

## **Newmarket High School**

### **School Council**

#### **Minutes for Meeting on Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:45 held virtually via Google Meet**

1. Welcome and Call to Order
  - Erik Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:47. Seconded by Tanya/Tracey
2. Introductions – Administration and Staff
  - Erik Gordon Principal
  - Angela Cowan VP
  - Carolyn Cyarto-Rogers VP
  - Susan Carson Staff Representative, Math Teacher
  - Eva Greenwood sends regrets
  - No Student representative for tonight's meeting, but one will attend future meetings
3. School Council Elections
  - Abby Kassar elected as Secretary with Faye Shen to help as needed
  - Tracey Cole elected as Treasurer
  - Tanya Gripich and Solmaz Khorramrooz elected as co-chairs
4. Student Council Reports
  - A student representative did not attend the meeting, but one will attend future meetings
  - Erik provided the following updates: Student Council promoting Orange Shirt day for September 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Student Council got involved for Grade 9 welcome including creation of video for Grade 9
  - Student Council appointments and elections completed last week
  - Student Council are working on some initiatives but not as many as in previous years because of COVID 19 restrictions
  - Suggestion was made to consider having an initiative for Grade 9 students to get to know each other better such as a virtual team building activity. School Council and Student Council could work together to put something in place. Erik to discuss with Captains (students helping with transitioning Grade 9 students) and others and will find out what can be done
5. Staff Reports
  - No formal staff reports
6. Administrative Reports
  - Achievement interim reports will be available on October 19<sup>th</sup>. It will not reflect a percentage but rather a level 1,2, 3, 4 with no comments. Parent-teachers night will be held virtually on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Details to come. You can always reach out to the teacher if you have any concerns at any time
  - Mid Term Reports November 19<sup>th</sup>

- School start up preparation started much earlier than in previous years. Virtual high school required adjustments to student's time tables. Adjustments were positive as in some cases it allowed many students to get into courses they were wait listed for
- Start of school year went well and everyone excited to see the students and the positive energy in the school. There were no large assemblies. Students were introduced to new protocols. Students encouraged not to congregate inside or outside of school. Parents need to remind the students of COVID protocols and the need for social distancing
- School information start up forms – they are to be completed as soon as possible. All the typical forms for the start of the year were made available online, simple to complete. Many parents expressed how easy it was to complete the forms online and how much they liked the online forms
- Course Delivery – Face to Face and Virtual. On days students are not in the school in the morning, they are expected to complete work assigned to them on days when attending school or they may have synchronous learning as some teachers are doing live stream of class. In the afternoon, students have online with their subject teachers for a minimum of 40 minutes and up to 50 minutes per class. If there is a supply teacher for any of the classes, the students will still have a class and should attend. Other school boards have other systems. York Region School Board chose this model to allow flexibility if there is a need to transition to fully online, this structure allows to go completely virtual. If a cohort needs to isolate, then the teacher will deliver instructions online
- If child is not feeling well, they are encouraged to get tested and self-isolate for 14 days. Child can still connect to online courses if they are well enough to do so. If someone does not want to do the test, they must isolate for 14 day. COVID 19 App is not mandatory by the Board. If a student is in quarantine for 14 days and they miss 1 full rotation of in class instructions, they would need to work with the teacher to get support
- Take Your Kids to Work Day is a national event that usually takes place first week of November. Waiting for direction on how it will look like this year, but it will not be as it was in the past
- EQAO and OSST are expected to be delivered this year but things may change when the time comes. There is indication from the Associate Director Steven Reid that OSST will be done virtually
- Volunteer hours requirements continue to be 40 hours. Check Neighbourhood Network for online opportunities to volunteer
- Some teachers are doing online versions of ice breakers to allow for socialization for online-virtual classes. Teachers are exploring a new functionality using breakout rooms available in Google Meets which allows teachers to listen to all of the breakout rooms and put out announcements to all of them at the same time
- School Awards Ceremony for subjects awards will be delivered by end of October either virtually or by video and certificates will be made available to recognize students. Targeted dates of October 27/28
- Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup> , 2021 is scheduled to be School Council Awards
- Graduate Awards and graduation across the Board will be done virtual by mid October or into November

- School Council meeting nights are as follows with a start time of 6:45:
  - Monday November 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Tuesday January 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup> is the Award Ceremony

#### 7. School Council Reports

- No report. Fresh start to the school year

#### 8. New Business

- Question regarding ProGrants – had to pay back the money for last year and will most likely not do it this year
- Graduating class will happen and we will plan for it this year and if it needs to be done differently, we will do it differently. No direction at this time
- Question regarding Math AP classes. The school needs to assess the course requests along with the staffing needs and this year they could not assign more classes for Pre AP Math but were able to continue with Grade 12 AP Math class. The decision is made on a yearly basis. The school offers a very strong math program that is enriched and students can always challenge/write the AP exam and get an AP certification for it
- The Yearbook Course is not running this year due to low enrollment. We will not have a traditional year book as we will not be able to create the same content as in the past. Will be reaching out to yearbook company to produce something outside the traditional yearbook. No plans for student photos this year. They may be done in Jan/Feb but that will be too late to publish in a yearbook. Suggestion made that we can be creative and can switch things around to make it happen and allow students to have a yearbook. Other parents were very supportive of that idea
- NHS Spirit Wear will be made available this year

#### 9. Adjourn

- Called by Erik seconded by Tracey/Tanya