

**Welland Centennial Secondary School**  
**School Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, February 22, 2016**  
**Room 116**

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**Present:** Mr. Evans, Principal, Mrs. Reid-George, VP, Shelley Cutts, Justin Dube, Hanna Donofrio, Jenn Dube, Sherill Roberts, Liz Maltais, Sue Barnett Trustee, Mary Lou Harry, Cheryl Podetz, Dan Nadeau

**Regrets:** Ian Lucas

Meeting commenced 7:06pm

Adoption of last meeting minutes, Cheryl Roberts, Mr. Evans seconded it

**Welcome**

Mr. Evans opened the meeting and handed out information from the WCSS Alumni Committee in regards to planning their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. The date scheduled for the event will be Friday October 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup>.

There were requests that they were looking for from the School council in regards to:

- ✓ Any volunteers who would like to assist with planning
- ✓ Sponsorship
- ✓ Silent Auction is being planned any donations would be greatly appreciated
- ✓ Swag, if ordered in bulk as it is cheaper, Mr. Evans suggested the school will buy back the left over at wholesale cost

**Principal's Report**

Report marks have been mailed to each parent; each family should have received them. They have been mailing reports to confirm parents view them as in the past sending home with students, might be left in lockers. Overall students did very well no concerns.

A new student registered recently from China entered into English program through their twin group. Nigel is encouraged to see growth within this program. Currently have Korean students in the English program. Their report cards show they are focused and doing well.

Grade 9 entry for next school year looks to be on target. As of today, there are approximately 20 registered not from the DSBN elementary schools, mostly coming from the French board. The numbers are still increasing for grade 9 entry.

Sue Barnett addressed the boundary for Fitch; she is looking for it to be changed. Currently it depends on a geographical border line, with students graduating from Fitch going to either Eastdale or Centennial depending on where their home is fixed on the boundary line. Sue mentioned that making it that all Fitch students go to Centennial will help keep students of that school together and it is easier for students who wish to attend Centennial to have transportation; providing they meet requirements of distance.

- ✓ A few parents appreciated this new insight and hope that this does get changed
- ✓ Mr. Evans addressed that each school is allowed a population and often borders are in place to adhere to these student population regulations. He is encouraged to aid more students as long as it is policy regulated.

## **Principal's Report – Cont'd**

Business department is growing as in the past, business was slowly declining and there was a loss of interest. Centennial has expanded this department by hiring another staff member to assist Mr. Lapointe with the in class teaching as Mr. Lapointe is launching the new E-learning component. Centennial is one of the only schools that can offer an enhanced business learning department and is pleased to have this growing here in our community.

## **Vice Principal's Report:**

Excellent turn out for Semi Formal, outstanding performance, planning and, organizing by the Student Council

- ✓ Praised council for well planned activities, photo booth, selection of food, how welcoming they all were to their guests and how all students participated in dancing and interacting in a well-mannered way
- ✓ Other parents praised how there were conflicts with seating, but council assured students and made last minute arrangements to make sure all participants were happy, had a good time and were able to sit with whom they requested.
- ✓ Council member Hanna responded in the difficulty they had in arranging seating and last minute changes, with a lot of late nights prepping they were happy to have it solved and everyone seemed satisfied with their overall seating arrangements in the end.

Praised how well Volleyball and Basketball teams were doing with their current season

100% attendance for Grade 9 Math EQAO. Centennial should be praised as this is often a rarity to have 100% participate. Admin. staff very pleased with this result and wanted it to be recognized on behalf of the students and staff for their great efforts

## **Student Council Report:**

Semester Two started off with Council greeting students back with loud music, Timbits and cheers as they entered the building.

Valentine's Day candy grams were sold for 50 Cents and each student received at least one from student council to feel included as others bought for friends and such. Thanks to the council members who headed that event and worked hard in getting them delivered. Karling, Ronny and McKenna were a few names mentioned.

