

MINUTES OF W.O.S.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 22, 2016

Present: J. Stieva, S. Kirkham, S. Parker, Y. Wang, K. Stackaruk, M. Garde, R. Rasasingham, J. Sumner, J. Sumner, V. Von Buren, T. Hamilton, J. Smith, M. Parsons, C. Mistruzzi, F. Loft, J. Smith, S. Belford, S. Sangha, D. Beaulieu

Regrets: T. Ho, T. Datta, K. Gilliland-Roque, R. Kukreja

1. **WELCOME** - Sherry Kirkham – 7:04 pm

2. **STUDENT REP REPORT** – S. Kirkham

. Tom and Tanuj were not able to attend the meeting.

3. **OTHER – Upcoming Trips** – F. Loft

. Thirty-seven students have signed up for the Vimy Ridge trip in April, 2017. There will be another recruitment meeting soon. The goal is to take 100 students/two buses.

. An application has been submitted to the Board for a service trip to Peru for March Break 2017. It is a 12 day tour costing \$4,114 plus insurance.

4. **MINUTES** - Siobhan Parker

Motion to approve January minutes by Rajini Rasasingham and seconded by Michele Parsons.

5. **MINDFULNESS** - Cate Mistruzzi

. Mindful is very different than mind full. A “good minute” allows you to pay attention to whatever is happening in the moment, clears your mind and prepares you for the next challenge in your day.

. Mindfulness in education leads to increased attention and self-regulation.

. Ms. Mistruzzi shared various tips and websites (available through the HDSB website) to learn more about various applications and benefits of mindfulness.

6. **TREASURER’S REPORT** - Rajini Rasasingham

The balance in the account is now (\$12,099.48).

Motion to approve the January statements by Yana Wang and seconded by Siobhan Parker.

7. **CHAIR’S REPORT** - Sherry Kirkham

. A PIC rep meeting for grant writing was recently held. PIC Mobile helps Councils set speakers for the October PIC conference.

. Items are needed for the April auction please.

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The Council is using the Mail Chimp system to communicate with parents. Parents can subscribe and unsubscribe very easily to Council updates. Mail Chimp also tells us how many people view the e-mail and click on the links. Thanks to Mona for all her hard work on the communications committee and with this transition.

The Safe Schools meeting was held on February 17th. Vilma Von Buren from Council attended. Results of the "Tell it from Me" survey were discussed. More stress and anxiety was noted by our students than the Canadian average, especially our current Grade 12 year. Mental Health Week is April 25-29, 2016. Students are enjoying the music between periods on Wednesdays. We have approximately \$800 to spend from the PRO grant. Sherry has been in touch with Michael Reist for the 2016/17 school year to discuss terrorism and the stress and anxiety it has on kids. A vote was held to purchase the rights and resources to "A Road to Nowhere". All in favour. Motion carried. Council will start working on planning posters, teasers, etc. for a movie night/breakout sessions. IRHS had a night of students talking to parents with Guidance counsellors and some honest answers were given. Council to investigate holding a night like that at WOSS. Sherry asked Council to think about a theme for next year's PRO Grant application. We are looking for someone to write the application which is due May 29th.

Motion to continue the meeting past the 9:00pm meeting deadline by Tara Hamilton and seconded by Kim Stackaruk.

8. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – John Stieva

Mr. Stieva discussed the Hold and Secure that was in effect a few weeks ago due to the community incident. On the advice of the Halton Police, an e-mail saying the school was in a Hold and Secure situation was not sent out to parents. This was to prevent the potential situation of parents calling or arriving at school and causing congestion. A Hold and Secure was not issued for the local convenience store robbery because it could have been more dangerous to do that. There was no description of the suspect, therefore it could have been someone who was in the school. In a Lockdown situation, we suspect kids are in danger. A drill is scheduled for February 25th. An explanation about the various procedures will be put in an upcoming newsletter.

We spend approximately \$200,000 on field trips a year (academic only) which includes what kids paid. Council will need to approve the list of field trips soon.

9. OTHER – Sara Belford

There is an ongoing meat and seafood fundraiser in support of HFFT.

Motion to adjourn by Sara Belford and seconded by Michele Parsons at 9:23 pm.

NEXT MEETING APRIL 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm