

Welland Centennial Secondary School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday November 23, 2015

In Attendance:

Nigel Evans (Principal), Dan Nadeau, Justin Dube, Hannah Donofrio, Shelly Cutts, MaryLou Harry, Ian Lucas, Sherill Roberts, Wendy Richards, Jennifer Dube, Elizabeth Maltais, Larry Lemelin.

Regrets: Pam Swick-Janjac, Jennifer Larouche, Sue Barnett, Christine Brochu

Meeting start time : 7:03pm.

Centennial Parent Council Chairman Ian, welcomed everyone to the meeting and allowed for each of us to introduce ourselves.

Chair's Report,

Ian offered regrets on behalf of the members listed above and explained that the Centennial Alumni would like to defer their report till the next Parent Council Meeting.

Mention was made about the Parent Council Conference held at Eden Secondary School. The event was described as an excellent event for parents and students to attend. "How to get the most out of school councils".....Centennial Parent Council is very much on track as a committee.

Administrator's Report , Nigel explained the 3 goals he set for Centennial when he arrived as Centennial's new principal. "Increase the school's population, increase programming and improve communication."

Nigel said Mid Term Reports would be mailed out on Tuesday to ensure parents receive them directly. Also enclosed with the Mid Term Report, would be a copy of the school's newsletter written by Nigel. Nigel highlighted several items in the newsletter, making special mention about the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test and Centennial Secondary School having the highest pass rate of all Welland schools, a pass rate of 89% of that test. Centennial scored the highest EQAO score in the history of the school.

Nigel mentioned there has been a request for a Photography class to be offered at Centennial. He also mentioned that 60 students signed up for the Microsoft Course and test, which certifies a student by Microsoft standards. Students have been very involved in the community and have been getting involved in the Guys and Dolls Musical. A robotics will be starting at Centennial.

Professional Development :

Nigel spoke of the school's growth plan and each member was given a handout outlining "Student Success and Character Education". As Nigel guided the committee through the handout, members of

the committee had a first hand chance to learn of goals and achievements being made at Centennial.

“Needs Assessment, Smart Goals, Character Education Goal, School Learning Focus for 2015-16 and Staff Learning Goal for 2015-16” were the headings on the handout with helped described the school improvement plan 2015-16.

“Character Education Goal” included the Centennial's Safe Schools Committee. Nigel's wish is that all 800 students at Centennial would earn 70% or more.

Centennial's Prime Minister Justin Dube, shared the news about an assembly being held on Friday at 9:30am, with guest speaker Ian Tyson. ~~who was specially selected from the group of speakers at the Parent Council Conference. Just mentioned how after Ian spoke at the Parent Council Conference, Ian stayed afterwards to speak with students, student mentors and student council members.~~ The speaker Ian Tyson was met by the council students who attended the Ontario Student Leadership conference in Niagara Falls.

Hannah explained that the Safe Schools Committee at Centennial has more members this year and a “Kindness Wall” was created for students to be able to post expressions of kindness on.

Hannah also spoke about the “Chill Club” which is aside of the Safe Schools Committee which holds on a weekly basis on Friday's at lunch, a space for students whom might be overwhelmed, and give them a chance to chill, bake cookies, watch a movie or make bracelets.

Student Council Report :

Halloween dance was a great success. Ontario Leadership Conference was an excellent event to attend. “Spy vs Spy” event at Centennial helped students and teachers make new friend's by exchanging stickers and name tags. Grandparents Tea will be held in the cafeteria on **December 4th 1 till 2 pm.** Students will be providing music and taking pictures at this event.

Christmas Dance will be held on **December 10th**, donations will be made to the Hope Centre in lieu of the Julia Turner Hockey Game on **December 15th**. Wearing a Christmas sweater to the dance will be part of the dress code.

“Me to We Craft Show” **December 12th** . Cougar “Spirit Wear” will be available on December 2nd.

Nigel made mention that there has been interest shown in the last week for language courses for Italian and Japanese.

As a final note from Nigel, he mentioned about a visit from a Chinese Delegation at Centennial. It's possible the 10 to 20 students may come to Centennial for the ESL program ??

Feedback about the Parent Council Conference was shared with the committee by our Student Council Prime Minister's mom Jennifer. She spoke well of all, the handouts and information she came home with. She spoke well of the workshops and enjoyed many parts of what was offered at the conference. She shared a copy of a contract between parents and their children for cell phone usage. She enjoyed

hearing motivational speaker Paul Davis offer his presentation during the conference. The 30 minute workshops allowed for attendees the opportunity to take in a lot during the conference. Workshops choices were things like ABC Mental Health, Healthy eating...etc.

Round table :

Ian mentioned a babysitting service offered at E.L. Crossley which allowed for students to earn “community hours” . Ian asked members of the committee if there was any interest in having a similar program at Centennial and Nigel said it is doable.

Dan Nadeau asked about Food Drives information can be found on the current school newsletter. Dan spoke glowingly about Centennial's school colours. He felt the school colours were an excellent marketing tool to attract families to Centennial.

Shelly spoke about the Civics Course and opportunities for students to travel as a result of participating in the course.

MaryLou asked if students were offered a credit for traveling to the Vimy event ? No credit if offered.

Wendy spoke about the late bus from Centennial which leaves at 5pm and travels around the Niagara Region ensuring students a safe ride home after school .

Elizabeth asked about a battery recycling program at Centennial ? It's a health and safe issue. Would on-line shopping for Spirit Wear come to Centennial ? Not at this time.

MaryLou mentioned the the school's web site has old listing for athletics at Centennial and when would current athletic schedules be posted ??

Larry thanked Jennifer for sharing the good news about attending the Parent Council Conference .

Chair Ian..... asked the committee about holding a Prent Council Meeting in December or to say our next meeting will be January 25th at 7pm ?? The consensus agreed to not meet in December and agreed to meet on **January 25th**.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:01pm