**AHS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Thursday, March 21, 2019**

**Present:** Liz Holtby, Ronda Theaker, Elena Parfenov, Romina DellaPia, George Voumvakis, Lori Freitas, Rosalba D. Caro, Paul Simmons, Kerri Thompson

1. **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME: ROUNDTABLE OF INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Approved by Rosalba and seconded by Romina

1. **APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING’S MINUTES**

Approved by Rosalba and seconded Romina

1. **STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT**

Spirit days run once per month with a grub week in January and February where pyjamas were allowed. These special days are communicated via announcements and they are working with the Journalism club to find other ways to get the message out.

Exam time – looking for de-stressor ideas

Grade 9s want to have a dance

1. **SHSM PRESENTATION:** Cooperative Education Program

Presentation by: Mrs. Carol Nerling

It was a program developed by the Ontario government introducing various pathway interests to students. They can select a sector and gain some certifications on a particular industry. 5 Sectors were chosen by AHS: Arts and Culture, Business, Construction, Health and Wellness, Transportation.

8-10 credits in grade 11 & 12 including

* 2 credit experiential learning
* 4 major courses / dual credits
* 2-3 “other” courses with embedded Contextualized Learning Activities (CLA), (English, Math, … )

Compulsory and elective certifications

Reach Ahead Experiences

42% of grade 11 and 12 students graduate with SHSM Certification

Students Shared their Experiences:

Arts & Culture – Nicole (gr. 11) works at SNAP Newmarket working with the journalism team.

Business – Christina (gr. 12) works at the Town of Aurora with the Event Planner there planning local events.

Construction – Arisa (gr. 12) applying for University Engineering. She works at the Town of Aurora, working with architectural details. You also do a lot of admin and business and take part in presentations.

Construction - Dylan – Southlake Regional Hospital (gr. 11) – IT – Meditech Conversion – learned a lot a about software and servers. He also explored many different units. He also visited the OR. Another great skill was learning to modify his words as he wasn’t able to provide help them medically, but he was often in contact with patients, but he wasn’t trained to assist patients medically, so he had to learn to call for help from the medical team.

Health & Wellness – Syndey & Daniella (gr. 11) – Southlake Regional Hospital – they had very extensive interview process. It was a great learning experience. Communication skills were very well developed. Employability skills – developed compassionate and positivity with the patients. They both had the opportunity to observe surgeries – what an awesome experience. They developed a lot of networking opportunities.

Construction - Russell (gr. 11) – King City Firehall – worked with other firefighters and learn their concepts and job. He enjoyed the experience and his initiative was his best skill. Monday nights he trained with them and ran through drills.

Russell (gr. 12 – took part in a 2nd co-op) – Lake St. George Field Centre – place to take student groups and got involved in their programs and running activities. He just loved it and learned a lot about environmental elements – he got to study fishing habitats. He is going to Fleming College for Fish and Wildlife Studies.

Business – Celina (gr. 11) – Town of Aurora – Corporate Communications Department – wasn’t sure what she wanted to do initially but it surprised her how much she is actually doing. She is doing so much hands-on experience. Great references that she has developed.

Co-op – David (gr. 11) – Wellington Public School – he wants to become a teacher. It was a great experience that he was very involved with the students. It helped him develop his English language skills. He is considering doing a 4-credit co-op for grade 12. Pathways – David’s pathway will be to go to college. There is no race to the finish line, so David can still become a teacher and start in college and transition to university.

Apprenticeship – masters of their trade through their work experience – Dante (gr. 11) – Construction – this year he is doing a 4-month co-op and next year he will take a 4-month co-op. By taking a 4-month co-op they will get to graduate with their grade 12 diploma plus a level 1 trade certification. He is working with a general carpenter helping build custom built homes and he is learning a lot. He is exploring what he wants to specialize in.

1. **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Other Ideas for Future School Council Presentations:**

* Next meeting a police officer will come in and speak to the parents about social media controversy – what to post and what not to post.

**Future School Council Meetings Dates:**

* May 30, 2019

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

Reporting Absences – send an email: aurora.hs@yrdsb.ca

Motion to adjourn at 8:30pm. Next meeting is scheduled May 30, 2019 at 6:30pm.