

**Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting #4 – Monday, March 21, 2022**  
**Virtual Meeting 7:00 - 8:30pm**

**Attendees**

**School Administration:** Melissa Schmidt, Andrew Gazaneo, Katrina Morrison, Diane Conlon

**Parents:** Murli (Murlidharan) Sadanandam, (Amy) Qiong Gao, Kathy Duncan, Anita Lo, Alison Mohan, Liudmila Domakhina, Toni Chahley, Christine Irwin, Penelope Ortega

**Student Council:** Brian Park

	Item	Topic Lead
1	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b> <b>Meeting called to order at 7:03pm by Kathy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Motion to approve tonight's agenda: motion moved by Anita, seconded by Alison. Approved.</li><li>• Motion to accept November minutes as recorded moved by Alison seconded by Amy. Accepted.</li></ul>	Kathy Duncan
2	<b>Land Acknowledgement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Schmidt led the land acknowledgement</li><li>• We were informed that the Leadership Team reviewed sustainable developmental goals from UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People– specifically as to which articles can be incorporated directly into various subject areas. Department heads had 5 mins to brainstorm as to what could work in their classes.</li><li>• The work to meet our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation is ongoing.</li></ul>	Melissa Schmidt;
3	<b>Student Council Report</b> <u>General Events</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A review of the Constitution commenced this Monday as well as brainstorming around activities for spirit days and strategies to improve student engagement. The Council is hoping to have a school formal next school year. The Council is also reviewing the structure of student council as well as how the Council provides governance, and roles of the Presidents' Council in bringing all the clubs together. This will be informed by feedback from students; however, less than 10% responded to the student survey. The plan is to meet with stakeholders, review the model – try to figure out why students run and why they do not run? What is the composition of the student council – ethnic groups etc. Currently the Council is composed of all IB students.</li></ul> <u>Club Updates</u>	Brian Park

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applications to start new clubs are always being reviewed. There are many clubs operating with many activities for students to enjoy.</li> </ul>	
3	<p><b>Staff Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Morrison provided an update on Culminating days. The general view was that this pilot project was very successful, the time was used well to support at risk students to rescue credits and the process went smoothly for the most part. Semester 2 start-up provided a smooth transition for students. Staff is in the process of collecting data to prepare interim reports. Parents' night has been scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>. There is tremendous enthusiasm for clubs and teams. Over 100 students attended for badminton tryouts and the debate club is bigger than it has ever been, and spring sports will begin by the end of April/early May.</li> </ul>	Katrina Morrison
4	<p><b>Administration Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Gazaneo introduced himself.</li> <li>• A written report was provided as follows:</li> </ul> <p><b>GWWS School Council - Monday, March 21, 2022 - Admin Report</b></p> <p><u>Welcome Andrew Gazaneo</u></p> <p><u>Office Changes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Wendy Zhang (ASAS) has taken on an Interim <b>Secondary</b> Office Administrative Assistant (SOAA) position at Middlefield HS</li> <li>. Jo-Anne Renfer (Guidance) retired on December 31-position has been filled by Saiqa Dhukai</li> <li>. Roya Houshmand (Budget) has taken on a new role in YRDSB Permits department - this position was filled by Josie Marrella who has now moved into the ASAS role to replace Wendy Zhang</li> <li>. Luciana Matos Saade has moved into the Budget role, and we have Amanda Zegers in reception until at least May 13th</li> </ul> <p><u>OSSLT - Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All eligible grade 10 students and any unsuccessful grade 11 (and non-graduating grade 12) students will write</li> <li>• Date to be confirmed in the next week, likely late April</li> <li>• Currently running our after-school Literacy prep course</li> </ul> <p><u>PEAC Regional Symposium: Parent Voice Matters!</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Wednesday, May 4, 2022, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</li> </ul>	Melissa Schmidt Diane Conlon Andrew Gazaneo

- . GWW admin team and School Council parents are invited to attend
- . registration information will be coming soon

#### Semester 2 Interim & Mid-Term Reports

- . Interim reports will be sent home electronically March 30th.
- . Midterm reports will be sent home electronically Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>
- . questions or concerns – please contact the subject teacher

#### Teacher Interview Night

- . Thursday April 7, 2022
- . bookings through Edsby open on March 29 and close at 9:00 a.m. on April 4. Links will be sent home by teachers on April 4th and 5th.

