## Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting Minutes Meeting #1 - Monday, Sept. 27, 2021 Virtual Meeting 7:00 - 8:30pm

## **Attendees**

**School Administration:** Melissa Schmidt, Harmandeep Brar, Katrina Morrison, Diane Conlin **Parents:** Corry Patterson-Goncalves (Outgoing Chair), Murli (Murlidharan) Sadanandam, Sara Helling, (Amy) Qiong Gao, Kathy Duncan, Anita Lo, Alison and Peter Mohan, Angela Yeoman, Jodie Montagnese, Mary Zizakovic

Student Council: Eunice Han

	Item	Topic Lead
1	<ul> <li>Welcome and Introduction</li> <li>Attendees introduced themselves.</li> <li>Motion to approve tonight's agenda: Kathy and seconded by Anita.</li> <li>Motion to approve May's minutes: Kathy and seconded by Peter.</li> </ul>	Corry Patterson- Goncalves
2	Land Acknowledgement     Video and acknowledgement by YRDSB students	Melissa Schmidt; Harmandeep Brar
3	Student Council Report  General Events  Student council elections are taking place tomorrow, September 28, 2021:  Club Updates  Working on setting up various clubs; initial clubs to be announced Sept. 28  Clubs require a staff advisor  Motion to receive the Student Council Report: Kathy and seconded by Anita.	Eunice Han
3	Council Elections	Melissa Schmidt

## 4 Staff Report

- One of the biggest challenges in supporting students was understanding the timetable
- Katrina Morrison
- The energy of having all of the students back in the building has been wonderful there is lots of hope and positivity
- Lots of new faces due to increase in student population.
- A number of sports teams have started; there has been lots of uptake and interest from students
- There may be some intramural sports being offered pending COVID 19 restrictions around indoor sports
- Motion for Staff Report: Patricia and Margaret seconded.

## 5 Administration Report

- The School Start up Guide is on the <u>school website</u>, it contains information on policies and procedures.
- The best place to get information on upcoming important dates is the main landing page on the school's website, in the calendar.
- Medical form completion and submission forms for students with known medical conditions have been sent out; call the main office as there is a specific form for each different condition (ie. Seizure Disorders, Anaphylaxis).
- Daily Announcements are now on the school website in the News and Events tab
- Safety Week started today lockdown drill, fire drill, etc, all of which are done with social distancing
- Due to the timetable structure and length of classes, there are sometimes two teachers in the classroom, as one teacher requires a break from teaching to meet required prep time.
- As mentioned, the Daily Announcements are now on the website which is helpful for those students doing online learning as well as students on site who may have missed what was said
- Arrivals and Departures Starting today we no longer had to see screening confirmation, although daily screening still has to be done; we are still at all three entrances making sure people are sanitizing
- Departures all routes around school are now one way; no entrance to parking from driveway at east side of school; this is helping with safety and ensuring people are not getting jammed up; we are also seeing the impact of people not stopping on Dunning; also, most traffic is gone within 10 minutes of end of day, so if possible it is good to delay your arrival to pick up your students by 10 15 minutes after school ends.
- First National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30; The Board will be
  doing a broadcast to commemorate the event; We will be doing more as a school we have organised subject specific Truth and Reconciliation activities ie for
  business, tech, math and gym; we will be highlighting Indigenous voices and their
  stories for the entire week.
- We have 1357 students this year; and 120 staff.
- Remote learning numbers have been fluctuating.
- The first COVID case in the school this year was announced yesterday; the protocol is a bit different due to advent of vaccinations; some have to self-isolate,

Diane Conlon

Harmandeep Brar

Melissa Schmidt

	<ul> <li>but it has been fairly easy to pivot because of plans which were already in place.</li> <li>There has been lots of talk about Mental Health in the first few weeks.</li> <li>We have been addressing challenges around breaks and numbers of people in the halls because of the sheer number of students in school; working on alternatives such as movement breaks in the classrooms.</li> <li>Literacy Test coming both Fall and Spring - the school only has 30 Chromebooks which are needed for the students to complete the test; Council voted to put forward up to \$900 of funds which have been sitting towards Chromebooks.</li> <li>There may be a presentation about apprenticeships available in the fall, both in classes and for parents.</li> </ul>	
6	New Business  No new business and nothing in the mailbag.	Corry Patterson- Goncalves
8	Meeting Adjournment  Kathy adjourned the meeting at 8.54 pm.	Kathy Duncan

Next Meeting: Monday, Oct. 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm

All Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.