

## **Markville Council Meeting Minutes January 22, 2018**

**7:15** -Nalini called meeting to order

**Approval of Agenda** -approved

### **Attendees**

Ellen, Ginger, Christine, Charles, Nalini, Gavin, Vicky, Peter, Min, Ravi, Hitendra, Vanessa, Vidia, Vivien, Gillian

### **Student council report**

- Boris spoke about technology -Markville SAC instagram
- past two weeks have been health and wellness weeks -stress busters, therapy dogs
- Thursday Feb 22nd -is semi formal event -have been working on planning

**7:20 Getting ready for OSSLT** -D. McKillop -literacy teacher -

OSSLT plan - is to identify student needs, hear from students, plan strategies for improvement and see who is ready to write and are recommended for deferral

-In April, grade 9 students are given an in-school diagnostic test with sample booklet, students are given feedback

-In the fall, grade 10 students who are new students to Markville, are also given sample test

-all grade 10's once per month do a literacy task to prepare for literacy test -different foci in different months (September focus multiple choice, November focus Active reading strategies, December reading graphic texts, January focus student feedback and looking ahead)

-there is a 10 week after literacy school program offered to students each semester

-Literacy Blitz -focus on all students who are writing the test (students not currently in grade 10 classes)

-On April 5th, there will be an assembly with updates, expectations, information for all grade 10 students

-The actual OSSLT is on Tuesday April 10th

-last year 94% of students were successful

### **Edsby Update**

-Edsby is new platform designed to communicate, take attendance and communicate with families and staff members

-goal for this year is by mid-March to have parents use Edsby to schedule parent teacher interviews (for semester 2)

-eventually attendance and other school communications will be transferred to Edsby, but roll out will be gradual

### **E-Bulletin Feedback**

-ebulletin is sent out to all families every week -contains news, events, and highlights of the week -school was looking for feedback for how to improve or change the ebulletin

-parents are very positive, it is helpful, and parents appreciate the effort

- one suggestion that it is long - could it be divided into sections- maybe by grades
- if links could be embedded, parents who wanted more information on topics could read in more detail by clicking on link -this would reduce text
- request to put in events for each grade (what is happening in each grade)
- request to not use acronyms (or explain acronyms)
- if each department update would be helpful but would make longer
- reduce text to bullet points
- If there was a table of contents at top, with links then you could click on interested topics
- or if a table of contents was at the top outlining all of the topics, parents could skim them, then scroll down
- if titles were larger it would be easier to see on phone screens

- we would love for it to continue, it is a great form of communication, and has a nice balance of topics and information
- parents also appreciate hearing about what is going on in other grades and subjects/departments -helpful for grade 9 students to see what is ahead

### **Principal's Report**

- students are now preparing for exams
- student success teachers visited grade 9 classes, gave suggestions for study skills and invited to additional sessions during lunch
- stress relieving activities were offered throughout the week prior to exams, and exam week
- gym is open three times per week after exams
- some of the school wide activities since last meeting - inside ride, white ribbon campaign, hour of code, festival of sounds, music theatre, grade 10 SHSM Skills High School Major
- grade 8 open house -in December
- construction update -caretakers have worked painting areas of the school that need updating
- Semester 2 & course selection -closes Feb 23 -note there is little room to make changes in the future -staffing is determined based on the selection at this date -might not be able to accommodate changes in the future

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

- February 5 - Semester 2 begins
- February 12 -Report cards are distributed
- February 14 -Canada Computing Competition
- February 15 -Photo day (only new students or grad photos)
- February 22 -Semi-formal
- February 23 -Course selection deadline
- February 27th -Math contests (Fermat, etc)
- March 8 - Interim report cards
- March 8 -Junk food and Jazz
- March 12 to 16th -March break

March 19 -School council meeting  
March 28 -Parent teacher interview night

**Parent Questions**

-question about Summer School -registration will start in May

**School Council Funds and Staff Requests** -Executive