

School Council

16-November 2022

Agenda:

1) Principal's Report

Mr. Miller summarized the events, activities, teams that are being offered at the school. Many opportunities for students, and a very active and involved staff. Highlights and events are listed below!

- a) First half of semester one is complete - reports have been sent home
- b) Staff very pleased at how students are settling in and adapting to our new school
- c) Current co-curriculars:
 - i) Boys Basketball (Jr/Sr)
 - ii) Girls Volleyball (Jr/Sr)
 - iii) Badminton Club
 - iv) Lunchtime intramurals: basketball, volleyball, table tennis, wiffleball, badminton
 - v) Boys Varsity Hockey
 - vi) Swim Team
 - vii) Wrestling
 - viii) West Niagara Singers
 - ix) Art Battle
 - x) Cappies (Film Festival and Critics)
 - xi) Drumline (Jr/Sr)
 - xii) School Motto Team
 - xiii) Various musical ensembles
 - xiv) Student Council
 - xv) Equity Team

xvi) Pride Pack

xvii) Dungeons and Dragons

xviii) West Niagara News

xix) Music Production Club

xx) Guitar Club

xxi) Ski/Snowboard Club (soon)

xxii) Various trips - theatre, tech etc.

xxiii) Poinsettia fundraiser - horticulture

xxiv) Talent Show

xxv) Rowing (soon)

xxvi) NY Senior Trip (spring)

xxvii) Book Club

xxviii) OSSLT Preparation - in class, lunchtime sessions

Successful Seasons ended: Field Hockey, Cross-Country, Golf, Jr./Sr. Football, Girls Basketball (Jr./Sr.), Boys Volleyball (Jr./Sr.)

d) Entries in upcoming West Lincoln and Grimsby Santa Claus parades

e) Upcoming Grade 8 Information Nights (28 November Grimsby, 29 November Beamsville, 1 December Smithville)

f) Holiday Concert - December 8th (plus associated elementary school tour)

g) Winter Formal 14-December 6-10pm, Grand Olympia

h) New School Update

2) Theatre Fundraising

a) Save Your Seat - still ongoing

b) Rows 1-2 \$2000, Rows 3-5 \$1500, Upper Section \$300

c) Strong interest in corporate donations/naming - please let Mr. Miller know if you have connections or ideas

3) Parent-submitted Items:

a) Lunchtime at the plaza

Question re: lunch behaviour in the community;

McDonald's has implemented some strategies there to monitor/control behaviour. Area businesses have been supportive. There has been an improvement overall since September. Staff does not supervise the community at lunchtime. Activities at school have helped this situation become more balanced as kids have more opportunities to be busy and involved.

Washroom update:

Mr. Miller is in the washrooms all the time. Washroom challenges have improved. Closed bathrooms have been because of vandalism or damage. There is no conspiracy to close bathrooms to deprive children of appropriate facilities. No bathrooms closed in the last two weeks. Update re: New School ...build has been "non-traditional" due to shortages. Lots of interesting parts completed at different times(sprinkler, AC/HVAC, painting, windows, flooring etc.) Field and track are finished, the parking lot is paved on the West side and back of the building. It is further along than people might think. No completion date yet. Mat is hopeful for September. Furniture is purchased and ready to go. Lots of new and nearly new equipment coming to the new build when ready!

New School Update:

Mr. Miller shared the site plan and schematic drawings including many more details for the new building. Academic wing is the portion of the school visible from King St. The back portion of the building is a 750 seat theatre on the West side, two double gyms along the back, and to the East side of the building are the four tech shops and greenhouse spaces. There is a courtyard space, one portion of the building has a green roof. Nice large bus lane surrounding the school, kiss and ride lane around the front of the school; 270 parking spots already paved & lined. Grass field beside the turf field. New scoreboard to come - this will have a video component! Student-run cafeteria portion of the school will generate funds that in turn will be directed towards student needs and in school activities. No split lunches for a variety of reasons. Bathrooms in the new school are in the same location on all floors of the new building. Centrally located and easily accessible. Classrooms are generous sizes. Library/Learning Commons/Maker space on the second floor is large and will be well-appointed. Music program/spaces located on this second floor. Third floor allows for classes such as Science to be grouped together. Comm. Tech, Visual arts also located on the second floor.

Parent Question re: MSIP

Purpose is study hall, time for students to work. Pluses and minuses for this time...minus is that time is taken off of each period to create that period. After reporting periods productivity in MSIP

classes generally improves. Teachers are communicating with other teachers to determine kids that need help. A 5 period day also eliminates quite a few timetable challenges/conflicts. More periods mean kids get most of the classes that they want, and more sections of classes can be offered. More often than not, the MSIP block is a positive. Working on opportunities to “travel” during MSIP periods to other classes/teachers. This is a work in progress.

OSSLT test prep is happening, lunchtime help also available. This is for Gr. 10 students and second time writers.

Semi-formal: 186 tickets sold to date. This is so far just gr. 11s & 12s. The tickets will be opened up to Gr. 9s & 10s. Capacity for this event is around 700+, Mr. Miller noted that we don't appear to be hitting that number. This is a large facility that can accommodate as many students as want to participate. The ticket price includes a dinner and a dance.

French Immersion Gr. 9 & 10 students issue: proactive moves re: sending letters home to families, some behaviour has improved. Positive changes have been made in these classes. It takes time to re-learn some of the social issues being presented in high school.

Fire Drill Update: Fire Dept. attended the fire drill November 10th and noted that it was extremely well-organized and well done. Well done WNSS staff and students.

Bussing issues: A few bussing issues continue to pop up occasionally. There appears to be some delay in emails re: bus problems getting information out to kids and families. Mr. Miller noted this and will find out some more information from the bus companies.