

Welland Centennial Secondary
Parent Council Minutes
October 16, 2017
7:00pm
Room 116

1. Welcome – Introductions

12 Attendees : Mr. Nigel Evans (Principal), Mary Lou Harry, Amanda Deschenes (Secretary), Meghan Reichheld, Liz Maltais, Wendy Richards, Jeff Etling (Chair), Michelle Connelly, Sandra Zacharak, Bryan Marr (Prime Minister), Kelley Chuckry, Domenic Sardella (Head of Student Services)

2. Review and Adopt Minutes from last meeting

- Carried

3. Student’s Council Report – Bryan Marr, Student Council

- Catch a Slice of Cougar Life was held end of September. Great feedback, Grade 9s met a lot of people, team building activities enabled each student to meet every other Grade 9 student
- Four Grade 9 reps were elected. 29 letters of intent were submitted, which was highest amount applied in recent history
- Turkey Bowling was well received. Using a shuffleboard court, students rolled a frozen turkey, most points won the turkey. Staff raffle for a turkey was held as well
- Coming up: Haunted House/IT themed dance to be held on Oct 26, DJ Corey Motley formerly of z101 is the DJ. Great fundraiser for Student Council. Admission is \$5 if in a costume, \$7 if no costume

4. Chair’s Report – Jeff Etling

- Facebook and Twitter pages up and running. Please share with other WCSS parents.
- Email from Parent information Conference, held at Eden High School on November 1. Amanda will attend and bring back info from meeting. Shuttles from many schools and free childcare available, register online at www.dsbm.org/pic
- Each parent Council receives \$500 fund- what do we do with it? Jeff passed out suggestions

5. Administrator’s Report – Mr. Evans

- Tomorrow is “Snapshot”: somewhat of a literacy test preparation to enable administrators to have a guideline of how prepared students are up to end of grade 8. All DSBM schools taking part
- Last two years our enrolment numbers have been in excess of 200 for Grade 9 and 10. Next year the number is scheduled to be just over 200 for Grade 9s
- Parent teacher interviews on Oct. 19, sign up online-link on website
- Track and Field field nearing completion. We will be the regional site for athletics

- Nov 20 will be an assembly called “Social Media Fit”. Speaker booked at school to talk about managing online presence in a way that is to a student’s advantage in the future. Most students use social media and the purpose of this speaker is to educate on ways to properly and safely use social media. Feeder schools Grades 5-6 and a many high school students will attend. Possibility of an evening session open to the public
 - Centennial consistently over provincial standard in EQAO Mathematics results!
6. This month’s Featured Presenter is Domenic Sardella, Head of Student Services
- Domenic oversaw the change to automated parent-teacher meetings booking and ensures students choose courses that best suit the student’s goals/needs. Different programs are in place for each grade
 - The Guidance Office sends texts to grads through a Remind app, more easily accessed by students
 - All grade 12s were set up with Google Classroom accounts, based on their DSBN gmail account
 - Students need to take ownership of their education as they will be on their own after high school, the Guidance Counsellors support them in this
 - There is a calendar on the Student Services website that all students have access to. This calendar is updated with important dates for the college/university application process, scholarship deadlines, etc.
 - UIOP was Sept 25 and held at Centennial, we will likely hold it again next year
 - In house scholarship applications on Google Classroom will close Oct. 31 and reopen at another point in the school year for updates
 - 100+ scholarships are listed on DSBN website
 - Guidance also offers workshops to learn how to apply for college, back up plans, terminology
- Jeff suggested Wendy (nurse) as next speaker

Meeting end at 8:18pm

Next meeting: November 13, 2017 at 7:00pm