

Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting Minutes
Meeting #6 – Monday, May 17, 2021
Virtual Meeting 7:00 - 8:30pm

Attendees

School Administration: Melissa Schmidt, Harmandeep Brar, Katrina Morrison, Margaret McKie, George Tsigaridis

Parents: Corry Patterson-Goncalves (Chair), Patricia Kurtes, Kathy Duncan, Anita Zhang, Chris Baker

Student Council: Bruce Yu

	Item	Topic Lead
1	<p>Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees introduced themselves. • Motion to approve tonight’s agenda: Kathy and seconded by Anita. • Motion to approve March’s minutes: Kathy and seconded by Anita. 	Corry Patterson-Goncalves
2	<p>Student Council Report</p> <p><u>General Events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student council executive position elections (President, Vice-President, Secretary & Treasurer) are taking place soon: campaigning will start on May 31st and elections end on June 11th. ○ Elections for general positions (e.g. grade 10 rep) will be held in September. ○ Student council is planning a series of wellness posts and book recommendations on Instagram. ○ Looking at the possibility of having alumni come back for an Instagram takeover to answer questions from current students. ○ Currently planning events for a virtual student appreciation day. <p><u>Club Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Change by Coffee: organizing an interactive event with teachers (e.g. competing in trivia) with the goal of fundraising for bundles to donate to people in need. ○ Peer Mentors: created a BLM resource site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to receive the Student Council Report: Kathy and seconded by Margaret. 	Bruce Yu
3	<p>Staff Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret updates the committee that the office staff are responding to some questions from the community regarding report cards. Everyone has settled in to their virtual roles. • Moving along with graduation. Have decided as a school with the graduation committee to get lawn signs to take home and put on their front lawn. • Delivery date will be announced soon with gown and lawn sign pick up drive through. • Half of the pictures were done but the other half were not, due to the lockdown. Students will drop off their own pictures upon pick up and that picture will be used for the virtual ceremony. • A few more surprises but will keep them a surprise. • Maria is still coming in on Fridays and dealing with receivables and PO’s. • Office staff enter building when needed, otherwise work from home. • The parking situation is going well. 	Margaret McKie

have an opportunity in August to determine their learning model. This allows all students to be connected to their home school.

- Based on the feedback the Board gathered from the community over the course of the year, families requested students to be able to switch more readily between face to face and virtual learning as things changed and to access the continuity of remote learning as needed.
- Thus, all students will be tied to teachers in their own schools.
- Parents will not need to make this choice until about August.
- Just waiting for more stability. The Board is still tweaking on the model and the plan as they promised that schools will not have to timetable twice.

De-Streaming for our Incoming Students

- Look at different streams.
- Academically stream across the Board, 55% go on to confirm an acceptance to university. 5.3% confirm an college acceptance and 13.9% of applied post secondary but no confirmation of where they are going. 25% don't apply to post-secondary.
- Applied stream we have some who carry on and move across and they are able to apply to university at 4.2%, 10.9% to college and 29.3% who don't even apply to post secondary education.
- Essentials have significant gaps in their learning, below their grade level. Very, very small percentage to move on.
- Overall, grand total. 39.5% of students go to university. 42.7% don't. Info we have they may go later. 6.4% confirm an Ontario college and some we know apply but don't know what they did.
- PISA – International testing organization looks at comparing across countries.
- They say successful PISA countries also invest something else into their education systems. High expectations of all students. Schools and teachers in this organization don't allow struggling students to fail, they don't allow them to repeat a grade, they do not transfer them to other schools nor do they group students into different classes based on their performance
- Thus, we need to understand how we complete on a global scale when students from other countries are applying to our universities and colleges.
- We know that indigenous, black and racialized students, students with disabilities are disproportionately maneuvered into lower stream programs and this starts from a very young age. Thus, we are working on this across our system.
- We are working on effective instruction for the students to be successful and feel confident moving on to the next grade.
- These stats don't include skilled trades.
- Funded heavily on the Transportation courses along with Construction for students heading into apprenticeships.
- Harmandeep asks who are students and what type of experience do they have upon completion/graduation and what opportunities do they have coming out of the programs in high school? Thus lets collect this data and see who is being successful or not and is this being an example of destreaming or upstreaming of certain types of students.
- Textbook Collection - Gathering data from staff of what resources they have lent out this semester. Gathering info now with class lists will be provided and in June when all wraps up staff are ready for the new year.
- School calendar was shared with staff and admin team.
- School Council dates tentatively scheduled for next year are September 20, 2021/October 18, 2021/November 15, 2021/January 17, 2022/March 21 2022/May

Harmandeep
Brar

	<p>16, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits will be put in place for these dates for in-person meetings. Motion to accept Administration report: Kathy and seconded by Margaret. 	
4	<p>Anti-Black Racism Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaged in learning began in March, 2021. Need to understand strategy and why we are doing it. Two parts to this. Need background and strategy itself. Shared the Tammy Turner video from YouTube (Dismantling Anti-Black Racism Strategy). Racial Literacy background report from YRDSB staff, students. Why black students are unsuccessful in schools. A few examples were given. When we give these perceptions then they will never be able to move forward. They persist in our society and in our schools. 	Harmandeep Brar
5	<p>Text Selection Tool</p> <p>Presentation shared</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important to expose our children to all of this Connects to our plan as a Board. Taking a critical look at what we can fix and how we can move to the expectations. How we are able to articulate these new resources. Main text or articles, for example. Challenged the dept heads for the coming year by using this info. 	Melissa Schmidt
6	<p>Staffing & Timetabling for 2021-2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covered earlier in the Administration Report. 	
7	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new business and nothing in the mailbag. 	Corry Patterson-Goncalves
8	<p>Meeting Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corry adjourned the meeting at 8.54 pm. Motion to adjourn: 1st Kathy and seconded by Chris. 	Corry Patterson-Goncalves

Next Meeting: **Monday, May 17, 2021** at 7:00 pm

All Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.