

Welland Centennial Secondary School

Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Monday September 23, 2013

In Attendance;

Sherrill Roberts, Elizabeth Maltais, Deb Braun, Terry Gilbert, Cathy Alakas, Ann Lalonde, Kelly Chuckry, Wendy Ward, Shelley Cutts, Sara Vloet, Dan Saint Laurent, Christine Brochu, Joy Reaker, Deb Braun (chair), Paula Mackinnon (principal), Norbert Kuebeck (vice principal) Tara Lundy, Darcy Feagan (Prime Minister)

Regrets: Pam Swick Janjac, Rob Motola

Meeting Start 7:06 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Deb welcomed parents “old” and new” to our first Council meeting of the year

Nominations and Voting

Deb Braun was nominated for and accepted the position of Chair, Shelley Cutts Vice-Chair and Sara Vloet volunteered for the Secretary position.

Student Council Report: Darcy Feagan and Tara Lundy

On the first day of school Student Council did their “welcome back” ritual with door greeters and timbits.

The first Friday they held a corn roast and had a great turnout.

We are currently in Spirit Week which will end with Cougar Spirit Day and Catch a Slice of Cougar life for the Grade 9 students. There will be lots of activities such as chuck a chicken, human pyramid and an obstacle course.

They are in the process of choosing the Gr. 9 reps. The reps are chosen by the Executive Council.

Next week on Thursday is our first home Football Game at 2pm. There will be a buyout and a pep rally before the game.

Student Council is working on their OSLC (Ontario Student Leadership Conference) video. The conference will take place Nov. 10-12.

We are now on Twitter, the account is being run by Jessica Wilson the account is @wcsscougars. Guidance also has a twitter feed @wcssguidance.

Chair Report: Deb Braun

No formal report at this time.....a bit of a round the table discussion regarding incorporating the Elementary Feeder School Parent Councils to help the incoming Grade 9 Families transition and feel welcome here at Centennial.

A few ideas:

Send a Centennial Parent to the Feeder School Meetings to try and engage the incoming parents

Put notices in the last few newsletters of the Feeder Schools

Have Representatives at the Elementary Transition Night

Have a Representative do a Welcome at the Feeder School Graduation Night

We are always looking for ways to connect and engage the incoming parents.

Professional Development: No PD at this meeting

Some ideas for a future meeting included:

Having Val Brennan discuss the Exchange programme and/or a Rotary member come in to talk about international Rotary exchange

Guidance Presentation, perhaps on helping us as parents help our children to stay organized in their studies

Administrator's Report: (Paula and Norbert)

Printed Admin Report is on the website

Mentor programme is underway. Gr 9 students were paired with Gr. 11/12 students. Mentors will run groups at Catch a Slice of Cougar life. There will be about 5/6 students per mentor and hopefully that connection will remain throughout the year

The Main field is being reseeded and renovated. The field is going to be permanently fenced off to avoid the general community using the field.

Paula will have a report about student/school success . All Schools are now participating in the "Demonstration of Learning" programme.

The School Budget was shared and has been posted on the website

The New Safe School Committee has been formed. It will meet approx. 4 times a year with the inaugural meeting happening on Oct. 7th at 2:45 pm. It will contain members of the Parent Council (Pam Swick Janjac, Cathy Alakas, Liz Maltais ~ others are welcome), 2 staff Members (Rob Motola and Lisa Martino) Laurie Iannetti (DSBN Youth Counsellor), Wendy Davies (Regional Helth Nurse) Neil Ridley (NRP school officer) Dom Alabnese (head caretaker), 3 student reps and Administration

The purpose is to continue to ensure that the entire school culture is safe and inclusive.

Round Table

See notes under Chair Report

Much discussion regarding the website occurred, it needs to contain more information in a more streamlined manner and kept up to date. Paula will continue to work on the website efforts

Meeting Adjourned at 8:38pm

Next Meeting Monday October 21, 7:00pm.