

WESTMOUNT SCHOOL COUNCIL

Minutes

7pm Room 1087 Monday, April 15, 2019

Attendance

Kathy Long, Reasa Diab, Mike Armstrong, Kirsten Patterson, Susan Millman, Rochelle Butler and Geeta Malhotra

Reasa called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Motion by Susan, seconded by Kathy.

Approval of Minutes

The March Minutes were approved with the correction of a few typo's, Reasa has made this change. Motion by Kirsten, seconded by Susan.

Presentation : Internal Memo – Principal's Survey

Discussion took place and the group felt that the community partnerships, partnerships at McMaster, Neighbour to Neighbour, Recreation Centre, Pathways to Education – supporting North end, Hamilton Police Service – Liason officer were important. Geeta will prepare the document and get it taken care of based on the discussion that took place.

Student Council Report- Geeta presented what Rana provided

This past month:

- * SPLAT ran a very successful coffeehouse - a night of food and drink exhibiting student talent - filled with student activity and a lot of fun.
- * Wildcat Wellness Day - Student council ran a wellness day featuring free waffles and drinks to students to promote mindfulness during stressful exams. It was a great event and brought a lot of positivity to the Westmount midterm environment.
- * Pink shirt day - Westmount promoted a safe and welcoming school environment as students wore a pink shirt in a demonstration against bullying.
- * April 4th Walkout - To protest against the Ontario education policy change, Westmount students walked out of class at 1:30 (following proper sign out regulations) and voiced their concerns in solidarity on the front lawn.
- *This was entirely student run.*

Upcoming Events:

- * This week is Westmount's annual spirit week featuring a series of games and events for students every day.
- * Student Council Elections will be running sometime early in the month of May in preparation for the following school year.
- * In June the annual tech barbecue and car show will run. It's an end of the year celebration where students have food, live music, and a car show all available to them.
- * A cops vs. kids soccer game is currently being planned where the senior varsity players will play against local

officers. It should run late May/early June and will be available to all Westmount students to watch and enjoy free of charge (following proper buy-in procedure).

Teachers Report- Mike Armstrong

Lots of students asking about summer school. It will only be offered at 1 location. Students choosing to do elearning sessions. In school summer school at Nora Henderson. Classes cut due to low student sign ups. Timetables/timeslots will be available the end of May/June for students to see.

Principals Report- Geeta Malhotra

We have had busy few weeks. Highlights are below:

Celebrations

- Emma Frketich was published in the EcoSummit newsletter
- Cindy Rees is recipient of OSSTF Walter Clarke award!
- Awarded Speak Up Grant of \$1317 for our Westmount Wild Program-- wild pollinator garden,
- Councillor Danko joined our Wild Program in removing invasive species, land stewards

This past month

- Successfully completed a practice grade 10 literacy test and implemented our grade 10 literacy test on March 27. Results will be released in June. OSSLT is a requirement for graduation.
- Met with departments to review option allocations and enrollment. We are currently projecting an enrollment of 1319 based on the option sheets submitted. Although we may seem to be down, we are exactly where we are projected to be.
- April 4th our students walked out to protest government cuts to education. Very well-organized, well-behaved event that occurred at the front of the school.
- Pink Shirt Day occurred on April 10th. Staff and students were encouraged to wear pink to protest discrimination against LGBTQ++ and all forms of bullying.
- Mid-term marks were due today. Report cards will be issued and sent home with students on April 23rd

Upcoming Dates

- May 1st—Transitions Day for incoming grade 9s. Will have a welcome assembly, various student group performances, tours and games for our students entering grade 9 next year.

- Totally Awesome Women’s Breakfast—May 3 at Liuna Station. 18 female/non-binary students from grades 9-12 were selected to attend. Event is inspiring and empowering our youth with powerful key note speaker and activities.
- Multi-faith Prayer Breakfast on May 7th. At Liuna Station. Taking 10 male students to attend this event. Inspiring stories to promote understanding of diversity and inclusion.
- May 10th is a short day schedule. School day ends at 2:50 pm
- May 21st monthly report cards are distributed to students to take home.
- May 30th—spring concert at 7 pm at Westmount

Next Meeting

Motion to adjourn at 8:21pm by Rachel, seconded by Kathy

7pm Room 1087 Monday, May 27 , 2019