

**Dr. G.W. Williams School Council**  
**Minutes from the meeting of**  
**Nov. 16, 2015**

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**Present:** Gayle Palmer, Christopher Hilmer, Yula Nouragas, Samantha Sample, Roy Sample, Judith Lalonde, Rosalyn Rees, Roger Rees, Dina Paraskevopoulos, Susan Tripp, Susan Turriff, Nicole Nunes, Jo Greig, Angela Leonard, Rod Leonard, Chris Baker, Brad MacIntosh, Haley Buck, Ummesalama Mandviwala, Sophia Paraskevopoulos

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**Welcome**

Roy opens meeting at 7:00 pm.

Agenda is amended to add the OSSLT results presented by Yula.

Unanimous approval of the amended Nov. agenda and of the Oct. minutes.

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**Student Council Reports**

**Ummesalama, Haley, Sophia**

- Semi-Formal on Nov. 26 has sold about 130 tickets; Student Council is hoping to involve more grade 9s next year.
  - “Moustaches” are being sold for 50 cents for Movember; all proceeds will be donated to Movember Canada; goal is \$200; there will also be a photo shoot Nov. 23-26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Holiday assembly on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> during periods 1 and 2; sign-up sheet outside of office for the talent show; auditions run by Student Council will be on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Aurora Lions’ Club drive Nov. 23-Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>; winter clothing and food drive
  - Initiative to collect donations to support a live wildcat in a shelter; goal is \$300.
  - Williams’ clubs will be represented in the Santa Clause Parade on Sat. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>; students may achieve volunteer hours by participating; promote Williams’ and hold a banner as they walk.
  - Pop tab drive will be set up in the cafeteria until the end of May.
  - Council has applied to set-up a snapchat account; currently have Instagram and twitter; hope to use snapchat as a further way to communicate with students.
  - Spirit Week will be Dec. 14- 18; Double Blue Day and Comfy Cozy Day and other simple ideas for students to participate in spirit days will occur.
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**EQAO and OSSLT Results**

**Brad MacIntosh-EQAO**

- Gr. 3, 6, 9 EQAO; gr. 9 test is specific to the content of grade 9 math; different test for applied and academic classes; 5% of math mark is from test.
- About 40 students wrote the applied test; 39% of students received a level 3 or higher, and 39% were level 2; some of those marks could be very close to level 3; target was 50%. Our results are lower than the Board average but higher than the provincial average.
- 90% of students who wrote the academic test received a level 3 or higher; target was 91%. We tied the Board results, and surpassed the provincial results.
- Math teachers discuss the results, see the questions most students answered incorrectly

and look at why that is.

- Strategies for improvement are discussed; integrate EQAO questioning and vocabulary into courses; provide students with the opportunity to solve open-ended problems and discuss their thinking; teachers in various subjects can use different scales on graphs; work with staff to address that math can be done by anyone and is not scary!

#### **Yula- OSSLT**

- Grade 10s write the same test for applied and academic classes; the test is a graduation requirement achieving a level 3 or higher; if not successful, students will write again the following year; if level 3 or higher is still not achieved the student will take a literary course in grade 12 to fulfil the graduation requirement.
- The literacy test assesses reading and writing skills up to the end of grade 9.
- The test is comprised of two 75 min. booklets, with a 15 min. break in between; accommodations are provided for students who need it, with double the time provided if necessary (among other accommodations).
- 129 grade 10 students wrote the test; 108 achieved level 3 or higher and 21 students were unsuccessful; 29 grade 11 or 12 students wrote; 19 students were successful and 10 were not.
- Strategy: lots of literary support is given in all subjects. Preparation will be moving to an 18-month process for all grade 9, 10 courses; OSSLT tasks and skills will be integrated into course work; goal is to increase students' comfort level.
- Last year's gr. 9 results will be assessed to target needs; practice tests will be given leading up to the test.
- Lit Blitz lessons started this month. Ms Borenstein, the school's Literacy teacher, has been working with specific students.

#### **Administration Report**

##### **Chris Hilmer**

- Mid-semester reports will be distributed Friday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>; page 3 contains the Response Form and students are asked to complete this and return the signed page to home room.
- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> is Grade 8 Student and Parent information Night; Patrick Manson, the head of technology, will have a promotional video that he is making with the students to showcase Williams'.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm Future Dates: **Jan. 18, 2016** –