

Huron Heights Secondary School Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 24, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Huron Heights S.S. Library

Attendees: Corey McArthur, Heath Weir, Nicole Meltzer, Ulrike Koehler, Julie Sangster, Marian Phillips and Anne Page

Meeting called to order by: Nicole Meltzer

Student Council Report (as presented by Heath Weir)

- Report on Spring Fling dance that took place on March 20th
 - High turnout (approx. 200 students)
 - Effective promotion through social media and posters
 - Well-organized setup
 - Positive feedback from attendees
 - Considerations for next year's event:
 - adding more variety of food options
 - offer free refreshments (by increasing the dance ticket price)
 - introduce more interactive activities to maintain high energy levels throughout the event (ie. raffles, competitions, etc.)
 - collect student feedback to assess specific preferences for future events
- Upcoming Student Council activities
 - Constitutional Review scheduled in April 2025
 - Purpose: to assess and update the Student Council Constitution
 - All members are encouraged to participate
 - Election Timeline
 - Proposed election date: late May 2025 (for next year's Grade 10, 11 & 12 classes - Fall 2025 Grade 9 students to vote in September 2025)
 - All students will be encouraged to participate through social media, announcements and posters
 - Students will prepare candidate applications and campaigning regulations
 - Old Student Council/New Student Council Meeting
 - Date: May 29, 2025
 - Purpose: To facilitate a smooth transition of responsibilities and provide guidance from outgoing members to new council members
 - Final Student Council meeting for 2024/2025
 - Date: June 12, 2025

- Agenda: Final reflections, transition notes and closure of the council term

Staff Report - Heath Weir

- Report on inquiries from Huron Heights staff for Parent Council
 - The Special Education Dept. has asked for help in securing 2 projectors
 - Approx. cost per projector: \$800 (\$800 x 2 = \$1600 requested)
 - **ACTION ITEM (Nicole):** Check current balance of Parent Council account re: possible monies to contribute to projectors
 - Margaret Watts is running a Prom Wear Drive and is looking for prom dresses, suits, accessories and women's and men's shoes. A poster was included in the Community Bulletin to advertise the drive. If members of Parent Council can help with any donations and/or advertising it would be appreciated.
 - Sue Menczel asked if Parent Council would help organize and contribute funds to help pay for a Fun Day in June. She mentioned possibly renting inflatables. Corey McArthur noted any inflatable company hired would need to carry a \$5 million liability insurance policy.
 - **ACTION ITEM (Nicole):** Email Sue Menczel and ask if it would be possible to streamline the Fun Day with the May 1st Parent Engagement presentation.
 - Jon Gorman noted that course verification will be coming out soon and parents will be able to make changes to students' choices as needed.
 - Kelly Bradshaw also stated information about course verification will be going out this week. She directed a question to Alex Wright about letting the Parent Council know the May 1st Parent Engagement evening itinerary (presentation by Jennifer Casa-Todd regarding social media).
- Heath Weir also offered the following updates:
 - Huron sports teams are doing very well
 - Wins for the hockey team & wrestling team
 - Boy's and girls' rugby is starting
 - Track and field is already up and running
 - Girls' flag football has come back to Huron
 - Girls' soccer and ultimate frisbee are starting as well
 - Many graduating Huron football players have been signed to Canadian and American post-secondary schools
 - Update on new athletic field
 - The \$3 million funding for the field must come from the government to a non-profit (which will be the Newmarket Soccer Club)

- An announcement about the funding will be made end of March/beginning of April 2025
- Update on general conditions of Huron Heights S.S.
 - It appears that things are moving along well at the school (no issues to report on)
 - Challenges related to the student bathrooms also seem to be a bit better
- Looking ahead to a Huron community event in Fall 2025
 - Coach Weir stated that on Friday, Sept. 19, 2025 Huron will host junior and senior football games against Holy Trinity (Durham)
 - This is the only time in the season when the jr. and sr. teams will play at home on the same day
 - It was suggested to maybe consider the following community engagement to coincide with these games:
 - Thursday night: school dance
 - Warrior walk through (at school)
 - Tie in a community event (food trucks, vendors, etc.)

Principal's Report - Corey McArthur

- Interim reports went out on Friday, March 21, 2025
- Course verification for the 2025/2026 school year will be sent out this week.
- Parent/guardian/teacher conferences will be taking place on April 3, 2025 from 6 - 8 p.m. Appointment bookings will be available through EDBSY as of 4 p.m. on March 27, 2025.
- Midterm reports will be sent out electronically the week of April 24-28, 2025.
- The deadline for submitting community involvement hours is May 1st, 2025. Grade 12 students need to submit their hours by the deadline to ensure their graduation requirement is confirmed. Grade 9, 10 and 11 students can still submit hours after May 1st.
- Staff will have a P.A. Day on May 5, 2025. Staff will be focussed on personal development planning.

