

OAKVILLE TRAFALGAR HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
(Thursday January 17, 2019) 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. 7:00 – Call to order– **Rob Best**
 - a. Approval of minutes of last meeting held November 8, 2018
 - b. Approve adoption of agenda
 - c. Any new business
2. 7:05 – RDC update – **RDC Representative**
3. 7:10 – Parking Lot – **Tara O’Connell**
4. 7:20 - Community Connections / PIC Update – **PIC/PRO Representative**
5. 7:30 – Financial updates –**Rob Best**
 - a. Treasurer position – **Rob Best**
6. 7:35 – Staff wish list – **Rob Best**
7. 7:45 – Community Representative for 2019-2020 School Year – **Rob Best**
8. 7:50 – Principal/Staff Updates – **Meena Sahi/Monica Preiner**
9. 8:15 – Motion to Adjourn

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING Thursday February 7, 2019 7:00 pm

Minutes from Thursday January 17, 2019 School Council

Attendees: Tracy Jarvis, Rob Best, Roberta Veitch, Sandra Hurl-Smith, Monica Preiner, Kimberly Swinoga, Carolyn Adams Hill, Meena Sahi, Rosalind Ward-Smith, Uzma Turan, Margaret Finlay-Watzeck, Maggie Cai-Hao, Gertrude Lim, Tara O’Connell

1. Call to Order - Rob Best

Approval of minutes of last meeting held November 8, 2018 (planned December meeting was cancelled)
Approved: Uzma Turan
Seconded: Kimberly Swinoga

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

Past Events

- Senior Formal at Le Dome – went well, lots of fun
- Rebecca’s gift fundraiser before holiday break – successful, not sure of the total amount of money raised yet, will find out soon
- There were a number of holiday themed events prior to the break - winter wonderland, movies in cafeteria, Santa came to visit (no beard), music, caroling with the choir

Future Events

- Last 3 days of class next week for semester 1 – going to be pajama days
- Semester 2 – hoping to plan a blood donor drive for May – HDSB and Catholic board – schools will challenge each other – it will be held in the Oakville Town Hall – minimum age for blood donation is 17 plus teachers, parents, etc. can donate
- Coffee house #2 – April
- Spring formal – April – juniors
- Calendar out in front of the cafeteria on a big white board to show students what events are upcoming – Gr 11 to be in charge of keeping it up to date

3. Parking lot – Tara O’Connell

- Tara has been volunteering a lot for parking lot supervision to create a safe/logical/timely traffic flow
- She reviewed a diagram of parking lot with its new lines/arrows etc.
- We need more volunteers for second semester, mostly at the end
- Vice Principal Jody Schnurr– has written info for volunteers
- High visibility vests and a cart of cones is available in the main office for volunteers to pick up
- Cones are to be distributed in the fire route lane – approx. one cone every few meters to keep cars from stopping in this lane to pick up students
- Volunteers are to encourage the cars to keep moving into the parking lot and to park in a parking spot (of which there are many)
- Busses want to leave at 3:00 PM at which point a volunteer can stop the incoming traffic to allow the busses to make the left hand turn out from in front of the school to get to Devon Road
- Sending out another email soon to get volunteers
- Sandwich board has been ordered – “No stopping, please proceed to a parking spot”
- Would like a system in which cones can be placed even if a volunteer is not available – Principal Meena will look into this

4. Community Connections / PIC Update – Sandra Hurl-Smith

- Our last speaker (drugs and addiction/mental illness) had a different presentation style but a powerful message – some people liked it, some not so much, turnout was smaller than usual to start.
- Anette Winslow (via email) noted that most faces were completely new to us - so it felt like we possibly attracted a different crowd than usual with this presentation.
- Our next Community Connections is hosted by the guidance department – discussions about course selection for next year.
- Pro grant – looks like we may get it, has come to Halton but not sure how it will be distributed – hopefully will come in Feb.
- Have not booked big speaker for next fall yet
- Topic or speaker suggestions always appreciated
- Side note from Meena Sahi - Ontario govt grants – none for first semester, some math grants now coming out, some money has come in for experiential learning, to get students out of the classroom

