

Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting
Monday May 26, 2020
Virtual via GoToMeeting platform

7:11 – Motion to start – Norm
2nd by Regan

7:12 Approval of minutes to September

7:13 Ashru – School spirit by social media
Virtual spirit week – collage on student Instagram (20 participants per day)
Music council has been collecting content from music students via Instagram
Groups still participating via social media = approx.
#gwwstuco = student council Instagram tag
#gwwseniors2020 for senior profiles

7:19 Move to accept Ashru report – Regan
2nd – Toni and Lynn Burton-Mulroy

7:20 Staff Report – Melissa
Busy even though school closed for classes
A lot of firsts to plan

School Closure

Extended march break wasn't expected
School staff learn at the same time as parents via media announcements by the minister
Details released afterwards
Access to schools for students still to come by ministry and board

- before students will be able to gather materials, staff will need to be allowed to prepare building for students to enter
- students\parents will need to register via Edsby for time to come to the building (detailed information will follow for all families once procedure is fully developed)
- teachers have only had four opportunities in the past eight weeks to grab teaching materials to conduct classes from home
- teachers had to sign up in small groups with a maximum of 15 minutes to grab what they needed from the school

Communications

- initially all info was board driven
- school Instagram account has been created as well as Facebook page
- William Tell newsletter restarted

7:27 Diane Conlon – intro of school cookbook, concept forwarded by teacher librarian
Contributions can be submitted through school email: dr.g.w.williams.ss@yrdsb.ca
With more information with this weeks Williams Tell newsletter
-hope to raise money for Aurora Food Bank and also lend support to local restaurants (encouraging people to submit pictures of their favourite take-out when they aren't cooking)

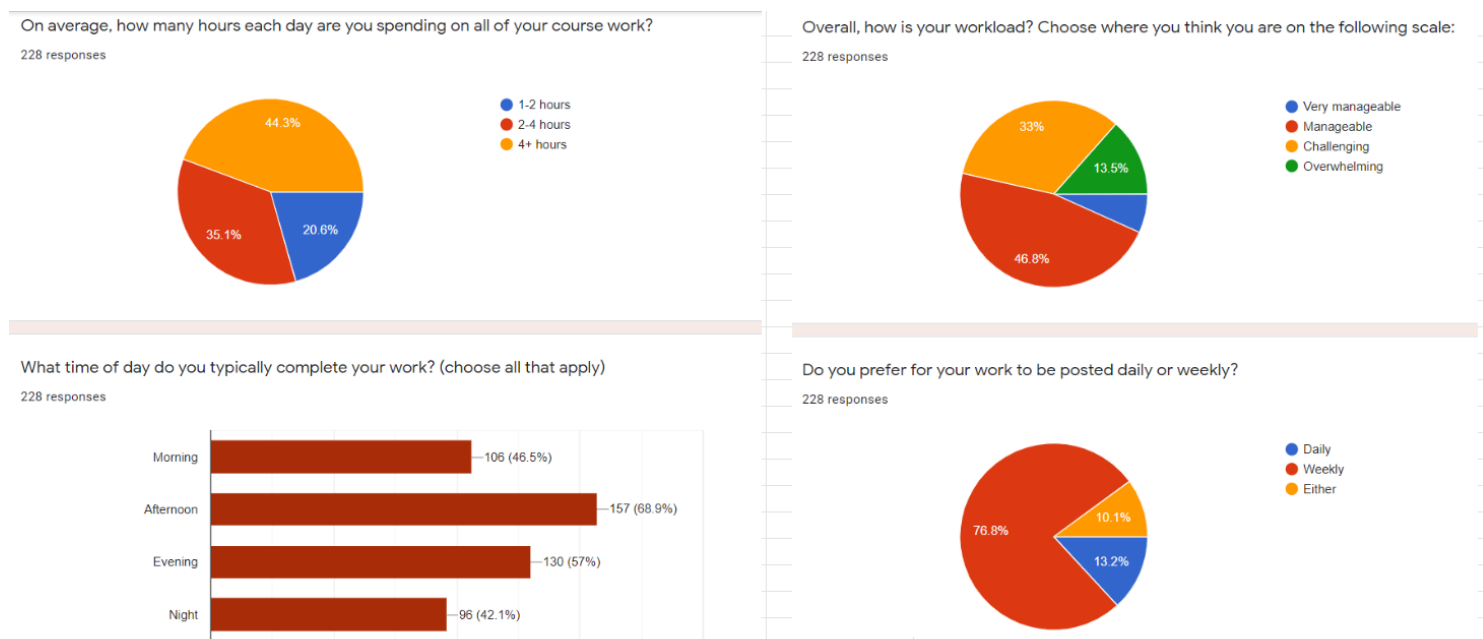
Staff all have published office hours daily on the board website where they are available for synchronous learning opportunities with students in real time. Staff also respond throughout the day.