School Council Report - Nicole Meltzer

- Nicole informed Parent Council that Sarah Carter will be stepping down from Parent Council until further notice.
- Nicole stated that should any members of Parent Council wish to email her about anything council related, please send it to: cole_rmt@yahoo.ca and put HURON HEIGHTS in the subject line to ensure she sees the email.
- Parent/guardian/teacher conference evening:

- A Parent Council table will be set up and needs to be staffed during the conference period. If anyone is available to help, it would be much appreciated. Monetary donations will also be welcomed at the table for the Teacher Appreciation event at the end of the school year.
- **ACTION ITEM (Anne and Marian):** Follow up with Nicole and let her know your availability for staffing the Parent Council table.
- **ACTION ITEM (TBD):** Inquire with the Hospitality Dept. if they can prepare cookies to be handed out at the Parent Council information table.
- Possible Community Event on May 1st, 2025:
 - All parties present had an in-depth discussion about the possibility of organizing a community event to coincide with the May 1st Parental Engagement presentation.
 - Corey McArthur noted that he would check with Alex Wright about the confirmed speaker itinerary for the parental engagement evening and report back to Parent Council members for planning purposes.
 - Possible community event itinerary for May 1st:
 - Proposed location: North staff parking lot (outdoor event)
 - 4 - 4:30 p.m.: Event set up (vendor load in and set up)
 - 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.: Event (food vendors, trunk sale, artisans, possible activities for students)
 - 6:30 - 7 p.m.: Transition period for event tear down and for attendees to move indoors for parental engagement presentation
 - 7 - 8:30 p.m.: Presentation(s) by Jennifer Casa-Todd (TBC)
 - Contingency plan (weather permitting) to be determined upon event confirmation
 - Possible event volunteers:
 - **Action Item (Heath):** Heath offered to talk to the Warriors Football Booster Club about volunteering for the event
 - Other suggestions for sourcing volunteers: students who need community hours, Parent Council members, Student Council and school group members
 - Possible food vendors:
 - Nicole stated that she has contact information for the food vendor(s) they have used in the past.
 - **Action Item (Anne and Julie):** email Nicole so she can share the food vendor list with both of them so they can help look at potential event food vendors.
- Proposed Teacher Appreciation Breakfast on June 26, 2025:
 - Nicole discussed with the group the desire to organize a teacher appreciation event before the end of the school year. Multiple dates were

discussed but the date that seemed to offer the greatest opportunity to piggyback on an event that all staff will already be attending is the P.A. Day on June 26th.

- Corey McArthur suggested to possible itinerary:
 - (7 - 7:30 a.m.) - 8:45 a.m.: Event set-up (Corey is in the office early and can grant access to Parent Council members between 7 and 7:30 a.m.)
 - 8:45 - (9:15 - 9:30 a.m.): Thank you breakfast is served and social time for the staff
 - 9:30 a.m.: Staff begin P.A. Day schedule
- Corey also noted that in the past coffee and tea have been supplied so Parent Council may only need to supply food for the event
 - **Action Item (Corey):** Confirm if coffee and tea will be offered again this year and update Parent Council.
- Other business presented by Nicole Meltzer:
 - Nicole discussed possible ways of using the PRO Grant for the proposed community events
 - **Action Item (Nicole):** Email Alex Wright about the PRO Grant status
 - Nicole inquired about the status of online monetary donations for the school and Corey noted that none have been received to date.
 - Nicole presented parental inquiries she has received regarding lengthy response time for grades being returned to students. Corey stated that while teachers are not required to post grades on Teach Assist (accessible to the parents), they are required by union rule to relay grades to students in a timely fashion. Corey suggested that if a parent has an issue that they contact the teacher first and if the situation is not remedied, to then reach out to a school administrator.
 - Nicole asked about the current need for food donations for Huron families. The group discussed and re-read the list included on the March 21st Community Bulletin.

Meeting was adjourned at approx. 7:55 p.m.

Action Items

Parent Council

- Assist at Parent Council Information Table on April 3rd if you are available
- Advertise and donate to the Prom Wear Drive if able to do so
- Look into ways to assist at the Fun Day in June 2025 (upon event confirmation)
- Email Nicole Meltzer for anything council related at: cole_rmt@yahoo.ca and put HURON HEIGHTS in the subject line to ensure she sees the email.
- Assist with event coordination and execution if possible (re: proposed May 1st and Teacher Appreciation Breakfast events)
- Brainstorm community event tie ins for Sept. 19, 2025 (jr. and sr. home football games)

TBD

- Inquire with the Hospitality Dept. if they can prepare cookies to be handed out at the Parent Council information table on Parent/guardian/teacher Night.

Corey McArthur

- Check with Alex Wright about the confirmed speaker itinerary for the Parental Engagement evening and report back to Parent Council members
- Confirm if coffee and tea will be taken care of for staff on the P.A. Day (June 26) and report back to Parent Council

Nicole Meltzer

- Check current balance of Parent Council account re: possible monies to contribute to projectors for the Special Education Dept.
- Email Sue Menczel and ask if it would be possible to streamline the Fun Day with the May 1st Parent Engagement presentation
- Email Alex Wright about the PRO Grant status

Anne Page

- Follow up with Nicole and let her know your availability for staffing the Parent Council table on Parent/guardian/teacher Night.
- Email Nicole Meltzer re: food vendor contact list for possible event on May 1st

Marian Phillips

- Follow up with Nicole and let her know your availability for staffing the Parent Council table on Parent/guardian/teacher Night.

Heath Weir

- Upon community event confirmation on May 1st, reach out to the Booster Club about volunteering for the event

Julie Sangster

- Email Nicole Meltzer re: food vendor contact list for possible event on May 1st
- Draft and send out Parent Council meeting minutes