

Dr. J.M. Denison S.S. – YRDSB - Parent Council Meeting

Date: October 17, 2023
Location: School Library
Chair: Edna Bazante – Alex Corry
Minutes: Edna Bazante

Members: Vice-Chair: Edna Bazante
Treasurer: Carolyn Rowe
Members: Kris Maye, Sarah Dost-Townsley, Alice Souvannakhily

Staff: Principal: Alex Corry
Vice-Principals: Elissa D'Souza and Deborah Austring
Teaching Staff: Nicole Wallace

Regrets: Chair/Co-Chair: Chris Duggan, Lena Singh
Secretary: Christine Stafford
Members: Peter Holleley,

Absent:

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Council Vice-Chair Edna Bazante welcomed participants and expressed appreciation to the attendants of today's council. There was no need for introductions today.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Principal, Alex Cory

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

- The student council has two new members.
- The tricycle race by houses went well and students had fun as they followed the path.
- There would be a pumpkin carving contest by house.
- The student council is planning spring events.
- Recruiting for Grade 9 reps.
- The first Town Hall is on Wednesday, October 18 and the issues and comments arising from it will be shared with school staff by student council members.

- Field trips have started again: Grade 10 attended the Museum with their History classes.
- Staff and students are planning for International Trips.

TEACHERS REPORT

Nicole Wallace

- November 6 to 13, 2023 Intentions – through Google, my pathway planner
- February 2024 Course Selection due.
- IEPs are going out this week and must be returned by November 20.
- Krispy Kreme donuts for the Best Buddies fundraiser until this Wednesday, Oct. 18.
- Denison Food Pantry: Running of Alternative Education. This Friday, there will be a link on Google Classroom for families to fill out requesting food.
- MOBYSS – Mobile Youth Walk-In Clinic will be a Denison every other Thursday in the back parking lot starting on Oct 26. Students will use guidance slips. Support for students' physical and mental health. Needs demand to continue providing service.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Alex Cory

- October 18 – Interim Reports
- October 18 – Student council Town Hall
- October 19 – Award Assembly
- October 20 – PA Day
- October 23 – Denison will host the North Regional School Council Forum
- October 26 – Meet the Teacher
- November 1 – Take Our Kids to Work Day – Grade 8 visit Secondary Schools
- November 6 – Intentions Assembly
- November 9 – SI Term 2
- November 13 – Intentions / My Blueprint
- November 21 – School Council's next meeting
- November 20 to 24 OSSLT
- November 21-22 Final Report Cards go out
- November 29 Full Disclosure

POST-SECONDARY PLANNING – Pathway to Opportunity

Nicole Wallace

- Presentation Information and Handouts – Which pathway is more suitable for your child?
- The slide deck has been posted to the Grade 12 Google Classroom. Guidance has been flooded with lots of interested students engaged in understanding their options.
- Graduation Requirements: 30 credits, literacy, 40 community hours, 2 online credits.
- Post-Secondary Pathways: Apprenticeship, College, University and Workplace. Each option was presented and discussed by Nicole and the attendants.
- Steps to get post-secondary:
 - 1. Research program.
 - 2. Visit the school, preferably in person.
 - 3. Apply OUAC (University) dateline Jan. 15, 2024, or OCAS (College) dateline Feb. 1, 2024.
 - 4. Additional Requirements include portfolios, interviews, and supplementary docs.
 - 5. Accept offer and residence applications.
 - 6. Finances include OSAP, RESP, bank loans, family, and savings.
- Post-secondary fairs:
 - Ontario Colleges Oct 18-19 Denison Field Trip on the 19.
 - Ontario University Fair Oct 21-22 weekend no field trip for students.
 - Level up apprenticeship fair Nov. 15-16 will be announced on Google Classroom and Cash Online.

REGIONAL SCHOOL COUNCIL FORUM

- October 23 – Denison will host the North Regional School Council Forum

THE PARENTS REACHING OUT – GRANT (PRO-GRANT)

Alex Cory, on behalf of Lena Singh

- What would be the use of the grant money?
- We could partner with the student groups that are active in social justice, inclusion, and diversity to do something reflecting them – it has to be for parents' engagement
- We need to identify a community need

Note: Questions around school demographics and the possibility of a survey to identify needs were raised by attendants.

Action Item: Members to research ideas for [Pro Grant based on guidelines](#) and bring them to the next council meeting for decision to be carried.

TBD – November 21, 2023 council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business at this time

ADJOURNMENT

(*4. Moved by E. Bazante, seconded by C. Rowe

That Dr. J.M. Denison S.S. – YRDSB - Parent Council Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

- Carried -