

OAKVILLE TRAFALGAR HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING  
(Thursday February 7, 2019) 7:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

1. 7:00 – Call to order– **Rob Best**
  - a. Approval of minutes of last meeting held January 17, 2019
  - b. Approve adoption of agenda
  - c. Any new business
2. 7:05 – RDC update – **Ethan Smith / Hunter MacKinnon**
3. 7:10 – (15 mins) Community Representative Presentation – **Alyssa Faiola / Andrea Beebe**
4. 7:25 – (15 mins) Relay for Life Presentation – **Jennifer Hanley**
5. 7:40 - Community Connections / PIC Update – **Anette Winslow**
6. 7:45 – Financial updates –**Rob Best**
7. 7:50 – Staff wish list Vote– **Rob Best**
8. 8:00 – Principal/Staff Updates – **Meena Sahi/Monica Preiner**
  - a. School generated funds
9. 8:20 – Motion to Adjourn

**Minutes**

Attendees: Tracy Jarvis, Rob Best, Roberta Veitch, Sandra Hurl-Smith, Kimberly Swinoga, Meena Sahi, Margaret Finlay-Watzeck, Maggie Cai-Hao, Tara O'Connell, Feng Pan, Janet Lee, Anette Winslow

**1. Call to Order - Rob Best**

Approval of minutes of last meeting held January 17, 2019

Approved: Margaret Finlay-Watzeck

Seconded: Tara O'Connell

**2. RDC (Red Devil Council) update – Ethan Smith and Hunter MacKinnon**

- Students have been studying for exams plus there was a freezing rain day on the day of the RDC's last planned meeting so there isn't a lot to report
- Valentine's day – no concrete plans at this point, go to website/announcements for details
- March Madness ideas – theme day for Jerseys, 50/50 for guessing NBA winning teams – 50% of proceeds might go to Relay for Life
- Coffee house and Junior semi-formal planned for April
- Relay for life – Friday May 24

### 3. Community Representative Presentation – Alyssa Faiola / Andrea Beebe from SAVIS of Halton (Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services)

- A free service to Halton residents who may be living with, leaving or recovering from sexual violence
- See minutes from Jan 17 meeting as to goals for incorporating a community representative in the parent council.
- SAVIS works with many community partners, see link below for SAVIS information
- Andrea – Public educator/coordinator – education as tool against sexual assault and violence
- Alysse – specializes in crisis support
- Feb 22 – there is a presentation being given about human trafficking taking place in Halton/Peel – presentation at 1151 Bronte Road – geared towards parents, teachers, and guardians of youth – what to look for in youth that may be involved in human trafficking



SAVIS Presentation  
to OT Council Feb 7



HCAHT Feb 22nd  
Flyer.pdf

#### Discussion after presenters left:

- There was a question from a council member on what SAVIS would get out of being on our council. It was felt that they would come to council meetings and learn about what concerns parents have about their children. That they would benefit by getting different perspectives on the needs of youth in Halton.
- SAVIS' many connections to other organizations in Halton that help youth were seen as a benefit to our school and council.

### 4. Relay for Life Presentation – Jennifer Hanley

- Relay for Life is a fundraising extravaganza that raises money for the Canadian Cancer Society, it is student organized and led and happens every other year at OTHS (started in 2006)
- Students participate in teams of 8-12 – someone from each team has to be walking around the track at all times (the “relay” aspect)
- 15 teachers are helping out, 11 student committees are organizing it
- **Friday May 24, 11 am to 11 pm rain or shine**
- Most of the event takes place outdoors on the field
- In 2017 the event raised an amazing \$286,000!
- OTHS goal for this year is \$300,000 – if achieved it will put us over the one million dollar mark for the total of our Relay fundraising
- There are small fundraisers leading up to the big event – eg. Boston Pizza night (you should have received an email about this)
- **Volunteers parents** are needed! We need 36 adults supervising at all times! Please contact Mrs. Hanley ([hanleyj@hdsb.ca](mailto:hanleyj@hdsb.ca)) – a police check is not necessary. Watch for an email about this once spring comes.

