

Welland Centennial Secondary School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday February 24, 2014

In Attendance;

Sherrill Roberts, Elizabeth Maltais, Shelley Cutts, Sara Vloet, Dan Saint Laurent, Paula MacKinnon (principal), Karen Wilding, Larry Lemelin, Tara Lundy

Regrets: Deb Braun, Cathy Alakas, Ann Lalonde, Norbert Kuebeck (vice-principal), Pam Swick-Janjac

Meeting Start 7:02 pm

Welcome

Shelley did the welcome on behalf of Deb Braun

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from last meeting (January 20, 2014) were approved.

Students' Council Report

Tara Lundy gave the council report. This year's semi-formal had approximately 340 people attend, and it ran smoothly.

Spirit Week and Spirit Assembly

March 3 – 6 with the assembly on the 6th in the morning. March 7th is a PA Day

Midnight Monday – PJ day

Twin Tuesday

All Around the World Wednesday

Cougar Day Thursday

Hot chocolate will be handed out on the Monday at the front entrance for free.

New Event lead by DSBN Student Senate - Enviro Challenge. It is to reduce the carbon footprint in the school. The school board is giving substantial prizes April thru May, and the Enviro Club will be promoting too. There will be more information at the next meeting. The winner is whoever has the highest percentage of improvement

Chair's Report

There is no report as Deb Braun is not present.

Professional Development

Karen Wilding discussed support of teachers to help with students (this is her first year in this position as instructional coach). A teacher with this position will have 2 classes teaching instead of 3 and collects the resources to help achieve goals and provide venues for teachers to explore different ways to teach. Mrs. Wilding gave a sample of an exercise that could be taught in class instead of the typical lecture method. The goal is to teach the difference between observations vs. inference get the definition in students' own words, vs. telling them what the definition is and then having them do a lesson. Teachers are working at supporting critical thinking, and engaging the students. A clicker poll allows the students to give feedback, then gives a graph of the results. The goal of the work is to improve student learning through ongoing teacher collaboration (in teacher identified and chosen areas of need for further instruction). There are many new tools available including a document camera. Also the culinary department is using a GoPro camera to document techniques (i.e. chopping) for the students to view, and review at later dates.

Administrator's Report

The boys' basketball team made it to OFSAA in Perth. They had a playoff game against St. Francis, they lost it but won game against Barton.

Pink shirt day is Feb. 26th (one of many), this is the first of this calendar year. A group of students are going to a DSBN workshop on this day.

Progress reports are moved back one day to March 5th because of the March Break and events on the 6th.

Literacy test: over 200 students writing all grade 10s some 11s and 12s (for 2nd time). Grade 9s do practice test, 11s and 12s who have met the literacy requirements do not have to attend school on that day.

No meeting in March.

April 15th is Safe Talk training day for students and staff, 30 people will be participating in the training.

Make Change for Children Fundraiser: a dollhouse was built by retired teacher. You can purchase tickets for \$2 or 3/\$5. The raffle is April 1st.

Semester 1 results: the school did well. Staff as a whole are pleased with the outcome.

Safe Schools Assembly: was held last week and involved a motivational speaking group, a band and students talking about depression, etc.

The message was look after fellow students and care for each other and it was positively received by students. Groups worked with the mentors and discussed world-wide issues like slavery and how to improve, and to go against slavery, and not buying things made by slavers. The group also discussed hero holidays.

Lockdown drill - beginning of period 3 was successful (working out a few bugs) and received a 95% from Neil Ridley. It is recommended to have a flashing light warning for areas that can't hear the PA (the auditorium). The next drill may be without warning to ensure response is accurate. Today's was a "possible threat in the building".

Other kind of drill is "hold and secure" (threat outside). There are security cameras in principal and vice principal offices, and Rob Motola has access on his computer. Everyone has designated spots to go to. Most rooms have an area for out of sight, others have no windows so the lights are turned off and door locked.

Safe Talk Training -- Suicide Alertness For Everyone: recognizing the signs and symptoms and approaching the person to assist them to get help. Initial staff trained in it / Assist training (higher level of training). Want a variety of students trained so there is someone that can help, staff will recommend students to participate.

Round Table

Information on the Career Cruising site where students are making course selections does not accurately show community hours and some credit requirements in arts and physed. This a software glitch and the issue is being worked on with the company who provided software. Student information is correct in the DSBN Trillium records however.

Prom Dates: prom will be on the Tuesday June 24th and graduation will be Thursday June 26th.

Waiting to hear when exams can start, hoping to start a day earlier (before prom).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:16pm

Next Meeting April 28, 2014, 7 pm.