

Markville School Council Meeting

Monday February 4, 2019

Welcome – Patricia Obadia

Minutes Approved – General Council

Literacy Test Update - David McKillop

- Goal of literacy test (OSSLT –Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) is to determine whether a student has the literacy skills required to meet the standard for understanding reading selections and communicating in a variety of writing forms expected by the Ontario Curriculum across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9.
- over 90% of Markville students write the test in their grade 10 year
- Markville does a monthly writing task to help prepare for the literacy test, staff collect an exit survey from students
- each monthly task focuses on a different reading strategy or skill
- there will be an after school program to support students who have been identified in the diagnostic test
- Literacy Blitz –all eligible students participate and receive a booklet with links and practice questions
- A letter will be sent home in mid-March with the writing location and to remind families of dates and times
- There will be an assembly on March 25th to provide information, instructions and answer questions
- OSSLT this year will be Wednesday March 27th, 2019

Questions

What if a student has an IEP? Students with IEPs will receive accommodations as outlined on their IEPs

What happens if a child fails the test? If a student is not successful in grade 10, the school will assess the individual students and determine plans based on the student needs. They may take classes offered by the school, or retake the test. It is a requirement to graduate.

-Do universities use the marks for admissions? No, the school simply records as a pass or fail type grade.

Student's Report –Michael Vlachopoulos

- students are unable to present at meeting, so VP Michael Vlachopoulos shared
- First set of high school exams were in January – study skills workshops offered for grade 9s because for many of them it was their first experience writing exams
- Resiliency project –every morning students would set goal and reflect on it at the end of the day
- In January, before exams, therapy dogs were brought in to assist and comfort students

-Holidays –Markville recognized and celebrated various holidays and participated in the food drive, sold holiday cards with money being donated to local charities
-Teams and Clubs –basketball team, volleyball etc DECA team is working towards provincials, musical theatre performances

Staff Report –Jesse Bramer

-transition to My Pathway Planner (My Blueprint) online resource to track courses
-students sign in with their board username and password
-students have been busy with exams, but now that exams are over, students should be looking forward to thinking ahead, course selection and planning

Principal Profile –Patricia Obadia

-results from November data were compiled to create list of qualities deemed important by our community

Vice-Principal's Report

-recent events include: white ribbon campaign, hour of code, festive sounds, SHSM Specialist High School Major Program assembly, grade 8 open house meeting, construction in parking lot over the summer may affect permits and summer programs, course selection deadline is February 22th

UPCOMING DATES

Feb 8 –DECA Competition

Feb 12 –Immunization clinic

Feb 13 –American Math Contest, Parent Course Selection Evening

Feb 14 –Canadian Computing Competition

Feb 21 –Semi Formal

Feb 22 – Course Selection Deadline

March 7-16 Europe Trip

March 11-15 -March Break

March 19 - Interim report

March 27 –Literacy Test

April 3 –Parent Engagement Night –Parent Interviews

Parent Questions & Issues –

-For our PRO Grant Evening, we will be hosting a wellness evening where we will be connecting students and families with community resources. If anyone has an area where they would like more information or support, please let Ellen Viero know.

-Or, if you have any contacts of agencies that can support our students and families, please let Ellen Viero know as well.

After Meeting – executive stayed to discuss budget and PRO grant ideas, other council members were invited to attend.