

Welland Centennial Secondary School

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Monday October 21, 2013

In Attendance;

Sherill Roberts, Elizabeth Maltais, Terry Gilbert, Sara Vloet, Deb Braun (chair), Paula Mackinnon (principal), Norbert Kuebeck (vice principal) Tara Lundy, Rob Motola, Shelly Cutts, Anna Wong, Claudette Beoclu,

Regrets: Cathy Alakas, Ann Lalonde, Kelly Chuckry, Darcy Feagan (Prime Minister), Pam Swick Janjac,

Meeting Start 7:06 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Deb welcomed parents “old” and new” to the second Council meeting.

Approval of Minutes

All in attendance approved meeting minutes from September 23, 2013.

Student Council Report: Tara Lundy

Halloween dance October 24 from 7pm – 10 pm, \$5 with costume \$7 without. Pizza and pop being sold by the athletic council, annual haunted house.

Pumpkin carving free Thursday afternoon

Spy vs. Spy being moved a week, further information at the next meeting.

OSLC video was shown in the assembly and sang by Jessica Wilson. You Tube link to be added to school website.

Chair Report: Deb Braun

Cole Fast shared Mayor Youth Advisory; AVIVA community fund raising voting for skate park October 21st through November 4th, link being emailed.

People for Education Foundation newsletter will be on website. The 17th annual conference will be Saturday November 2nd from 8.30 am – 5 pm in Toronto. Registration needs to be completed a.s.a.p.

Parent Involvement Meeting Annual Conference Wednesday November 6th from 4 pm – 9 pm, information will be on the website.

Fund-raiser Saturday November 23rd (see invite) also on website.

Celebratemydrive.com - Shelly C gave great information. The link is being emailed out, please share

Professional Development:

Rob Motola gave detailed instructions on how to utilize the Co-op department of the school website. Mr. Colonico and Rob update every Friday. All pre-placement documents are online and assignments and/or questions can be emailed.

Co-op options are half day (two (2) credits requires 220 hours) or full day (four (4) credits requires 440 hours). Construction placements are full day. Co-op placements are treated as a job.

Students can use co-op as learning experience, or work experience. Students learn valuable job skills and responsibilities. Students must have related course to participate and transportation. If the student is not performing to the employers expectations they can be fired. Rob stated it is a very low number of firings per semester.

Co-op is available to grade 11 and 12 students, and there is an option to take an additional co-op placement if the first one was not a match, summer co-op is also available. The summer co-op is applied to like summer school.

Calendar is available online, and all students / employers have a hard copy of the calendar.

There are central placements that all schools in the region can apply for, so it is important to have alternates.

For students doing trades (i.e. plumbing etc.) they can apply for OYAP (under links on school site / co-op) they can assist in paying for college etc.

Site visits are completed with a minimum of six (6).

There are over 100 employers and approximately 60 students.

Administrator's Report: (Paula and Norbert)

Printed Admin Report is on the website

Girls' basketball won the Tribune Tournament beating out the current Ontario Champs – St. Francis. The game was excellent.

The JR girls also won a tournament and beat out E.L Crossley.

Celebrate my Drive lunch event is on Wednesday and assembly on Friday with crash rollover simulator Friday morning.

November 6th is take your kids (grade 9) to work day. All grade 9 students are participating.

On the same day there will be a Holocaust Symposium for grade 7 and 8 students hosted by Centennial.

November 14th is Dance day

November 15th is PA Day

November 19th Mid-Semester Report Cards are being mailed out; if you do not receive one please contact the school.

Professional Learning: staff are participating in school goal of supporting applied level grade 9 / 10 students to engage them in learning. The following is a list of learning projects:

- Teacher Learning Project Coaching Groups
- School Support Initiative (SSI) Team)
- Math Team
- Literary Team
- In-School Team
- Blended Learning (D2L) PLC Groups
- Department Learning Teams
- Safe School Team
- Demonstration of Learning Group (grade teams)
- Critical Thinking DSBN workshops
- Conferences

According to the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test 2013 Centennial is successful and above the DSBN. The applied mathematics needs improvement as we are below the Board and Province, and the academic mathematics is doing better, but needs to improve.

January 16, 2014 is the mathematics EQAO test; there is after school numeracy support up until the date of the test every Wednesday from 2.45 pm – 3.45 pm.

There is now grade 11 / 12 online math support starting this week, the link is from the DSBN website. Teachers are from the school board.

Safe School committee met October 7th Elizabeth Malton, Pam Swick-Janjac and Cathy Alakas were in attendance.

The Lock Down Policy has been distributed and will be focused on at the next meeting. The PD Day will be a dry run for teachers.

A discussion was had on areas for a safe environment.

Reviewed the survey on if the students felt the school was safe / welcoming. There was a group that did not feel it was.

Issues of topic: cyber bullying / driving safe / beautifying the school / mental health / diversity / student stress.

There is an assembly end of the week.

Beautifying the school updates: painting, field repair and murals throughout the school will be added. TREE club is being discussed.

There will be student of the month, and the peer mentoring is going well.

There was an assembly showcasing Alvin Law and the success he has overcoming his physical disability and the challenges it has created.

In February Global Live Assembly from Hamilton will focus on random acts of kindness.

The next meeting will focus on reducing student stress and initiatives on how to deal with disruptions in classrooms, bullying / cyber bullying and building confidence.

November 11th at 2.45 pm is the next meeting of the Safe Schools committee.

School Tour to View Renovated Rooms

Dance studio tour; great space. Currently setting up sound system. In the past the auditorium was used. Looking to use also for fitness classes and night school yoga.

Art room; was family study room. Tables have been resurfaced, new sink and lots of storage was installed. The room was also painted.

Old drama room; now being utilized as a standard class room, was painted.

Construction room; new lights were installed last year, along with a dust collection system. Currently students are working on building a replica of the Seaway Mall for the Safety Village. Community Organizations can request builds.

Round Table

Discussion on implementing a system for teacher interviews to be on time, or to let parents know who is next. Using a numbered ticket system is a consideration.

Recruiting grade 7 / 8 students to join the sports teams by having the top athletes go do a demonstration.

If you are unable to attend parent / teacher interviews you can email the teachers.

For students to do the volunteer placement they can go to the guidance area or office Ideas: student ambassadors for the Welland Heritage or at the elementary school they came from.

Meeting Adjourned at 8.37pm

Next Meeting Monday November 18, 2013 7:00pm.