

# Regular Meeting of Medway School Council

Monday October 2, 2017

**Welcome and Call to Order:** 7:05 p.m.

**Attendance:** 6 parents were in attendance including the chair, the treasure and secretary. Mr. Copeland and Mrs. McCullough were also present.

**Agenda:** *Motion to approve the agenda* (Deb/Jill) Carried

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes were circulated via email at the end of last school year.

*Motion to approve the minutes as circulated* (Sue/Deb) Carried

## Nomination of Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer

- Elected by acclamation: Jill Argue as treasurer, Tracy Loessin as secretary, Nancy Blackwell as chair

## Principal's Report - (Mr. Copeland)

- New reimbursement forms for School Council expenses – need the receipt and form signed by the chair and submitted to Mr. Copeland.
- The goals for the school have been re-vamped:
  - Goal #1: To create an educational environment where students invest in the learning process so they develop the skills and global competencies to become engaged lifelong learners.
    - These are global competencies that will allow students to be successful across any part of their life – wherever they go.
  - Goal #2: To improve all students' ability to reason through an abstract problem with justification.
    - Algebra was identified as a particular area of opportunity for growth. Abstract reasoning is the skill that transfers across subjects and can be addressed in all subjects.
- Current Enrolment is 1220 students. 1130 FTE. Not accepting any out of area students.
- Grade 9 and 10 pathways are full.
- New courses in Geography/Science and Technology are underway. The feedback from participants is overwhelmingly positive.
- School Improvement Plan was presented. It is filed with the minutes.
- Computers – continue to invest in mobile technology, specifically the purchase of Chromebooks. One additional Chromebook cart to be purchased.
- Rethink Secondary/Renewed Mathematics Strategy continues. Targeting the group of Grade 9's in applied math. We now report to the Ministry on our Applied Math plan.
- All students in grades nine and ten courses are assessed and reported based on curriculum expectations.
- TVDSB is switching to Outlook as the email provider. “.on” has been removed from email addresses. Emails sent to the old address will continue to be forwarded for the foreseeable future.
- Fall Sports – are in progress. They include Football (Jr/Sr), Girls Basketball (Jr/Sr), Boys Volleyball (Jr/Sr), Cross Country, Field Hockey and Golf.

- Bussing is a huge problem – board-wide for curricular and extra-curricular events. It is a problematic system as well as a shortage of bus drivers.
- Music is in full swing including the intergenerational choir.
- The production of Way Out West in a Dress is in progress.
- An Interactive Arts and Technology class is being considered for next year.
- Future Dates:
  - October 11<sup>th</sup> Diagnostic Reading Assessment
  - October 12<sup>th</sup> Terry Fox Assembly/Walk
  - October 19<sup>th</sup> Parent Teacher Interviews
  - October 20<sup>th</sup> Distracted Driving Assembly, Grade 11
  - October 27<sup>th</sup> PA Day
  - October 28<sup>th</sup> ICON Conference at Medway
  - November 1<sup>st</sup> Take Your Kid to Work Day  
Celebration of Excellence – period 2

### **Guidance – (Mrs. McCullough)**

- Every student will see guidance twice a year to work on their individual pathway plans
- Grade 12's have all met with guidance and now guidance is focusing on scholarship applications and post-secondary applications. This work is done at lunch time. Profile and scholarship forms are due October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Grade 9's are next, followed by Grade 10 and 11.
- Students who do a victory lap can apply for scholarships in grade 12 and victory lap year.
- OSAP presentation in is April.
- There will be a grade 8 night in December where registration packages will be distributed. Registration packages will be due on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2018. This gives them a month to get the packages filled out and get on Blueprint.
- College and University visits are on-going and going well.
- College and university fairs are booked for November.
- Mrs. Dixon – Guidance and SST – focus on grade 9 student success
  - There was a calendar handed out to all grade 9's – it includes sessions on getting organized, math help, help for students who have missed class to get caught up on missed work. Sessions held in Room 225
  - Grade 9's can get help from grade 11's lunch – peer support
- There is a tutoring board in guidance for students who need help.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- \$1000 is available for this school year.
- \$63.34 spent on Grade 9 night.

- **New Business**

- Goals for 2017/2018 Council:
  - Provide tools for parents and students to prepare for post-secondary opportunities
  - Enhancing communication between the school community and the school.  
***Motion to adopt these goals for the school year.*** (Deb/Sue) Carried
- Review of Grade 9 night – Sept 2017:
  - Excellent turn-out
  - Next year, School Council will address parents to introduce who council is and what it is about.
  - Notes regarding food:
    - There's a rush at 8:30 – Keep the lemonade and water full until 8:45. This is mostly kids leaving the dance, and they are thirsty and hungry!
    - Could do 8 dozen fewer cookies – 14 dozen home baked and 19 boxes of store bought cookies were purchased
    - 16 cans of lemonade
    - 2 bags of ice
    - Make a sign for the coffee that indicates “decaf”
- Grade 8 night, December 14<sup>th</sup> (20<sup>th</sup> is the snow day), 2017:
  - Council will discuss plans at the next meeting.
- Prom:
  - Is held off site and there is no attachment to the school
  - There have been problems in the past with regard to alcohol.
- PROgrant for 2017/2018 School Year
  - We are approved for another \$1000.00 to put on the “Preparing for the Future” night in the spring.
  - A committee needs to be formed – thus far we have Nancy, Tracy, Deb, Jill, Sue.

### **Next Council Meeting**

- **Proposed Meeting Dates:** Nov 27, 2017; Jan 29, 2018; May 14, 2018.
- **Next meeting date:** Monday November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. in the library.

**Adjournment – *Motion to adjourn*** (Nancy/Deb) Carried

Chair – Nancy Blackwell

Secretary – Tracy Loessin