

Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting Minutes
Meeting #3 – Monday, November 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting 7:00 - 8:30pm

Attendees

School Administration: Melissa Schmidt, Harmandeep Brar, Katrina Morrison, Diane Conlon

Parents: Murli (Murlidharan) Sadanandam, Margaret McKie, (Amy) Qiong Gao, Kathy Duncan, Anita Lo, Alison Mohan, Angela Yeoman, Jodie Montagnese, Dawn Levine, Liudmila Domakhina, Toni Chahley, Christine Irwin, Penelope Ortega, Scott Harrison, Zhiyi Luo (13)

Student Council: Brian Park

	Item	Topic Lead
1	<p>Welcome and Introduction Meeting called to order at 7:02pm by Kathy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve tonight’s agenda: motion moved by Jodi, seconded by Murli. Approved. • Motion to accept October minutes as recorded moved by Alison seconded by Jodi. Accepted. 	Kathy Duncan
2	<p>Land Acknowledgement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land acknowledgement was read by Ms. Schmidt who advised that the Land Acknowledgement is read each morning before Oh Canada at school but there has been discussion to move it to after Oh Canada. • Ongoing work is being done so that students understand the importance of the Land Acknowledgement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Treaty week – - Equity Committee messages are embedded every day in the messaging to students – a character quote from different cultures is shared. - Staff makes connections with the curriculum and the Land acknowledgement so that the conversation remains live 	Melissa Schmidt; Harmandeep Brar
3	<p>Student Council Report <u>General Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 29th costume competition. This was well attended and enjoyed by all. • November 19th there will be a soccer match between the senior team and the junior team. Students are being asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Aurora Food pantry. • November 26 anything but a backpack spirit day • Governance role – clubs’ funding requests are being reviewed • Award recipients are announced in the morning <p><u>Club Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Fist issue of Newspaper is being completed ○ Happy meal initiative is being explored 	Brian Park
3	<p>Mr. Harrison - Music Department presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various initiatives are taking place to fund the replacement of worn instruments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FlipGive – Goal of \$1500 for the year so far \$608.27 raised 	

	<p>https://flipgive.app.link/teams/join?joincode=J9PF97</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donations approximating \$2300 have been received - Draw for Gift Baskets – deadline for submissions is November 24th and the draw will take place on December 16 during the Virtual Concert. Margaret McKie has been taking the lead. Gratitude was expressed to Margaret for her leadership and hard work. - The sale of Music Merchandise raised \$755 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Harrison explained that Dr. G. W. William SS inherited High View SS music instruments prior to the shut-down. Our instruments are in poor condition and the cost of repairs is uneconomical and unsustainable. To this end: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there is a four-year plan for fundraising \$15K each year. - Bandaid grant – 15K application is being completed • Ms. Schmidt clarified that YRDSB does not support fundraising for various reasons arising from equity considerations and as such we would not be able to obtain a raffle license. • The Music Leadership team will be bringing forward these initiatives to the Parent Council first and then will advertise on social media platforms. 	
4	<p>Staff Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are working on mid-term reports to be sent home by end of the week • The Student Success Team will be coming together to identify students at risk to provide them with support. • OSSLT preparation is in ongoing and support for Grade 11 students is being provided. • Despite the restrictions, having the opportunity to participate in various activities and celebrate successes have made a huge difference in our students’ sense of belonging. • Motion to accept staff report moved by Amy and Jodi for seconding. Accepted. 	Katrina Morrison
5	<p>Administration Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Conlon shared that between November 25th- 30th mid-terms will be electronically distributed. • Culminating activities are scheduled at the end of the year after the official classes stop. January 26th will be the start for block 3 and blocks 3 and 4 will be participating on January 26th and 27th. Culminating support day will be on January 28th and students will not be in the building on that day. Culmination activities for Block 1 classes will take place on January 31st and February 2nd for Block 2. Virtual feedback sessions will take place on February 3rd. • Photo days have been scheduled for November 18th and 19th and schedules have gone out to teachers. There will be four camera stations. Session will be held in the afternoon until 4pm for virtual learners. Graduation photo sessions will be 15 mins long. February 14th is scheduled for semester II photo day and retake day. • YCOLs (300/150 model) are no longer supported with YCOL teachers. • The Remembrance Day assembly was done virtually, led by History Head supported in-class by teachers. 	Melissa Schmidt Diane Conlon Harmandeep Brar

