

## School Council – April 29, 2025

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**In Attendance** Claire R, Cindy S, Jerome G, Shannon B, Brian G, KPH, Kristi G, Anita B, Catherine R, Jeremy L

**Regrets** – Danielle S, Rachael, Van

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### Minutes

Meeting began at 6:21 pm

### Land Acknowledgement

### Approval of Minutes from March 2025 Meeting

- Minutes approved; nominated by Shannon, seconded by Kristi

### Student Council Report

- Second semi formal; lower attendance by senior students
- Scavenger hunt with mini bunnies; 450 found within minutes of the game starting
- Movie night held; not as successful
- Earth Day had many events planned but low interest (e.g. garbage clean up in Churchill Park but did a courtyard cleanup instead); possible tree-planting event later (lengthy approval process including types of trees to be planted and where they will be on the school property)
- Prom upcoming on May 28
- Soliciting student feedback about washrooms; many students are unaware that vaping can lead to suspension; looking to do an information campaign (e.g. perhaps sharing the number of students caught vaping in the previous month)
  - o Could Triune do an activity “from X month to Y month, guess how many students were caught vaping in the washrooms?”

### Teacher Report

- Commencement gowns arrived today
- Timetabling beings later this week and will continue through the month of May
- School Messenger information went out twice this week; once to remind Grade 12 students and families about upcoming post-secondary deadlines and ones for Grade 10 families advising them of the Career Conversations Day happening on May 6 in the morning
- OSAP presentation for Grade 12 students on March 27
- Successful presentation after family-teacher interviews on April 1; focus was on supporting Grade 11 students on their post-secondary pathway

### Principal's Report

- Director sent email to families about program strategy review; elementary, secondary, FI application and placement to determine if programs align with multi-year strategic plan
  - o Brian is taking a lead with FI piece
  - o Outside agency, Malatest, has been hired to complete review
  - o Feedback will be sought from staff, students and parents as well as focus groups
  - o Westdale specific – FI, IB, ESL plus Westmount for their system program
  - o Catherine part of FI focus group; can share feedback with Catherine
- Information/update about vaccinations – 500 students in January needed vaccinations; 160 suspensions issued; 20 days expired and now well under 100 students still require vaccinations
- Mental Health week next week; animals returning

## **Chair's Report**

- Solicited requests for content for principal placement report; 2 members provided comments
- SO Lee to attend the next meeting

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

- CPF
  - o Virtual programs for summer are running for homework help, conversation and reading
  - o 25<sup>th</sup> celebration of HW chapter at Battlefield Museum on July 5
  - o Franco Fest in mid/late June at Gage Park
- PIC
  - o Vaping discussion; reviewing procedures for all schools in May
    - Pilot running at Orchard Park
    - Committee for bathroom safety
  - o Transportation
    - Sheryl Roswell reports to all 3 boards, SO Gerrard also there
    - Funding explanation
    - 4 zones, 22000 km/day, 30000 riders
    - Concerns about bus safety and behaviour on buses
    - Bell times earlier for HS
      - Efficiency
      - Teens after school commitments (work/sports)
      - Parent work schedules
      - Class/resource availability
    - Bell time study in 19/20; not looking at another one until 2031 (may have to do with union/contract agreements with bus drivers)
      - Guiding principles do not include student success; not student-centric
    - Disheartening to see that research was not taken into account
  - o School Council Bylaws
    - Planning to eliminate all individual school bylaws city-wide and implement one bylaw board-wide
      - Will help when SC bylaws/legislation change at the ministry level to efficiently change it at board and school level
      - Information to come to SC in Sept 25 for implementation in Sept 26
    - Significant changes to SC bylaws recommended; unsure of the 'why' for this occurring

## **Bell Time/Transportation Response**

- Catherine to invite Trustee Wong to future meeting
- Perhaps invite SO Gerrard to a future meeting
- Catherine asks group to consider putting together a letter again

## **PRO Grant Event Review**

- Successful evening with Dr. Clinton; good information shared; engaging
- Supplied an article for the group about later school times
- Approximately 150 attended
- Final fee was lowered to \$4000
- Can we post the recording somewhere with Dr. Clinton's permission?

**HWDSB School Council Update re: Membership**

- See PIC update about bylaws

**Further Business**

- None!

Meeting adjourned 7:20 pm