Highwood High School Parent Council Meeting

January 18, 2021

Attendance: Bryan Branford, Martha Klassen, Chris Hall, Sharon Nichols, Dave Roberts, Michelle Alberts, Claudia Senior, Aimee Stelter, Berleth Apale

* Meeting began at 7:09pm
* This meeting could not have any voting or approval of minutes due to not having quorum.
* Trustee Report
  + Sharon Nichols stood in for Larry Albrecht tonight as he was unable to attend
  + The trustees want the FSD parents to understand that communication is very important to them – please check out their website for more detailed info at engagefsd.com
  + There will be more “engagement opportunities” coming in the Spring for parents to have their voices heard. Check out their website!
  + COSC meeting happening Feb 1, 2021 (Council of School Councils)
  + Budget – the trustees’ priority is that money to be focused on education purposes
    - Hoping for no more major insurance cost increases
  + March 12 has been added as another Professional Development day this school year
* Admin Report
  + New staff in the front office – transition going very well
  + School attendance was very good during the winter online school session
  + Next week is Exam week (Jan. 25-Jan. 29)
    - Exam schedule on the school webpage
    - The school is working hard to keep the student cohorts consistent during exams – This means increased staff supervision required
    - All grades of students are doing final exams
    - Final exams can affect your final mark
      * Increase your final mark by doing very well on your exam
      * Make sure that you show up for your exam and take it seriously!
  + Mr. Branford answered a question about the final school transcripts for the grade 12s not writing diploma exams this year - there will be no negative affect as to how their final mark shows up on their final school transcript ☺
  + February 1 – Semester 2 begins
    - Admin are working on the Semester 2 timetables
    - Any changes to timetables can be dealt with by students in the main office
    - Drop date for students making changes to their timetables is February 12.
  + Learner profiles going out February 1 at noon
  + Accountability survey coming out - watch for it!
    - All GRADE 10 students & parents
  + Bryan Branford is retiring in June 2021 ☹
* Teacher Report – Chris Hall
  + Student attendance and engagement was very good during the winter online school session
  + Teachers are preparing the student Learner Profiles – February 1, 2021
  + Student council
    - December theme days during online session – Ugly Christmas sweater day, toque & mitten day, etc.
      * Students sent pictures into the school from home – to be used as yearbook content
    - Christmas trivia contest
      * $15 & $10 Tim Horton’s gift cards won
    - February – watch for Pink Shirt Day
      * Anti-bullying day
* Old business
  + Highwood Parent Council Facebook Page
    - More than 100 “likes” and 84 people “follow” it
    - Band video viewed more than 4000x
  + There will be students returning to “in class” learning after completing Semester 1 online – all of these students have received an email preparing them for their return to the school
* Meeting finished at 7:45pm