

WESTMOUNT SCHOOL COUNCIL

Minutes

7pm Room 1087 Monday, February 25, 2019

Attendance

Kathy Long, Saima Chughtai-Sandoval, Kirsten Patterson, Reasa Diab, Mohammad Najmi, Mike Armstrong, Kim Kolpin, Susan Millman, and Geeta Malhotra. Regrets – Angela Murchie

Approval of Minutes

The January Minutes were motioned to approve by Kirsten seconded by Mohammad with the following corrections spelling of Geeta's last name to Malhotra and add Lynn Cope as attendee. Reasa has made these changes.

Student Council Report- no report

Due to the 4 ice days not much to report to semester 2.

Teachers Report- Mike Armstrong

Guidance has been very busy as the inclement weather has affected the timelines.

February 14th Options fair took place in the cafeteria. Show cased offering across the school board. Juravinski Hospital – Full day Co-op in health career. Buildings career – Full day Co-op.

February 15th presentations for all course options.

February 28th We will start to enter courses in the learning commons.

Busy with new students and parents coming in for next year.

3 new special programs – construction, justice and arts & communication

Principals Report- Geeta Malhotra

We have just finished exams and have begun our semester 2 slowly...4 ICE Days!

We will be hosting our HWDSB Skills Competition on March 6th and 7th. March 6th will include our very first elementary competition as well as the secondary shed building competition. On March 7th eighteen secondary competitions will take place throughout the day.

Celebrations:

Palfi family was granted a stay to remain in Canada until further proceedings can take place. This allows our students to finish their school year.

Students from Westmount were recognized at the John C. Holland Awards at the end of Jan. along with recognition for the History Student of the Year Award, Math at Maconline, scholarships and Junior Citizen Award from the Ontario Community Newspaper Association

Teacher Paul Paterson was awarded the Governor General History Award for Teaching Excellence

Teachers Nancy Holmes and Lynn Cope were recognized with a Profiling Excellence Award for their work with Healthy Action Team and OPHEA Healthy Schools--Westmount was granted a gold medal.

Upcoming Dates:

- March 1st--PA Day
- March 6-7th--Skills Competitions
- March 8--Preliminary Reports sent home
- March 11-15th is March Break
- March 21st--Parent/Teacher Interviews from 4:30-6:30 pm
- March 27th--OSSLT, grade 10 literacy test

Graduation – June 26th – Hamilton place @ 4:00pm

Other Business – Geeta Malhotra

School Improvement Planning Update:

Two areas of board and school focus:

- All students graduating with a focus on math and literacy
- Positive Culture and Well-Being with a focus on caring adults

Overall with respect to credit accumulation Westmount students did well:

- 97.6% passed their courses (50% benchmark)
- Of that group, 83.9% passed with grades greater than 70%

In terms of math:

- 100% passed grade 9 Applied Math and 97% passed Academic grade 9 math
- Next steps includes examining how report marks will align with Grade 9 EQAO testing scores

In English with a focus on grade 10:

- 100% passed applied grade 10 English; 97.6% passed academic grade 10 English
- Next steps include providing literacy help to support students writing the OSSLT.

Positive Culture and Well-Being

- Focus of our March PA Day
- As a staff we will explore the concept of caring adults and how do we support our students not only academically but also socially/emotionally. Looking at supporting students holistically.
- We will also do a mid-year check in with credit accumulations, targets and academics
- Last aspect of the day will explore compliance training for AODA

Naming Guidelines and Policy:

Naming of Auditorium after Cindy Reese. Discussion can be very hard. Memorialization initially was no based on board guidelines. Naming of Schools information packet was handed out to all members present. It's a lengthy process. More discussions will take place at our next meeting.

Next Meeting

7pm Room 1087 Thursday, March 21st , 2019

Motion to adjourn at 8:55pm by Susan seconded by Saima.