

# Newmarket High School

## School Council

### Minutes – Monday March 19, 2018 @ 6:45 NHS Library



1. Welcome & call to order
2. Approval of School Council Minutes from Feb 5, 2018  
Mover – Peter – Second - Juliane
3. Student Council Report – Carson Pennington
  - Carson is the new student VP
  - Successful semi-formal – sold out
  - Student activity day
  - Vacai day – with vacation apparel
  - Reduction in Spirit day participation – Carson suggests earlier notice
  - Next Spirit day = identity theft day – take on the identity of a teacher or student
  - Socks and sandals day
  - Hippie day
  - In association with social justice – food drive Toronto day
  - Dynamic duo day
  - Skating day buy-out upcoming March 28 – the money for the buyout will be used to fund the carnival
  - Carnival being planned
  - Spirit days are a student togetherness activity
4. Staff Reports
  - a. SHSM & Co-operative Education – Candace Smith & Laurie Johnson
    - presented a slide show of the co-op opportunity in the community to earn up to 4 credits
    - rich and robust opportunities at NHS and in Newmarket
    - associated with Superior Court of Justice, York Region in IT Department, OSPCA, YRDSB (5 students in elementary schools as TAs) and Town of Gwillimbury (1 student in Fire Department with a very successful result)
    - Laurie and Candice explained the participation of many of the students shown in the slide show and established that the co-op was rigorous and learning directed
    - SHSM = Specialist High Skills Major program – allows students to acquire a specialty training certificate
    - Sport was a former program which will be moved into Health and Wellness

- The Government provides funds for this training – the students expenses are paid for by the SHSM program
- some post-secondary schools are recognizing these courses and certifications
- students are advised which courses are required for the students to complete the program and are guided by Candice and Laurie
- there is online detailed information and calendars of events
- the available certifications are set out on the website
- the students are provided with appropriate garments for their programs and swag identification apparel
- partners include – McMaster, Georgian, Seneca. Southlake, Town of Newmarket  
Candice referred the council to the online calendar
- the program is growing and had 32 students last year and has increased to 78 next year
- many students are being offered jobs
- much of the program's work is to establish partners suitable for the students
- the parents were asked to participate if they can take students in their businesses
- there are at least 4 visits to each partner to monitor the student's progress
- SHSM program has existed for about 10 years
- Co-op is available only for grade 11 and 12 and the applications are being done online at this time
- SHSM is available if a student has or will take co-op course in grade 11 and 12
- students are required to travel to the placement location
- Laurie and Candice show students transportation routes
- students are not required to find a co-op placement and Laurie and Candice find a suitable placement
- if the placement is not suitable, Laurie and Candice manage these situations on an as needed basis with mid placement re-accommodation if necessary
- two banks are also participating
- Laurie and Candice are committed to a worthwhile experience for the students and are alert to the needs of the students
- the parents had a robust question and answer session with Candice and Laurie at the end of the presentation
- Tracey commended Laurie and Candice for the wonderful program and their leadership of it

b. Guidance – Mary Perin

- today there was a distribution of a handout if there are changes to be requested
- there is proactive involvement by guidance for student course choices
- 300 students will be graduating and some students in grade 1 will be afforded workshops to assist them to complete their community hours
- <[neighbourhoodnetwork.org](http://neighbourhoodnetwork.org)> has a comprehensive list of community hour opportunities
- summer school courses will be credited after completion
- summer school schedules will be available in the next 2 weeks
- Aurora HS will be the summer school location in 2018

-standard is 8 courses in grades 9, 10 and 11 and plus 6 in grade 12 and some students take more courses

## 5. Administration Reports

- a. School Climate Survey
  - Erik invited comments about the survey results
- b. safeTALK
  - Shameela – explained that there were 3 facilitation groups
  - feedback was that it was very informative
  - facilitator with a video interactive format
  - comments were about knowledgeable facilitators and informative
  - focus seemed to be around High School students
  - suggestion that more info about pre-teens
  - Peter explained the question the course suggested be asked if someone identified a person whom they thought might be depressed – **“Sometimes when people are missing work, worrying about things and withdrawing from friends and family, they are thinking about suicide. Are you thinking about suicide?”**
- c. MOBYSS
  - Pina secured MOBYSSS for NHS
  - no Health Card required

## 6. School Council Reports

- a. PEAC Communication Hub & Edsby
  - parents can post a question there and PEAC will respond
- b. Regional Parent Symposium - April 4<sup>th</sup> 5-9pm
  - Kim and Linda will attend with 3 other parents
- c. School Council Table - Interview night April 5th
  - Kim will do it again and put together a board to discuss substance abuse
- d. Pro Grant Application - due June 5<sup>th</sup> for 2018/2019 school year
  - the YRDSB’s focus next year will be Equity and Diversity
  - Shameela will submit the application for next year
- e. School Council Communication with Parent Community – Facebook
  - Kim asked if the parent council wanted to put together a Facebook page
  - recommended that information be shared and community connection be made through the Newmarket Parent Network Facebook page
- f. School Website, Edsby Forum, NHS e-bulletin
- g. NHS Excellence Awards Ceremony – Juliane
  - the Award Ceremony is May 9
  - organization meeting is Tuesday March 27 at 8 pm for the planning committee
- h. Substance Abuse Committee is in the process of setting out goals
  - the committee has circulated several Apps for mental health
  - feedback is requested about these Apps
  - in the next week or two there will be suggestions

- Kim proposes Icons to put up around the school
- Kim has seen the icons put up in bathroom stalls for greater privacy
- there was support for a wordless poster with bar codes that could be downloaded
- Tracey liked Head Space
- Not so much for Stop Rethink which asked to associate with emotions
- Leslie asked if there still was a meditation service at school in the morning

7. New Business

8. Adjourn

Next Meeting – Wednesday May 9, 2018 → NHS Excellence Awards Ceremony