

# MINUTES

## Welland Centennial Parent Council

<https://www.facebook.com/WCSSPC/>

*November 12, 2018, 7:00PM*

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### In Attendance

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Jennifer Reid, Vice-Principal; Sandra Zacharuk, Secretary; Heidi Hopkins; Tom Blacquiere; Alyson DiDonato; MaryLou Harry; Meghan Reichheld

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### Previous Minutes

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Previous Minutes were reviewed and adopted.

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### Students' Council Report

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Student Council member was unable to attend meeting.

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### Presentations

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Mr. Brad Barter – Specialist High Skills Major(SHSM) for Energy

- The SHSM let students focus on a career path that matches their skills and interests while meeting the requirements of the Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Receive SHSM seal on the diploma.
- The idea for the new SHSM for Energy got started one year ago on the November PD day. There was an interest in starting a green initiative program and after discussion with the Ministry of Education determined it fell under the Energy umbrella.
- Have been discussing Sustainable Architecture.
- Looking at Energy generation; Energy Production; Conservation
- Niagara College has an Environmental course and Brock offers Environmental Science program
- Currently enrolled 8 students (5-Grade 11; 3-Grade 12), wanted to start small
- Planning a field trip in December to Sir Isaac Beck
- Working with community partners Rankin and Walker Industries
- Co-op options are being built right now, have to do double credit.
- Discussing summer co-ops being available.
- Hope is to increase enrollment in future years.

### Helen Risteen (nurse) – E-Cigarettes and Vaping

- E-cigarettes are battery operated, hand held devices that contain a liquid chemical that is converted to a vapor when inhaled. Helen brought in some samples for everyone to see. One major brand 'JUUL'
- Some of the liquids contain nicotine and some do not.
- Initially promoted as an aid to help people stop smoking but a lot of the marketing is geared towards teens and youth.
- There are laws against selling to minors but many kids find ways around these laws.
- The belief is that vaping is a better alternative than smoking or that it is safer but this may not be the case.
- Currently there are no regulations on what goes into the liquids that are being sold on the market.
- A lot of the liquids have flavourings included. Many suppliers have stated that these flavourings meet food and drug administration standards. The issue is that inhaling is a different mechanism than digestion.
- When you eat the flavour your stomach digests it. There are no studies to show what effect inhaling flavourings will have on the lungs. May lead to lung inflammation.
- There are many risks with nicotine use; impacts brain development; nicotine addiction may make someone more susceptible to other drugs.
- The best thing to tell kids is "If you don't smoke, don't Vape".
- Website for review (US websites): <http://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov>

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### Administrator's Report – Presented by Jen Reid, Vice Principal

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- Sports at the school are going well; Football and SR boys' volleyball season is over, the school was represented at SOSSA by Tennis player and at OFFSA for Golf. The JR girls' basketball team is having a good start to the season.
- The Baking Club is up and running after school on Thursday, everyone is welcome
- Student Council members attended Workshop and Leadership Conference (approx. 2400 students in attendance). They were there from 8am to 10:30pm
- They had a fabulous time at the workshops, listening to Keynote speakers and attending team building activities. They have already signed up for next year.
- The Halloween Dance was a huge success, everyone had a great time.
- Take our Kids to Work day for Grade 9's is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Grade 8's from feeder schools will be attending Centennial on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Grade 8 Open House night is Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The school has established the School Embassadors ("A-Team"); students put their names forward to be mentors to Grade 9 & 10 students. The objective is to make the students feel comfortable in the high school environment and help them in having the confidence to join in on club and other school activities. The Embassadors have dubbed these students as the "Cubs". The program is well received and a benefit to both the "Cubs" and the mentors.
- Grandparents Tea will be on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Fundraising for additional Track and Field facilities at the school are being worked on. The hope is to be able to add a Score Board and Field House to store equipment. With the addition of the Track and Field facilities hope to attract big events for Elementary and High Schools and Special Olympics.

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## Next Meeting

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Monday, December 10: We will be meeting in the Baking Room for some special treats.