

## New Dundee School Council Meeting Minutes, September 17, 2019

### Attendees:

Rebecca B. (chair), Noel J. (secretary), Darlene R., Clare B., Brian Van G., Bonnie E., Julie B., Angie & Mike H.

Principal Laura Hagey-Nichols, Teachers Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Witzke

### Regrets:

Brittany L., Terry Y. (community rep)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order and everyone welcomed.

### 2. Review of School Council Roles & Membership

- School Councils Ontario: [LINK](#)
- School Councils WRDSB: [LINK](#)

### 3. Principals Report

- The present student population is 176.
- New Staff, 2 ECE's (early childhood educator), 1 EA (educational assistant) and Ms. Lernout who is the drama teacher.
- Team Approach
  - o The teachers and administration work as a team to try and construct a positive relationship with parents and have the best outcome for students.
  - o Encourage parents to work with the classroom teacher to resolve any challenges first, before bringing things to the Principal.
- Trees / Basketball nets
  - o The maple trees that were removed from the playground were confirmed to be diseased and were a hazard to student safety.
  - o New trees will be planted some time into the future.
  - o New basketball nets are being investigated for future playground improvements. Costs for these improvements will be brought to a future school council meeting.
- The website School-Day will still be the primary means of communication with the parent community.
- Planners
  - o The company which is responsible for supplying the student planners had a turnover of staff through the summer and the books were misprinted.
  - o The end result is that a different company is now publishing replacement books. The planners will be distributed when they arrive.
- Terry Fox Run, September 26<sup>th</sup>
  - o Mr. Heer started announcements advertising the run.
  - o Students are encouraged to bring a toonie as a donation for the Terry Fox foundation.
  - o The run takes place during the middle block.
  - o The goal for the school is to raise \$500.

### 4. School Council Finances

- Council account is at \$1,257.10
- WEFI account is at \$7,288.65
- Total funds = \$8,545.75
- The \$2,000.00 approved 2018-19 expenditure will be spent likely before the end of the month on new technology (Chrome books and iPads). These devices were ordered in June but have not been delivered yet.

- ~\$200 also to be paid for printing of signage for the Dragon Run.

## 5. Grants

- Bonnie Eby agreed support applications and administration related to accessing grants.
- **Julie will share with Bonnie the current listing of grant programs she has pulled together.**
- **Rebecca will share with Bonnie the school council grant files from previous years.**
- Opportunities to be discussed at the October meeting.

## 6. Activity Discussion

### • **Fund Raiser Ideas:**

- o Dance-A-Thon for Valentine's Day
- o Bag-2-School collection
- o Poinsettias at Christmas
- o Hanging baskets in the spring
- o Gift Cards
- o Greeting Cards
- o Gifts from kid's artwork
- o Food sales (but consider what other area groups/clubs/schools are selling)
- Selection of this year's fundraisers will be discussed at the next meeting

### • **School Council spending ideas:**

- o Ukulele's, purchase a class set (\$40 each, the current largest class is 29 students)
- o Wiggle stools
- o Phys Ed equipment
- o Additional technology?
- **Laura will check with staff for other ideas, school needs/wish list**

### • **Community Engagement/Activity Ideas:**

- o In recent years have hosted Math Nights, Art Night, parent speakers, movie nights
- o Movie Nights are very popular – plan to do 1-2 this year (late November?, possibly January?)
- o Science Fair/STEM event – UW has a canned STEM night, *Engineering Science Quest (ESQ)*. [UW LINK](#)
- o Create a New Dundee cookbook, with submissions from the school families
- o A literacy event - see if the public library would be involved?
- The ideas received through the Google form were reviewed. Additional suggestions from the school community are welcomed.
- **Everyone was asked to think about other ideas and bring them to the next meeting where further discussion and decision-making for the school year will occur.**

### • **Fall activity planning**

- It was agreed that we will explore the STEM night from UW's ESQ for the fall. If a booking can be secured for late October or November, we will go with this for a fall activity. If not, we will consider it for the winter and plan a movie night for the fall.
- **Laura will check with staff and identify available dates.**

## 7. 2019-20 Meeting Dates

- Next meeting: Tuesday October 8th, election of council roles to take place
- Dates for future council meetings to be set at the October meeting.

## 8. Open Floor

- Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Councils (WRAPSC) Meetings, [LINK](#) to October agenda.
- WRAPSC is a parent-run committee that brings together school council representatives from across Waterloo Region to share ideas and work together to improve the effectiveness of school councils. WRAPSC provides a place for school board staff and trustees to share information and consult with school councils on current issues and future plans.
- Every school council is encouraged to appoint a member to attend WRAPSC meetings to provide information to and from their school community. These are held the first Tuesday of October, November, February, April and May, and the second Tuesday in January. Unless otherwise noted, all WRAPSC meetings run from 7:00 p.m. to approximately 9:00 p.m. and are held in the library at Forest Heights Collegiate.