

York Regional Police Presentation occurred before the meeting about Talking to Teens about Substance Use & Abuse. About 30 parents were in attendance. Good conversation ensued.

Newmarket School Council Meeting

December 11, 2017

Welcome and Call to Order

- Erik called the meeting to order. Tracey Cole seconded it.

Approval of School Council Minutes

- Erik put in a motion to approve the minutes. Poupak seconded.
- Erik spoke to the value of the presentation and having conversations with children.

Student Council Report

- Pina shared Frost Week activities: Monday, December 18th is movie day; Tuesday, December 19th is karaoke in the cafeteria day; Wednesday, December 20th is pictures with Santa and holiday sweater day; Thursday, December 21st is CandyGram delivery (Social Justice); and Friday December 22nd is our common lunch with activities such as finish the lyrics, holiday dress up, minute to win it and people wrapping.

Administration Reports

- Erik reviewed the exam process and schedule, stressing that exams start at 8:30 every day.
- Erik talked about the change to the Awards Ceremony; that is, subject specific awards were presented in the theatre and honour roll/principal's honour roll recipients were invited to a breakfast. In the past, all students were acknowledged in the theatre. The feedback received from five families was not positive because it was felt that students were not appropriately acknowledged and that parents were excluded. We are meeting with the committee on Friday to review the ceremony. A parent expressed that parents who were unhappy probably had older children in the school. Another parent said change is difficult. Another parent said that her son told her that she did not need to attend the ceremony. Another parent said that the certificates that go home are meaningful and other parents agreed.
- Erik talked about intent vs impact. He shared that children have been suspended due to non-inclusive language that was used.
- Erik asked if there are suggestions for potential parent learning topics. Tracey shared that upcoming is Barbara Coloroso and screen time and teens / ScreenAgers (February at Huron Heights) through the Newmarket network. Erik suggested learning about perfectionism. Parents expressed interest in this and Erik said that he will reach out to a possible speaker.
- Pina thanked Leslie Trovato, Tracey Cole and Kim Hedger for working on the substance misuse surveys. She shared that 899 students completed the substances misuse survey and 153

parents/guardians completed the parent/guardian survey. The committee is meeting on February 21 to continue the work.

- Pina shared that a representative from Mobyss is planning to come to the school this week to discuss.
- Pina shared that the EQAO Math assessments will occur on January 22 and 23 for grade 9 students currently taking applied and academic Grade 9 math. The teacher corrected portion of the test will account for 5% of the overall mark.

School Council Reports

- Elisa shared the highlights from the October 24th symposium that included:
 1. Edsby platform for communication;
 2. newmarket.hs2@sc.yrdsb.ca is our school council email address; and
 3. Role of parents in supporting students.
- Kim set up the table at interview night and Elisa thanked her for this. She is also working with teachers to set up extra help sessions.
- School Council Training Synopsis was held on October 28th. Kim attended. Parents can go to parentsengagedineducation.ca for more information.

New Business

- A parent asked about volunteering. Some places only take 14+ year olds. She expressed that parents are not getting enough information about volunteering. Erik expressed that guidance is available for support.
- Tracey suggested students be permitted to nominate students for the Newmarket High School Excellence Awards. Erik said this is something we need to look into further. Perhaps students can complete a form? Perhaps student council can assist with this?

Adjournment

Erik adjourned the meeting. Our next meeting is February 5, 2018.