

School Council Meeting Via Zoom-
December 8th, 2020
7:00 pm

Vice Principals Report - Elisa Shiffman:

- OSSLT for grade 10 is on hold for now
- EQAO for grade 9 is paused for this year
- Grade 12 grad - waiting on further information

Principals Report - Paolo Burzese:

- Students and parents received survey
- Changing the way the day is setup
 - No control at school level
- Senior team at board
 - Paolo sat in on the meeting
 - Came away with things that work and don't work
- Balancing face-to-face time
 - Seems to be working well
 - Good procedures we have in place
 - Students enjoy the part of being in school
- Start up of semester 2
 - Built in some breaks in class
 - Teachers go for walks - about a dozen classes go for a walk per day
 - Current model approved by the ministry and we are sticking to it for second semester
- Classroom building - face-to-face and online
 - Students very attentive
 - Interact more on a safe online environment
 - Start pushing ahead to get through the curriculum
- 1,700 students enrolled at school
 - About 1,290 students in building for semester 2
 - About 430 students online for semester 2
- 60 courses removed from timetable
 - Means a lot of movement including staff movement
 - Will get it covered in the next few weeks
- 5 period day
 - Moved to a 4 period day to align with the rest of the board
 - Timetable changes
- Volunteer hours
 - Number of hours changed to 20

- More flexibility of what can be done
- Paid job - some hours can be used
- Tutoring at home can be used
- Students can't go to certain places
- If unsure reach out to guidance

Council - Question and Answer:

- **Peer tutoring**
 - Happening this year through guidance
 - Sent out through social media
- **Grad and prom**
 - No decision has been made
 - Can't imagine a scenario to have in person grad/prom
 - Virtual grad ceremony was a couple of weeks ago for last years students
- **Attendance**
 - Looks different
 - Challenge is with P.M. classes
 - Some students log on for 10 minutes and then disappear or stay logged on but when the teacher calls on them, they are not present
- **Cameras on for students**
 - Working on this
 - Some students may be uncomfortable with their home or may not have a camera
 - You want students to feel safe to turn on their camera
 - Hoping to build on this, i.e., turn on once a week
 - Voluntary from students, not board mandate
- **Honor roll**
 - No decision has been made yet regarding last years honour roll
 - Challenge is the second half of the year
 - Marks were from the first 2 weeks and then lockdown fell into place
- **Yearbook**
 - No plans to do yearbook as we don't have the means to make it happen
 - Perhaps grade 12 will have a yearbook
 - The challenge is collecting photos, etc.
 - A couple of teachers offered to help
 - No definite answer
 - Board asked to move slowly
- **Clubs**
 - Online clubs got permission a month ago
 - In a month or so more clubs will start
 - Question is how to start clubs online that were in person

- York Region not running sports
- **Can you take grade 12 courses in grade 11?**
 - Not always recommended as students aren't always ready

Guidance Report - Marisa Ellis:

- Volunteer hours
 - 20 hours to graduate
 - Allowed 10 hours of paid employment - fill out a reflection question
 - Profit making not acceptable
 - Utilize some hours if tutoring neighbour's child, snow shoveling, etc. - speak to Ms. Ellis
 - After this year we are back to 40 hours, but can also submit 10 hours of paid employment
- Looking to next semester
 - Staff working on building a community in class
 - Built in breaks, etc.
 - Start semester slower, so students understand expectations
- Lack of social connection - you don't see many students due to the pandemic
- Universities
 - Looking purely at marks
 - High profile programs (sciences and engineering) at Waterloo and University of Toronto won't accept private school marks
 - No change in entry marks at any university due to Covid-19
 - Mid-term marks submission is new this year due to Covid-19
 - You can call the university directly if you have further questions
- Hoping second semester will go smoother as we are learning from first semester

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next meeting TBD