#### Staffing & Timetabling for 2022-2023

- . course selections are completed
- . teachers have submitted their teaching preferences for the coming year
- . awaiting more information in April regarding SVS for next year prior to beginning staffing and timetabling process

#### Graduation & Prom

- . Graduation is scheduled for Tuesday June 28, Aurora Community Centre
- . Prom is scheduled for Thursday June 16, Paradise Banquet Hall

#### Significant Dates:

<b>April</b> 5 <sup>th</sup> – Waterloo Math Contest (Euclid)  7 <sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Interviews  <b>May</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> – PA Day  <b>June</b> June 1 <sup>st</sup> - Spring Concert June 8 <sup>th</sup> - Music BBQ June 9 <sup>th</sup> - Arts Night	12 <sup>th</sup> – Term 3 Ends - Waterloo Math Contest (FGH) 13 <sup>th</sup> – Term 4 starts 15 <sup>th</sup> - SFD: Good Friday  16 - School Council  June 14 <sup>th</sup> - Gr 9 EQAO Math (Day 1) June 15 <sup>th</sup> - Gr 9 EQAO Math (Day 2) June 16 <sup>th</sup> - Prom	18 <sup>th</sup> - SFD: Easter Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Mid-Term Reports Distributed 22 <sup>nd</sup> – SFD: Holy Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> - YRDSB Celebrating Success Awards evening  23 <sup>rd</sup> - Victoria Day 24 <sup>th</sup> – Community Involvement Forms Due  June 28 <sup>th</sup> - Graduation June 29 <sup>th</sup> - Last Day of School June 30 <sup>th</sup> - PA Day
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5	<p><b>The Third Path Framework presentation continuation–</b></p> <p>In following the academic path and focusing on our curriculum – we may miss critical opportunities to strengthen our students. The 8 conditions are hierarchical – safety, regulation, belonging, positivity, engagement, identity, meaning, mastery, (connections and relationships)</p> <p>We looked at David Tranter’s 3<sup>rd</sup> video. He reviewed that goal of education and what is taught, how it is taught and most importantly, why it is taught. The curriculum should be done in furtherance of the “why” of the curriculum – this is the development of the whole human being.</p> <p>The conditions support the development of well-being in all of its forms – hierarchically. Relationships are most critical. We looked at an integrative framework – what do students need to succeed generally. Each condition focuses on the nature of relationships.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Safety – safety to not safety from – emotional safety enables us to trust others. Resilience is born out of challenging ideas. Safety to be themselves – all aspects of themselves.</li> <li>2- Emotional regulation – co-regulation of difficult emotions, not the banishing of them.</li> <li>3- Belonging – makes us feel that we matter, we are motivated to learn. This is about the power of small moments of connection.</li> <li>4- Positivity – focusing on student potential. This emphasizes the educator’s mindset. Foundational 4</li> <li>5- Engagement – being fully open to learning, connected to others</li> <li>6- Identity – this is about having a gardener mindset – we create an environment where students can explore who they are. Appreciate the differences</li> <li>7- Mastery – every child should experience moments of success – to sustain motivation</li> <li>8- Meaning – making learning fulfilling. Each student must feel meaningful</li> </ol> <p><a href="https://youtu.be/6K2g1bRMzWM">https://youtu.be/6K2g1bRMzWM</a></p> <p>Educators can easily assume that students are choosing to ignore responsibilities. We learned about student depletion and how this impacts each child’s needs. Not every day is going to be a productive day for our students, supporting cognitive engagement, mental health needs etc are important.</p> <p>The Leadership Team met on March 21, 2022, to focus on identity – students are exploring who they are, their identities, culture, sexuality, heritage, they need to see</p>	Katrina Morrison

	<p>their identity in the curriculum and in their classroom. Racialized groups did not feel represented as students need to see themselves in the material in the classroom. They have been collecting student voice on the materials that we are using, reflecting on our biases and improving our practice. Text selection tool – to assist in purchasing new materials (important to de-streaming)</p> <p>April – Mastery, May – meaning</p> <p>This will be shared with the parents in the William Tell</p> <p>This will be shared with the rest of staff to be incorporated the wider curriculum.</p> <p>This initiative is 2-fold – by YRDSB and G. W. Williams (The Board brought David Tranter to speak to all schools), as this is connected to the anti-oppression work the Board is doing.</p>	
6	<p><b>Chair's report and New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kathy sent an e-mail out advising of the parent symposium – May 4 2022, 7pm-9pm. There is no further information currently but attention to the William Tell for updates.</li> </ul> <p>Next meeting – we will focus on equity work.</p>	Katrina Morrison
8	<p><b>Meeting Adjournment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting adjourned at 8: 20pm</li> </ul>	Kathy Duncan

Next Meeting: **Monday May 16, 2022**, at 7:00 pm

All Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.