http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/drgwwilliams.ss/NewsEvents/Documents/StaffOfficeHours_Covid.pdf

7:30 Diane Conlon – review of Learning and Caring Plan via board website
<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Pages/BoardNews/Coronavirus.aspx>

7:35 Melissa – recap of student survey
Some result shared in the Tell (see graphs below)
13% feel overwhelmed
33% were challenged

This data was shared with department heads and teachers last week. All staff have been asked to survey each of their classes to find out more specific information to respond to student needs and support their learners given this data shared by the student body.



Diane – shared link on GW website to source teacher's own contact hours

- recap of marks and assessments
- there are options to raise marks
- no exams at end of school year
- category weighting will be adjusted, this to be communicated by teachers to parents
- culminating activities may be adjusted due to difficulty/limitations of online learning

7:45 Melissa – exam days are now teaching days

Synchronous learning = realtime

YRDSB approach is asynchronous learning = Independent times as their own pace

Due to;

- Very much hinges on equal access/equity issues
- work (grocery and long term care)
- care of younger siblings
- technology limitations (bandwidth and devices)

More online/real time resources are being reviewed and utilized all the time by teachers

Info being shared amongst themselves

Emergency learning and development to adapt to the sudden changes

Business – shark tank at home

Coop – online activities

- o applications

Drama – online monologues

English – virtual book club; online collaboration and feedback in documents

ESL – prompting questions

Flipgrid

Geography – collating information

History – collating information from online resources int'l from museums, etc...

Math – CEMC course material from Waterloo with many interactive components
posting problems individually and working on each others.

Science – online simulations

Pear Deck

Community Classes

- Google Meets 3 x a week
- Bingo
- One on ones by phone and support calls to family members
- Virtual field trips

Tech Classes

Virtual reporting

Photography

Collages

Year End/Grad/Celebrations

Still actively planning, dependent upon current parent permissions and ministry direction

Yearbook is well underway, delivery to school not possible, as school is closed and

And delivery/distribution to students still to be determined

Grad: postponed till next year

Plans are in play to recognize students

New ideas are accepted, send ideas to school email address

8:06 Patrick – Next Year plans

two retirements this summer

Staffing driven by student selection of courses

~1,230 students for 2020/2021 school year

Due to increased student body there is now a five period day, no longer a shared lunch period for all students

drives need for five new teachers

timetables:

challenging due to current situation

usually takes about 2-3 weeks, fulltime by three people

needed to adjust with new tools and approaches

new course being offered “leadership and peer support”

new course: contemporary aboriginal voices – English course (same as ENG3U but with an aboriginal focus for materials and discussions)

Additional funding (??) for student success – good timing as students have expressed concern about time management, organization, etc..

September Start-Up

Details on what the school experience will look like is still dependent upon ministry and health officials then by board to the schools – safety is key given the current situation

8:20 Move to accept staff report – Norm

2nd – Lynn

8:22 Entry Interview for Melissa Schmidt – realtime anonymous Q&A with Melissa

https://padlet.com/melissa_schmid1/jh14qkepzcy2m6qq

- 8:35 New Business – Corry
Extended thanks to the staff for being adapting in the face of daily changes due to the current situation.
- 8:40 Move to end meeting – Regan
2nd - Lynn