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Brar spoke of preparation for Literacy testing for Grade 11s on November 25. The two after-school literacy classes are full. That day will be an asynchronous learning day for students not being tested. 151 chromebooks are being delivered to the school to be used for the test. The Grade 11s have done a practice test – how to log on and how to use the equipment and how to manipulate the accommodations. • Grade 8 information night will be held virtually – staff are creating a video to showcase what we do at the school that will be posted on November 25th. It will introduce student voices and showcase programs. A FAQ will be posted at the end of the video and answers will be posted to the website. • Ms Schmidt spoke of Awards week focusing on character awards, equity, and recognizing student achievement in different ways including an environmental component. The plan is to create an Honour Roll wall to be updated each year. • The yearbook group is being reconstituting now that there is content for the yearbook. • The IB assessment for incoming students is being changed. Interested grade 8 students have been invited to participate in the assessment, some are coming Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning. They will have to prepare a portfolio comprising of three things that represent them as a learner. The objective of the change is to attract global learners. Acceptances will be communicated in mid-December. • De-streaming is continuing for Grade 9 to next year. All our Grade 9 classes will have 25 students. 116 into the program. 4 full classes 100 so next year we may accept 125 students. • Regarding Positions of Responsibility – Department Heads need to reapply – there are several positions posted and interviews will be held soon. • Budgets have not been finalized and made available to schools yet so Departments do not know what they can spend on; however, new courses for the following year include– Grade 12 Kinesiology, Grade 12 Accounting, Grade 11 – Vehicle Ownership, grade 10 Tech design. Course selection was determined by viability and practicality in getting courses ready by mid-December. Work had been done with Department Heads, informed by student polls and interest, and how many students would be going into a particular program. • Motion to accept the Administration Report made by Penny and seconded by Anita. Accepted. 	
6	<p>The Third Path Framework presentation– Katrina Morrison</p> <p>The Third-Party Framework focuses on relationship building and building an ecosystem for flourishing for a school climate for success as developed by Dr. David Tranter. This included engagement, identity, mastery, meaning, safety, regulation, belonging, positivity and engagement (core belonging, regulation, safety, meaning).</p> <p>The true goal of education is not simply to deliver the curriculum but development of human beings. The curriculum is the what, the tool and done in service of the why which is human development.</p> <p>Some of our goals are to Identify conditions that support the development of well-being in all its forms recognizing that relationships are the single most critical requirement for well-being.</p>	Kathy Duncan

	<p>This is an integrative framework -what do students need to succeed in general – not just academically but determining what are the ingredients for fertile soil.</p> <p>Condition 1 – safety physical safety and emotional safety do not take risks required to learn. Safety to and not safety from. Safety to bring their authentic self at school.</p> <p>Condition 2 – regulation – emotional regulation enables us to direct our attention. This is co-regulation of difficult emotions, not the banishing of them.</p> <p>Condition 3- Belonging.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6K2g1bR</p> <p>Areas of need – increased feelings of loneliness, not thinking there was a caring adult in the building, sadness, Teachers viewed the entire video today at the PA.</p> <p>Discussions revolved around how the students are coming to teachers with concerns, school climate survey data, how teachers learn to recognize when the students need help, strategies for setting up classrooms etc.</p> <p>School climate survey data is with the Board and will be released by our January meeting. The hope is to build on equity discussions.</p> <p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new business 	
8	<p>Meeting Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to adjourn by Jodi at 8:36pm and seconded by Amy 	Kathy Duncan

Next Meeting: **Monday January 17, 2022** at 7:00 pm

All Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.