5. Financial Updates – (see attached financial summary) Rob Best

- Council funds were spent on the social media presentation to help with earlier Pro grant shortfall
- In December – \$4,800 in donations from Sept/Oct were deposited
- Note to council - \$2,000 has been ear-marked for the end of the school year for scholarships



Nov 30 2018



Dec 31 2018

5a) Treasurer position

- treasurer Shohreh Bhatti is unable to continue with the position so we need a treasurer
- the treasurer works with Michelle in the office, report to council at meetings
- let Rob Best know if you are interested

6. Staff wish list

- Principal Sahi has put together a list – see document with prices and images
- a) Banquette couches like at restaurants for library/cafe – there will be tables with 2-3 banquettes around it
 - b) Projector for theatre – there is a projector there now but it is small and the image is not clear – too small for the space
 - c) Theatre lighting console

- d) Chromebooks, carriers
- e) Bike racks

Note from Meena re school computers - computers in school for specific courses are always being updated as necessary. However, rooms full of desk-top computers that classes would come to for research purposes are being phased out. Instead, Chromebooks can be brought to the regular classroom for the same purpose. As well, banks of desktop computers in the library are being removed – students will be able to borrow a Chromebook if they do not have their own laptop. A few desktop computers will remain in the library so that students can print their documents through them.

Vote will take place at February 7th council meeting regarding funds allocated from budget towards item(s) on wish list.



Wish List

7. Community Representative for 2019-2020 School Year – Rob Best

School council would like to find a community representative to be on council for the next school year. This person does not have to live in the OT catchment area but should be involved in a non-profit organization that deals with youth in Oakville/Halton – such as the YMCA.

Rob will organize an email that council members can send to people they know that would fit this description and might be interested – the email will outline who we are and when we meet.

ROLE:

“The community representative represents an organization, social service agency or other group present in the community and is a person not employed at the school or if employed by the board, has declared this to council members before being appointed.” (School Council Handbook Supplement)

These members are the council’s links with the broader, and often diverse, community serviced by a school. They can help the council respond to the community’s concerns. They can also offer individual expertise, and can identify resources in the community that the school can use to set up mentoring programs, student placements, etc.

In addition to the role stated for council members the community representative will: “Act as a link between the community and school council” (HDSB website)

8. Principal Update/Staff Update – Meena Sahi

New Staff – recently hired

Jenna Inglese – Geography

Bojana Slat – Science

Michael Balzer – Tech

Still interviewing for: 4 sections of English, 2 Art sections to hire

Facility

Lighting has been upgraded (LED) in the cafeteria creating a much brighter space and the school is continuing to source similar lights on a dimmer for the theatre.

Plans are underway for the library upgrade including new carpeting. Books that have not been used in years will be culled, bookshelves moved to the periphery of the space and banquette seating and tables will be in the centre of the space.

Upcoming Events

1. Course Selection

Students will be choosing their courses for next year in the next few weeks. Optional attendance decision made in the 3rd week of February – OT is however a closed school at this time.

2. OSSLT (literacy test)

Grade 10 students will write the literacy test at the end of March – a graduation requirement.

Students will do a practice test at the beginning of the semester - first week of February – these practice tests will be given a colour grading indicating either all is well, some issues or at risk of failing the test.

Remedial course will be available at no charge after school for students needing extra support.

3. Relay for Life

The event is scheduled on May 24th - 11am to 11pm

We will be looking for parent volunteers and donations (Costco gift cards, snack and drinks similar to last time)

The Relay committee will make a presentation at the next Parent Council meeting Feb. 7.

Winter Events Summary

- Drug and Alcohol assembly in November

- Rebecca's Gift in support of Halton Children's Aid was a huge success
- Exceptional Winter Music Concert – this was held in the gym instead of the theater this year.
- Winter Formal
- Winter Sports are underway – skiing, hockey

9) Motion to Adjourn 8:20 pm - Rob Best

Approved: Maggie Cai-Hao

Seconded: Kimberly Swinoga

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