

Humberside Collegiate Institute (HCI) School Advisory Council Minutes - Monday January 14, 7:00pm

Present: P. Bhargava, K.M. Cole, R Hansen, G. Motta, C. McLeod, K McLaren, I. Rodrigues, J. Stetic.

Minutes of 15 November approved (C. McLeod proposed, M. Machamer seconded).

Agenda approved (P. Bhargava, moved, J. Stetic seconded).

Student Council Report

Student report: the students will organize a matchmaking survey for Valentine's Day. One member of the committee asked how LGBTQ+ students would be treated. The Vice Principal will report.

The Equity committee noted that grade 9 English classrooms will talk about equity-related issues: classism, racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia.

Report from the Chair

Communications: a student had volunteered to update the website from home, but he is not able to secure the necessary permissions. The committee will continue to add SAC minutes to the current website. J Stetic agreed to review the website with an eye to modest changes.

The committee's application for a Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant was successful and funds are available for a speaker. The committee suggested a talk on 'students and parents coping with technology.' The committee noted that there had previously been a successful talk on cyber-bullying; the suggested talk would be a natural follow-up. The committee agreed to suggest names.

The School Statement of Needs (SSON) needs to be reviewed the updated. The matter was tabled for next meeting.

School Advisory Council email access: J. Stetic volunteered to add new parents to the distribution list. P. Bhargava had already collected some emails, which he will pass on.

Vice Principal's Report:

A School musical is coming up: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Core course selection has begun; final choices are due by 22 February 2018.

Student success morning: an email went out regarding it. Teachers will invite students who would benefit.

Grade 8 parent information night will take place on 22 January. C. McLeod and R. Hansen will give short presentations to attendees.

Parent teacher interviews will take place on 21 February.

Standing Committee Reports:

Safe and Caring Schools (M. Machamer):

Following an incident at Western Technical-Commercial School, Humberside Collegiate practiced fire drills and lockdowns. The lockdown went well and students cooperated and took it in stride.

Suspensions: the trend is downwards.

Inappropriate behaviour: there were some concerns about vaping on school property, notably in the washrooms. Teacher presence has been increased. There were also concerns about fighting, but the trend is again downwards.

The School is emphasizing its commitment to safety and respect. It is considering an anonymous box with suggestions for improving both.

Treasurer (P. Bhargava): The treasurer reported that we have \$483 in allocated funds. We have, as noted, received another \$1000.

Communications: Nothing to report.

Pool: Nothing to report.

Ward C (G. McLeod and G. Motta):

The Board is developing a new curriculum for health and physical education, but it had no effect on our curriculum.

PRO grants were released; given provincial fiscal restraint, they are probably the last.

AOB

The committee discussed cell phone policy. Cell phones are allowed. There is a 'tech on,' 'tech off' sign in each classroom indicating when they may be used.

Some members of the committee felt that cell phones (and technology in general) are the future and should be incorporated into the classroom; others thought they are a distraction and should be regulated and restricted. The SAC agreed that, whatever the policy, it should be consistent across the School and consistently enforced by teachers.

The SAC recommended the posting of grades via School Loop.

The committee adjourned at 8:27pm.