- **Donations** of non-perishable snacks are also being collected closer to the date – cases of juice boxes, cases of pop, chips, Costco gift cards, larger corporate donations are also appreciated. Please contact Ms. Cummings ([cummingbs@hdsb.ca](mailto:cummingsb@hdsb.ca))
- **Sponsorships** – of students, of team prizes or a certain activity in Relay are also welcomed
- Students pay an entry fee, and then must raise a minimum of \$125 for the Canadian Cancer Society to participate
- **Please see the Relay for Life video on the OTHS website banner**

Council discussion: The question was raised again as to why this is not an overnight event anymore. Meena explained that although a number of students are grumbling about this, that the Halton Superintendent of schools feels that the 11am – 11 pm format is safer for the students. Several other Halton schools are doing it this way. With our school being so large, and so many of our students participating, it is very difficult to have enough supervision overnight. So having it during the day/evening allows more students to become involved and also allows us to make as much noise as we want (music, etc.).

## 5. Community Connections / PIC Update – Anette Winslow

- Last week's Community Connections as a successful guidance hosted event about course selection and the various pathways that students' course selections can lead them
- Our PRO grant has been approved, we are just not sure when the money is going to arrive
- April 2 Community Connections speaker will be Meg Popovic
- April 30 Community Connections will be a presentation put on by Halton police (community officer) on what is happening in our students' lives as far as drugs and police encounters are concerned

## 6. Financial updates –Rob Best

- Ending balance for January around \$13,000
- \$2000 going to scholarships
- Council needs to decide how to spend the remaining \$11,000 – go to agenda item #7



Budget

## 7. Staff wish list Vote– Rob Best

- The school's wish list was presented at the January 17, 2019 council meeting.
- After discussing the items on the list briefly, the council voted unanimously to donate \$9,000 to the school to be put towards the purchase of furniture for the library renovation. \$2,000 was held back partly for our big Community Connections speaker for the fall.
- Also, in the fall, Parent Council should tell parents that more furniture is needed and that their donations at the start of the school year will be put towards furniture for the library and the cafeteria – they can even view samples in the library.

## 8. Principal/Staff Updates – Meena Sahi

- a. **School generated funds** – there have been several business managers since Rose left – and some communication issues have arisen. Specifically, there is an issue with the account for money collected from students who write AP exams. Money is collected based on how many exams a student thinks they will be writing. If they do not end up writing all of these exams, the extra money ends up staying in the account. Over a number of years, this account has accrued \$7,000. This money will now be put towards upgrades to the furniture in the library and cafeteria. In the future, there will be a method put in place to return money paid to students who do not end up writing the AP exams as planned.
- Next week is the Optional Attendance request meeting (Tuesday Feb.12), with parents being advised the week following.
  - OSSLT (literacy test) practice test was today. Extra help sessions will begin shortly for students who are identified as needing extra support. Test day is March 27<sup>th</sup>. Teachers are working on literacy in many different courses, not just in English classes.
  - Messaging was sent to parents to complete the “Have Your Say” survey – please check your email and complete the survey.
  - Immunization suspensions began today- these are set out by the Medical Officer of Halton. We receive notification every day of who is removed from the list. We have been working hard to help families navigate this process since November.
  - Course selection for September 2019 - information/instructions for the students has been shared at assemblies - completed using My Blueprint by February 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Course changes for semester 2 are to be completed by this coming Monday Feb 11.
  - Funding has been secured to change the carpeting in the library over the summer
  - OTHS is looking for a new woodworking teacher, we have a qualified retired teacher working in this position for now, but a permanent teacher for this position will be in place for Sept 2019.
  - Increased hallway and bathroom supervision has been put in place to decrease the number of students leaving class to “vape” in the bathrooms.

## 9. Extra agenda item (concerns/items voiced at the end of the meeting)

- Microwaves – long lineups for students waiting for them, also they are often dirty, some not working? – Meena will put plans in place for the custodians to make sure the microwaves work and that they are cleaned at the end of fourth period each day. If there are only two that work, two more microwaves will be purchased (as long as the electrical circuits can handle them).
- **Extra Staff appreciation luncheon** – a group of parents from our Chinese community have planned a staff luncheon for **Thursday Feb 14**, to celebrate the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year) – Pan has it pretty much already organized, she just needs teachers to come and eat the authentic Chinese food!
- Sandra met our new trustee – Tanya – at the super council meeting – 9 schools were represented. The trustees took a list of concerns and questions back to the board.
- There will be a note going into each report card about the ongoing parking lot issues. At the end of the school day, please park your car in a parking spot if you are picking up your child! Today someone intentionally ran over a cone, so we will need another cone – plus we still need more volunteers to organize traffic in the afternoon.

## 10.8:20 – Motion to Adjourn

Motion: Tara O’Connell

Seconded: Kimberly Swinoga

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING Thursday March 21, 2019 7:00 pm**