



# Yorkview Elementary School Council

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

86 Cameron Avenue

Dundas, Ontario L9H 1P8

Email: [yorkviewSC@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:yorkviewSC@hwdsb.on.ca)

<https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/yorkview/school-council/>

## SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

**Monday, May 17, 2021**

**18:30 – 20:00**

Item	Agenda	Notes
1.1	Land Acknowledgement (Hilary)	
1.2	Approval of Agenda & Minutes	Agenda approved. Minutes: one edit (Item 2.4 – correction to text for accuracy); amended version accepted.
2.1	Graduation (Suzana)	Students may be able to come to the school to pick up certificates. Unable to gather in the current lockdown situation. We are at a stage where we can be a bit creative to ensure that this is still a special event for graduating students. Students have received a link for grad wear. Still need to have some further direction from the Board to decide what is possible in terms of onsite/drive by/video. Awards present some challenges this year since activities have been different. Challenges with photos in terms of what has been captured. Good year to not do awards. Roland and Suzana will meet to develop models for each scenario (e.g., in school, remote). Exploring ideas about how to include families (synchronous or asynchronous), distribute certificates, explore possibility of lawn signs. Could include augmented reality to create video with 3D Roland. Need to consider accessibility for all students. Suggestion: having current grade 6 students from Yorkview last year write messages to the grade 5 students who will go to Dundas Central next year. Will likely do a video tour to introduce students to teachers, environment, what to expect.
2.2	Blacktop Update (Suzana/Hilary)	Hilary has contacted two vendors. Hilary and Suzana will have a preliminary meeting with one vendor tomorrow to explore options. Hope to connect with the other next week. Need to explore costs associated with various alternatives. Also discussed costs associated mulch and if we can fluff vs. replace the mulch, if the facilities will not cover the painting costs and council will need to cover these costs. Mulch has been part of council's responsibility historically and significant maintenance cost. Consider investing in permanent mulch. Possible that we may need to do a full dig up and full replacement of mulch in the future, timeline undetermined. The need for mulch replacement vs. redistribution/fluffing will be explored further.
3.1	YMCA	Deferred
3.2	Dundas Valley Cooperative	Deferred



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	(Brienne)	
3.3	Principal's Update (Suzana)	<p>Thank you to everyone at home and to all staff who have been working hard to foster connections, engagement, and learning. High engagement numbers in learning (e.g., attendance rates, regular attendance). It takes everyone to support this kind of learning. Not an easy task. Having own reading release. Working on class building. Cannot move on class building until June. Waiting until after June 1. Teacher will start to ask students who their important friendship is. Who do you work well with academically who will support your learning and you can support their learning? Want to capture this to refer to it if changes are necessary. Waiting for remote numbers and will develop a plan from there. Suzana will meet with the kinder teachers this week to talk about kindergarten welcome for new families, will discuss transition to Gr. 1 plan. Question re: any changes anticipated to EA support and retention of positions. Hoping to keep two. Trying to keep consistency in numbers of EAs in schools, if possible, but lots changing all the time.</p> <p>Teachers are exploring ways for students to be connected – creating rock garden in the front, where students can personalize a rock and drop it off.</p>
3.4	Teacher Update (Roland)	<p>Roland echoed Suzana's comments re: engagement. Numbers are higher than other schools. Meeting students where they are. Balancing engagement with advanced concept teaching. Some will have some catch up next year, but it is a balanced with keeping kids engaged and positive about learning. Challenging to go to depth that is possible in classroom teaching.</p> <p>Roland is working with</p> <p>Roland sent information about class gardens to Hilary.</p> <p>Roland is meeting with Principal and teachers from Dundas Central, speaking about students learning styles, combinations of students that work well/don't work as well. They will also discuss logistics/orientation for students headed to Gr. 6.</p> <p>In light of good weather and some waning student engagement, teachers are trying to be creative with engagement.</p>
3.5	Fundraising/Events (Sabrina/Amy/Lily)	Deferred.
3.6	Budget (Megan)	No changes to budget. About ½ of funds have been processed for teachers' expenses.
3.7	Environmental Stewardship (Steve/ Hilary)	Discussed weeding beds and prepping them so that when we get the grant, we will be in good shape for planting them in the Fall. Some seedlings have not done as well but each student will take a seedling home at the end of the year.



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		There has also been some discussion about re-freshing the kindie butterfly garden, including plants such as parsley, dill, sunflowers, milkweed to attract different butterfly species.
3.8	Communications/Advocacy (Karen)	Karen has been posting on Facebook information re: meetings, mental health, garden centre points, photo re-takes/pick up. Karen welcomes ideas about other information that may be helpful.
3.9	Questions & Meeting Adjournment	

**Next Meeting:** Monday, June 21, 2021