Semi was a great success with 400 students in attendance.

- ✓ Great to see council come together in all areas of planning.
- ✓ Major issue was table sitting, but with a lot of hard work, council were able to direct each concern on an individual basis and problem solved at the last minute and students were satisfied and enjoyed their night.

Justin emailed Executive Director of Safety Village in regards to offering support from their recent vandalism.

- ✓ The director responded that in the spring they will need support with cleanup of glass and repainting, but at the moment they are in need of funds to be able to hire contractors to repair the damages of the contents damaged.
- ✓ Council is considering proposing a Movie Buy out, and sell popcorn along with providing a donation box to raise funds to help support Safety Village, more details to follow as they continue to plan for this.

### **Student Trustee level:**

Justin recently returned from a conference in Ottawa involving all of Ontario and other provinces in planning and implementing areas of improvement for the Schools.

#### *Canada Wide Items:*

- ✓ placing transgender washrooms in every high school
- ✓ Focus on recognizing LGBTQ members
- ✓ Initiatives in wearing Orange Shirt days to recognize that every child matters in regards to the Indigenous people

#### *Niagara Region Level:*

- ✓ Currently the Student Senate across the region is working on Mental Health Awareness and an awareness walk is being planned May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Board office in St. Catharines.
- ✓ Keep watch for promotion and advertising coming soon to all schools both Secondary and Elementary DSBN Schools
- ✓ Ability to pre-register
- ✓ Feb 24<sup>th</sup> at Gordon Elementary School, Justin will be providing a presentation on Mental Health awareness, an initiative that the Board of Trustees have been planning in the past 2 years, along with the role of the Board and student trustees, what they are and what they can provide for your school and students
- ✓ Feb 24<sup>th</sup> is also Pink shirt day to represent Anti-bullying day
- ✓ Immunization day is coming soon, watch for the dates
- ✓ March 24<sup>th</sup> is Easter Egg hunt for the students. Mr. Evans fears this, as all 800 students dart into the halls in the search for chocolate eggs. Student Council look forward to this event each year.

### **3D printer Presentation:**

Presentation by Mr. Barter

- ✓ 3D printer up and running, there were a few samples that were passed about the room for others to see, very interesting. Great tool for teaching.
- ✓ Students are really enjoying exploring this as is Mr. Barter continuing to increase his knowledge and areas to use it with the current textbook curriculum.
- ✓ A large printer was purchased and students are able to use this for their drawing and other project work. Great opportunity for career training growth for students in the design of tech courses of all levels.

### **Around the Table:**

Trustee Sue – shared that the funds brought in from International Programs stay within the DSBN board and currently are working on 2 projects.

- ✓ Update St. Johns Conservation
- ✓ \$20,000 in bursary opportunities for students who are first attendees within their families to attend any type of post-Secondary school. College, University or Trades School.

### **Around the Table Continued**

Information about new course for teachers to attend in areas of upgrading their technical teaching knowledge and once the few weeks of training are completed, they are then presented their own device to bring back to their classrooms to use.

- ✓ The board had 450 teachers participate across the region
- ✓ Mr. Evans stated only 2 teachers per semester per school are eligible to attend; he had to turn teachers away as there was a high interest.
- ✓ Mr. Barter was one who was able to attend and praised the experience.
- ✓ Such a great interest the Board will be continuing to offer this to teachers

The Jr. Boys Basketball team played an excellent season, fought hard against E.L Crossley but were beat out to go onto to OFFSA. Great effort from the coaches and players

### **Upcoming events on the Calendar**

Wed Feb 24<sup>th</sup> – Anti bullying day

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dance Showcase at Centennial

March 24<sup>th</sup> – Easter egg Hunt within the school, hosted by Student Council

Any suggestions for PD for next meeting please forward requests to Ian Lucas or Mr. Evans

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Next meeting Scheduled for Monday March 21, 2016

Meeting adjourned