Welland Centennial Secondary School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 25, 2015

**In attendance:**

Shelly Cutts, Elizabeth Maltais, Cathy Alakas, Sherill Roberts, Christine Brochu, and Nigel Evans

**Regrets:**

Jeff Etling, Vinay Sharma, Larry Lemelin, Jennifer Laroche, Lianne Bankert, Norbert Kuebeck, Sue Barnett, and Pam Swick-Janjac

**Meeting Start time 7:12pm**

1. Liz opened up meeting looking at minutes of April’s meeting. Liz motioned to accept the minutes and Shelley seconded the motion to accept the minutes.
2. Chair Report:

Liz mentioned a discussion with Mitch Lapointe regarding having students equipped with technology by the time they leave high school. He has been in discussions with DSBN about need for more exposure. His concerns, Nigel stated, stem from the fact that he’s dedicated to the concept of a digital society. He would like to see a circumstance where every school in DSBN has their own piece of technology across the board (Ipad, chrome book, netbook, desktop, laptop, etc.). This is because of the mismatches in technology (different technology students bring may have different programming). Also, the concerns for students that do not have access to technology because of finances. Also, need to reduce costs in photocopying ($12,000-$16,000). His hope is to convince enough people to go this route and make a difference in our board and at our school.

Nigel mentioned how we are moving ahead in regards to technology and one example is how EQAO has even given the option of students answering questions online trial as opposed to hand written and Centennial has opted for this. Because we have already done the written, we will be able to compare the variances in achievement and also in skill set.

Liz is going to mention to Sue Barnett that we’d like some information about what schools are allotted…Cathy mentioned the idea of contacting local businesses that might like to partner up and give discounts to graduating classes of Centennial.

1. Students’ Council Report (Vinay Sharma, Lianne Bankert) read in absentia

They mentioned great participation this year. The new PM is Justin Dube, Deputy PM is Hannah Donofrio. June 3 –Annual Awards Assembly followed by a BBQ lunch and Cougarfest in afternoon, June 4-Spring Dance, Current Student council and new council will be going on Council Retreat. Graduates Breakfast on June 12.

1. Professional Development-school direction and plans for next year
2. Administrator’s Report- Staffing –Mrs. Fitzgerald, Miss Tracey and Mr. Speck all retiring….Ms. Carl from Port Colborne– History/Sociology, Miss Thomas from AN Meyer teaching French and extended French. This means we have specialist teachers teaching French areas…all French math, etc. So there is a posting still out there for science with French as well as a technology posting.

Mr. Lapointe is seeing that students will be able to get certified in Microsoft (grade 11 business class)-great employability skill!

Grad meetings under way-another this Wednesday.

In school agenda for next year, Nigel wants to include info on e-cigarettes and vapour pens. Another item for school agenda will be information about concussions. This is so that parents are aware it is a board wide protocol.

Liz inquired as to whether we have become more ‘specialized’ as was Nigel’s intention at the beginning of the year.

Mr. Lapointe wants us to feed into the feeder school’s websites and put our website on theirs (and things like this).

1. Round Table- Christine brought up need to draw students who are newcomers to Canada to come to Centennial as opposed to Notre Dame and perhaps we could discuss this further with Sue in September and see what we could do to recruit! Many families move to Welland and go to Dame and aren’t even Catholic! Shelley brought up French public students who could come to Centennial as opposed to Confederation. Nigel said we’d like to offer more French development programs-e.g. arts program. Would the interest be there?
2. Adjournment 8:42pm.