

Minutes June 8th, 2017 Parent Council Meeting

Attendees: *Rob Best, Meena Sahi, Susan Miles, Evelyn Uvakov, Carolyn Adams Hill, Tina MacCormac, Tara O'Connell, Rosalind Ward-Smith, Karena De Souza, Lillian Mortensen, Roberta Veitch, Sandra Hurl-Smith*

Minutes from May 11th, 2017 meeting approved by Roberta Veitch and Sandra Hurl Smith

Principal's Report June 8, 2017– **Meena Sahi**

Staffing

- We currently have to still hire for 27 sections. These sections are in different subject areas, but are the equivalent of 4.5 teachers roughly.
- Our enrolment is around 1280 and we expect to be over 1300 in September. Which may mean some hiring and re-organization in late August-early September

Retirements and Movement of Staff

- The following staff is retiring: Rose Brooks, Vanessa Vathy, Deb Cohen, Kathy Raleigh, Helen Cruickshanks, Kathy Stearns-Brown, Mee Ming Wong.
- The following staff will be moving to other schools: Travis Wheeldon, Jaunna Beattie, Brandon Van Klooster, Deanna Edmunds, and Michelle Pontefract
- Temporary Staff who have finished their contracts are departing: Dave Cianfrini, Jennifer Golding, Jennifer Hartford, Alex Laughlin, Michelle Liou, Mairi McCauley, Priya Jilka, Lameck Zingano
- Shawn McRae is taking a LOA to start her doctorate in education leadership at OISE. Will find out about her replacement in June.

Finishing the Semester Strong

- Teachers are working hard to finish course content, complete performance tasks and get students ready for final exams.

Attendance is critical to a strong finish for the semester, especially in grade 12.

Students sometimes plan a grad prank this time of year. We hope parents can help us with positive good messaging around appropriate ideas for such activities.

We are hearing that current grade 12's are planning a Dare Night Activity outside of school through social media. We wish to bring awareness of this to parents as some of the comments students are making about the dares are concerning.

Minutes June 8th, 2017 Parent Council Meeting

Co-Curricular's

- **Relay for Life was hugely successful with \$267,000 raised for the Canadian Cancer Society. We are the top youth fundraising event in history of Canada. We may be in the top 10 fundraising event for any group or age category.**
- We had a successful Prom on May 26, 2017. We have booked next year's venue in Hamilton.
- **Double Gold for AAA OFSAA Rugby. Both the boys and girls won gold at OFSAA. We are the first school in AAA OFSAA history to hold the titles simultaneously.**
- Track and Field had one of our students Matthew Tint win silver medal in high jump.
- Lacrosse club went to an invitations OFSAA tournament and finished 9th. This is a first time club sport at the school.
- Our music students went to Nationals with excellent results: Wind Ensemble – Gold; Senior Jazz Band – Gold; Concert Band; Silver
- Sr. Tennis team won gold at GHAC
- Math and Biology Competitions – students did very well.
- Our grade 12 BBQ avoided the rain. Thank you to all the parent volunteers. The students had a good time. Regrettably we did not get the obstacle course do to the risk of thundershowers.
- Commencement planning is well under way. The date is June 29, 2017.

Meena will investigate a possible date change for the last Drama night moved to Thursday instead of Friday.

Facilities

We have hired the contractors for the bathroom/change room upgrades. This will be completed over the summer.

We will also have some work done to the access doors to the library.

The lockers have all been installed and I will be having all the rust colored railings in the stairwells painted black to match the railings in the atrium.

We will also be having some renovations to the outdoor seating area in the front of the school to accommodate 5 more bike racks.

Minutes June 8th, 2017 Parent Council Meeting

Staff Update –Susan Miles

Parent Council Meeting June 8 2017

STAFF REPORT

- May 17 - Leadership Team/Learning Team retreat - planning for September 2017
- May 24 - 15th Week reports - follow up with students with 2 or more marks under 60% and/or failing 1 or more courses-
- May 26 - Relay For Life- goal was \$225,000, overachieved the goal \$267,000
- Performance Tasks ongoing
- June 5 - staff meeting - international students' panel/ international student success overview - Doug Wilson
- Grade 12 tailgate party- successful outside of not having an obstacle course

Community Connections Update – Anette Winslow

The latest and greatest is that we still haven't been successful in finding a partner school. However, if the council is in favor we still would like to book Dr. Jean Clinton from McMasters. According to our budget we have the funds to do so even if we don't find a partner.

Our recent parent survey, unfortunately, did not have a lot of respondents. That being said it did give us some useful feedback that will be applied towards planning next year's speaker series. In terms of having to cancel the workshop last night, we think this is something to keep in mind for next year and not schedule anything during the month of June. Meena will investigate to see if guidance can post the content that was going to be given at the workshop for interested parents.

Our PRO grant application is almost ready to be submitted. We are applying based on the provincial priorities and will focus on the following three aspects for next year:

Yes, you can dip into general council funds to supplement the PRO grant... but you would dip into PIC funds first, before using anything raised directly from parents (the PIC balance is 1614.49)

Super Council meeting May 29th at OT in the library. Discussion was around

Minutes June 8th, 2017 Parent Council Meeting

Mental Health. Theresa Wilson from HDSB spoke. Looking for input from councils and parents on inclusion of communication and awareness within schools.

Encouraged all to review website for further information:

<https://www.hdsb.ca/students/Pages/Health%20and%20Well-Being/Mental-Health.aspx>

Other strategies within Halton:

- **Healthy Schools (mental health etc.)** Ontario's Well Being Strategy
- **Safe Schools (bullying, internet etc.)**
- **Student Success (using guidance for this)**

Finance/Treasurer Update – Rob Best for Rose Brooks and Marie Day

- **Student engagement fees for 2016/17-# of students 1200, amount received \$23,000 from a potential \$36,000 at \$30 per student**
- Prom committee paid for the bike racks
- Cashless system change may drive additional donations

New Business

- **Nomination for Inspire awards – Grade 12 's could write up the nomination-Rob will submit on their behalf.**
- **Next years School Council Nomination Form will be sent to all parents on September 14th**

Thank you for all your help and support during my first year here.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:35PM.

Motion to adjourn: Karena De Sousa and Rosalind Ward Smith