



Westdale Secondary School SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday January 31, 2023

6:15-7:15 pm

Meeting called to order 6:20

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement (Chair)

1. Appointment of secretary for the meeting: David Penton
2. Rollcall:
 - a. Attending: Brian Goodram, Erin Lepischak, David Penton, Catharine Roberts, Claire Rivlin. Quorum (4)
 - b. Regrets: Kristi Gringhuis, Anita Bane, Andrew Wright.
 - c. Resigned: Suneth Wijeratne
3. Approval of minutes of November 29th, 2022 and December 20th 2022 meeting.
 - a. Moved: Catharine Roberts Seconded: Claire Rivlin CARRIED
4. Teachers Report. Exam time, nothing else to report.
5. Principals Report. (Brian Goodram)
 - a. Staffing update for Semester 2: recruiting ongoing.
 - b. Continue to build community, building relationships, safe spaces.
 - c. Breakfast /Lunch program: Over 4,000 meals served in Semester 1.
 - d. Elizabeth Wong, new trustee has introduced herself and was invited to attend school council meetings.
 - e. Questions:
 - a. What do bell times look like for next year/have bussing issues been resolved? (Roberts)
 1. Bell times are the same. Principal will discuss further with board staff. For parents, concerns can be posed to the trustee or the Transportation Committee.
 - b. What grades are writing exams? (Penton)

1. Grade 10, 11, 12 depending on department. International Baccalaureate is different, they all write regular exams and finals are offsite at McMaster University.
6. Canadian Parents for French update – Afterschool Virtual Programs (Claire Rivlin)
 - a. 8 teachers, 140 students, 15 sessions SK-12
 - b. Grades 10,11,12 are now combined.
 - c. Member parents get first opportunity for sign-up.
7. Report from the Chair.
 - a. We did not file a PRO Grant application this year, after extensive review and discussion of the limiting HWDSB new criteria for project objectives. This initiative will be planned next year starting in September, even though applications don't open until January, to give the opportunity to group together with other schools in an effort to combine grant monies to a productively usable amount.
8. Further business:
 - a. Question: When is the commencement/Senior Prom? (Penton)
 - a. Commencement is Friday June 2nd at First Ontario Concert Hall. Senior Prom is Thursday June 1st at Liuna Station. There was some parent concern around the table about the timing of the Prom during the school week and specifically the night before commencement. There is no event for what was traditionally called “Graduation”.
 - b. Question: Is there a student awards committee? (Not noted)
 - a. Principal Goodram is giving this some thought.
9. Motion to Adjourn: David Penton Seconded: Claire Rivlin CARRIED
10. Next meeting: February 28th, 2023