

School Council Minutes Sept 23, 2019

Attendance: John Dietrich, Amanda Wilke, Cecilia Rivera, Linda Tester, Liam Goodyear, Max Grominsky, Sherry White, Michelle Willis, Amanda Isley, Ted Jasica, Maryanne Cahill, Brenda Bell, Hilana Madter

Facilitator/Recorder: Linda T.

Prayer: Linda T.

Student Council: Max and Liam shared events that had taken place from the beginning of the school year till now.

- Headstart was in August.
- Grade 9 orientation with link crew leaders (50 leaders this year)
- 1st week of school the link crew wore their shirts to be helpful to the grade 9's. They played games and activities. The week ended with the 9er dance. They had 250-300 in attendance at the dance.
- Retreat for the Student Council was in Goderich where they were able to generate new ideas.

They also described events taking place in the near future:

- October 7th-11th: Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Sept 26: Terry Fox run
- Oct. 23: Coffee House. Auditions will be before this date. It is an event open to all parents and students where students can showcase their talents (music, art, acting, singing, dance etc.). Snacks and refreshments are only \$2.00 each. Admission prices are always donated to charity.
- Oct. 10th: opening mass.
- October 11th: opening assembly.
- October 16th: "blue-out" ...trying to get the grade 9's out to sports games.
- Hallowe'en prepping is happening now.
- Student Council retreat is in November in Niagara Falls. They meet with other councils to exchange information and to organize events.
- Nov. 14th: Semi formal at Maxwell's
- Nov. 22nd: Semi formal for the Community Living Students. Theme they believe is "Disney"
- Nov. 18-22nd is Bully Awareness week with Pink shirt day on Wednesday. John Dietrich announced there is a Workshop for Inclusion that week.
- Nov. 13: Dress down day.
- Special Olympics is at the End of May.

KPL: Amanda

- Program Guides were distributed to all.
- New furniture is now in the Learning Commons.
- Volunteer Opportunities:
 - Youth performers. There are 7 currently playing the piano, harp and sax. Every 1 hour performing earns the student 2 hours of volunteer hours. Very flexible schedule.
 - Reading buddies. ***urgent need***. Every Tues from 6pm-7pm. Students help other students from grades 1-4 to read. Must do a minimum of 2 sessions. Sign up on line.
- Youth drop in. Every Friday night right after school. Run by the YMCA. They have activities, employment specialists. Last year there were on average of 14 youth each week in attendance.
- Dungeons & Dragons nights
- Board Game Café
- Wi-Fi hot spots
- 3D printer.

Principal: John Dietrich

- 2176 is our current enrollment. That makes us 125% over capacity.
- We have 49 international students this year and approx. 220 ELD/ESL students.
- Draft budget is \$293,000....a 10% reduction from last year.
- Security staff on hand this year: Doug Proctor is back. The company we use is still trying to find us another person to fill the void.
- John discussed staffing: Teachers whom are returning to SMH.
- Programs like ipass/SAL have now moved back into the school (formerly at the community centre).
- John highlighted the data that was available from the EQAO and the OSSLT. We test well at SMH with all our disadvantages in account (single parents, parental education, family income, income source, immigration).
- “The Umbrella Project”: Self Problem Solving. A parent info night will be arranged later this year.
- CJI: Restorative Justice/Practice. Shelly is assigned 2-3 days a week for a 2-year commitment.
- Aviva Grant: we won \$15K. The school applied for a grant from the Lyle Hallman Foundation. They were awarded \$330K.
 - Stage 1: New metal picnic tables, park benches, AODA tables, garbage cans.
 - Stage 2: (spring): Sculpture in the circle outside the Gym doors is being moved and an 8 station outdoor gym area installed.
 - Stage 3: Multipurpose tennis courts (& lights) being installed.

- Stage 4: Frisbee golf stations and a walking trail.
- WCDSB “Called to Belong” retreat is being held in Kitchener October 9 at St. Anthony Daniel parish 29 Midland Dr., Kitchener
- CWOSSA is holding their Girls Hockey Championship in March 2020. Looking for Sponsors.

PIC Grant:

- It was decided to spend our \$500.00 on new magnets that have the Attendance Line and more direction for Parents to go to the Website for our school to find information.
- Oct 24th is Parent-Teacher interviews. We can hand out that day.

PRO Grant:

- Sept 24th. Resistor Cases being made and a presentation.
 - So far, very little registration of grade 9 parents and students. John did an email and will do another telephone call out to grades 9 and 10 again to increase numbers.
- We will repeat on Parent-Teacher night as well.

Elections: Linda explained all the roles.

Co-Chairs: Linda Tester and Sherry White

Co-Secretaries: Michelle Willis and Amanda Isley

Volunteer Opportunities coming up:

1. Parent -Teacher interviews October 24th.
2. Christmas Dinner
3. Grade 8 Night. November 28th

More information to follow with Google Docs to sign up to help out.

School Tour: John facilitated and answered questions:

- Hairstyling: Students in the OYAP/Apprenticeship program cut hair on site. Parents are welcome to make appointments. Teacher is a licenced Hair Stylist and oversees.
- Mary’s Café/Cooking Class: Students prepare and sell their food at lunch (they re-coop the cost of the ingredients). Very nutritional food at a low cost for students. Teacher is a licenced Chef and Baker. The class does catering as well for functions in and out of the school. Great learning experience for the Students.
- Alumni Hall: New seats were installed. All the name tags were saved and will be displayed on the wall. Seats can now retract to allow for a full classroom without chairs.
- Classrooms: regular rooms, computer labs, new tables bought (like those in the library), art class rooms.