



Westdale Secondary School
School Council Minutes

In attendance: Josh Connor, Erin Lepischak, Catherine Mulcaster, Denise M, Lisa Scott, Aasiya Satia, David Penton, Dhuha Al-Sajee, Heather Hurst, Claire Rivlin, Mathew Gibson, Anita Bane, Catharine Roberts, Christina Moffat, William Noordyk

Tuesday November 23, 2021 6:00-7:00 pm

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement at 6:07 pm (Co-chairs David & Dhuha)
David.westdale@gmail.com

2. Appointment of secretary for the meeting. (Denise Minardi)

3. Rollcall (determine if quorum)
8 voting members in attendance
Checking on Mathew Gibson's status

4. Approval of minutes of October 2021 meeting (Co-chairs)
Addition to October minutes:
-Query from participant about clubs and activities
-Teachers relief procedures
Heather Hurst moves to accept minutes and Denise seconds

5. Student Council Introduction and Report (Catharine Mulcaster)
Catharine is the Triune (student council) president
Election has happened and events include pumpkin carving and a trick or treat event
Mrs. Simpson and Principal Connor have supported adding music to the morning entry
Online engagement – Instagram and TikTok accounts

6. Teachers Report (Erin Lepischak)
Staff happy to start Quad 2 and meet new students
Staff look forward to returning to a regular semester system in February

7. Principal's Report (Joshua Connor)

- a. School Improvement Plan/PD Day
- b. Report cards
- c. Student Census
- d. Virtual parent/teacher interviews

e. Student Dress Code Guidelines and Next Steps

School Improvement Plan (SIP) focuses on Board priorities of positive culture and well being and closing the gap of historically underserved communities.

PA Day on November 26: Anti-racist and anti-oppression in the morning

Afternoon focus is on instruction and strategies to support students

Reports out today through the portal?

Student census completed last spring replaces school climate survey and releasing again next week

Westdale had updated the dress code prior to the Board initiative to update and equalize

Traditional photos taking place week of November 29

Grad photos are being organized

Lunch spaces are available for all students in assigned classrooms

DELFI info on Hub – Principal Connor will report

Median grades seem high – they are specific to class

8. School Annual Fundraising Plan (Co-chairs)

\$500 available – please share thoughts on how to spend funds

PRO grant - \$1000 available – application is required

PIC made a good

Grant applications can be made for school specific needs if there is the interest

a. 2021/2022 rules (introduced in last meeting)

b. Potential Sources:

i. Parent Engagement Fund

ii. Pro-Grant (is back. PIC working on distribution)

iii. Flippgive.com

iv. Online auctions, partnerships with local businesses.

9. Co-Chair's Report (Co-chairs)

What is the best way to communicate? School website is kept up-to-date and seems to be the main source of info. Josh can look into other options with corporate communication

i. School council communications.

ii. Digital "Meet the teacher"/Open House event?

Secondary school does not typically have an open house

Virtual meet-the-teacher night - is this possible?

Soil question around football field – necessary to dig quite deep to prepare field for new turf
twilson@hwdsb.on.ca for international student hosting - need in-catchment for Westdale

Catharine had asked how many students are actually being bussed to Westdale (as this triggered bell time change)?

Can the lunch hour be shortened from 90 minutes?

10. Further business

Catharine had asked how many students are actually being bussed to Westdale (as this triggered bell time change)

Can the lunch hour be shortened from 90 minutes?

Tina asked if students will be receiving rapid antigen tests for the holiday break?

Claire confirmed that students can not enter school prior to 11:50 during the lunch time

11. Next meeting: January 11, 2021.

12. Adjournment at 7:18 pm

Respectfully submitted by Denise Minardi