

## **School Council – December 17, 2024**

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**In Attendance** – Brian Goodram, KPH, Claire R, Jerome G, Danielle S, Anita B, Shannon B, Nicole C, Louai M, Rachael S

**Regrets** – Catherine, Jan, Kristi,

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### **Minutes**

Meeting began at 6:21 pm

### **Land Acknowledgement**

### **Approval of Minutes from November 2024 Meeting**

- Minutes approved; nominated by Jerome, seconded by Shannon

### **Student Council Report**

- Joining HWDSB Student Senate to participate in board-wide food drive
- Scavenger hunt successful
- Semi formal is tomorrow; tickets handed out. Question: will the event be repeated in the spring for students who didn't get a ticket this time? Question about purchasing availability/accessibility? All students who wanted a ticket was able to get a ticket
- Proposed dates for spring semi formal in March/April; Brian recommending April date
- Gingerbread house decorating on Thursday
- Interested in a school wide survey on student opinion on flipped schedule; student awareness?

### **Teacher Report**

- Successful associate school matinee performances on Nov 27 and Dec 4
- Option selection assemblies on Dec 16 for all grades
- Option selection window opens in myBlueprint on Feb 5 and closes Feb 21
- Hosted IB Information Night Dec 4; applications are open until Jan 10
- FI Information Night Nov 26
- Assisting Kleri with hamper filling and delivery on Thursday; up to 57 hampers going out; if volunteer paperwork has been submitted then assistance is welcome at 1:00
- Sending/sent reminder email to Grade 12 students and/or families reminding OUAC/OCAS application deadlines
- 9 students have accepted offers to date

### **Principal's Report**

- Sticking with flipped schedule in Semester 2; anecdotally is working
- School now has a point of sale system that can be used for ticket purchases
- myBlueprint is intuitive and token-based incentives exist from vendor
- Jan 15 is start of quiet week
- Luncheon of Champions was a great success today; run my Ms. Girolametto
- Holiday hamper gift card drive – an anonymous large donation of grocery gift cards; will use throughout the year to support students. Question: can we share this good news more broadly?

### **Chair's Report**

- Communicating with co-chairs of SWO/Dundana/DVSS to collaborate on PRO Grant

### **Committee Updates (PIC, CPF)**

- CPF
  - o Virtual after school still quite robust

- Planning for spring events
- PIC
  - 53 applications for PRO Grant and all are approved
  - Not quite enough money but PIC adding to budget to give each application the amount they asked for to a maximum of \$900
  - Lots of overlap between applications and opportunities for collaboration
  - Discussed focus on Math by HWDSB based on EQAO data; many schools have math facilitators to support; seeing improvement in Math scores (% student at or above provincial standard increasing)
  - Network planning session in January
  - Review of volunteer policies at board

### **PRO Grant**

- Want to prioritize local speaker who knows demographic
- Dr. Jean Clinton costs \$7000; if we collaborate with other schools the amount would be \$4000
  - Could tailor talk to parents of younger and older students
- Mike Shoreman's fee negotiable
  - \$1800 would be fee
- Claire advocates for having a secondary school speaker and something else for elementary schools
- Shannon advocates for motivation over science
- Group commended for bringing forward excellent choices for grant
- Perhaps a date in February works best
- Brian suggests that group review both choices over the break; meeting with Catherine and Claire in early January and then group will decide so that decision is ready for January meeting
- Brian cautions that if we collaborate with 3 other schools the seating in the auditorium is maxed around 900
- Can either speaker offer streaming to increase accessibility
- Discussion around effectiveness of a presentation for students; Brian working with Triune to determine

### **Bell Time/Start Time Advocacy/Next Steps**

- SO Lee received response from Transportation Services – No to bell time study and transportation study
- Study in 21/22 to create efficiencies across system
- Some buses make 4 am and pm runs daily
- Study resulted in many bell time changes
- Satisfied with results; study must take into account the entire network; transportation responded that changing only Westdale bell times will create inefficiencies both financial and the number of buses used/needed
- Reminder that SO Lee still supports SC work to advocate for this
- Concern that board is ignoring the science
- Must take the lead and advocate for kids in Hamilton; need more schools on board as a next step
- What support/response has been received from trustee?
- There are other boards trying things that would support data gathering

### **Further Business**

- Shannon – Game of Life Career Day; will share article
- Jerome – thanks to staff for great communication this semester

Meeting adjourned 7:34 pm