 vendors, happening on October 21st from 5:30- 8:30pm
- Bathroom renovations have been stalled, was to be completed by Oct. 17th but issues that the Contractor is having has delayed the renovation
- Students caught hanging out or vaping in bathrooms will be asked to leave, and students caught doing this multiple times will be suspended

7. Teacher's Report - Amy Richardson

- Students seem to have a positive outlook on this school year

8. PIC (Parent Involvement Committee) - Tim Louks

- \$1000 available from Pro Grant
- There is a school council development night for members who are interested
 - Sarah and Tracey attended, found the majority of the attendees were from the elementary schools
 - Tim asked for feedback on the event, and was told that it was hard to find out who was there representing secondary student councils

- Pro Grant - provides funding to school councils, approx. \$45,000 available

9. Pro Grant / Parent Engagement discussion

Submission deadline November 22, 2024

Post-secondary info event again or other suggestions?

- Suggestions: Future Ready event (info. night), have a guest speaker on a topic decided by the council, scholarships for students with special needs, mental health and addiction topics, speakers to talk about post-secondary financial support, saving and debt management for students, how to choose a career, exposure to organizations that can help students, physical health, diet, exercise, how to cope, sleep, anxiety and stress management, healthy relationships
- Life Coach - Lisa Ward - has been well-received in the past
- Suggest a survey to see what parents would like to see
- My Blueprint - new program for careers, live chats, info. For careers
- Tracy suggested to put a survey together for parent-teacher interview night to get feedback from parents

10. Family Teacher interview night - Oct. 29th, 5-7 pm

- Set up at 4pm for the bake sale
- Shifts organized for selling the baked goods
- Tim to pick up coffee at Tim's and return the containers afterward
- Jackie Parry reached out to Cobbs, no answer, but will follow up
- Buy gluten-free items using a \$50 gift card donated by Mathnasium
- Print posters for the bake sale

11. Healthy Community - Healthy Youth - Penny Deathe

- Heart Team - 15 students, training, breakfast in May and other events organized
- Nov. 6 - What's your Path, Take your Kid to Work day

12. Open Forum - Questions/Open table

- Mathnasium - help numeracy with all students, students who can't afford it
- Ran a 12-session program over the summer, would like to have 2 students for the next summer and assess their progress, Greg will bring this item to the math department
- Waterdown Facebook group- vaping issue with students in bathrooms, will implement suspensions for loitering and vaping in bathrooms, bathrooms near gym will be converted to single use bathrooms as the bathrooms in this area are the most problematic, suggest sending a letter to parents (possibly a monthly Principal's update)
- New phone use policy at school is going well

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2024, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Future meeting dates:

Jan. 28, Feb. 25, Mar. 25, Apr. 29, May 27