

NHSS School Council Meeting, May 8, 2024, 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm.

Hybrid meeting in person and over Zoom.

(To be adopted at September 2024 School Council Meeting)

Present:

Guardians: Raj Persaud, Soma Choudhury, Suzanne Yoo, Amy Yu-Phang, Stephanie Reingold, Corey Rotman

Staff: Anita, Ghazariansteja, Ashley Marshall, Antoinetta Colavita, Samantha Juruc

Students: Daniel Seellal, Liana Mirlohi, Lisa Nguyen

Meeting called to order by School Council Chair, Soma Choudhury. Introduction of those present in-person and online.

Student Update:

- Phoenix Fest event hosted by students to take place on May 30th, rain, or shine. Preparation in full swing with games, inflatables and fun and games. Tickets are \$0.50.
- Northview Cares program focused on mental health, mindful moments, safety, and support system including Kids Help Phone related information and acts of kindness. Raffle is hosted for random acts of kindness and the winning tickets receives lunch.
- SAC elections to be held on May 14th. Nomination process was underway, and candidates have been approved. Campaign is for 1 week leading up to the election.
- Athletic banquet to be held on June 13th at Montecassino Banquet Hall. Tickets are \$30 for athletes and \$50 for non-athletes.

Principal's Report

- Various extracurricular contests are happening throughout the school spearheaded by various departments, including Mathematics, Chemistry, Computer Science.
- Various speakers, including artists who worked with students on a sculpture. Practitioners in any given field are invited as speakers to speak about their profession to students.
- Equity:
 - Equity coach from TDSB, Kevin Sutton has met with staff to discuss how equity can work within TDSB schools focusing on culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy (CRRP). Workshops for Grades 9, 10 and 11 to be created by students for students on equity issues.
 - One of the stated goals of the TDSB relating to equity is Truth and Reconciliation. To that end, there is work with the Urban Indigenous Centre that has been initiated and commenced.
- HMST Update
 - Student survey was recirculated to students for their feedback.
 - Time was given to students to complete the survey in class.
 - 152 respondents of whom 37 were from Grade 9, 32 from Grade 10, 66 from Grade 11 and 17 from Grade 12.

- Initial review of the responses indicates that students are appreciative of the enrichment and appreciate being with like minded students who are focused on STEM education and being within a community of learners. Students would like to see more excursions, flexibility in their course selection and hands on opportunity in STEM learning.
 - Parents, including the Co-Chairs expressed concerns about sustaining the enrichment of the HMST program and how the new mandate of the TDSB for specialized programs may affect the program. There have been ongoing concerns by parents about the quality of the HMST program and how to sustain and continue to provide enriched learning environment. It was expressed that public education needs to ensure access to all who wish to avail of enriched learning opportunities and that access to education means sufficient allocation of resources and opportunities to continue to reach for high education standards.
 - Staff are working hard to ensure continued enrichment of the program consistent with the TDSB's mandate for no child left behind. Staff also mentioned that on April 29th six teachers attended PD courses, all part of the steps being taken by Staff to continue to ensure enriched learning environment.
 - Parents are very appreciative of Staff's efforts and acknowledge the time and efforts by Staff to rebuild this program after Covid.
- Safety: One safety incident near the Stop sign near NHSS. No student was hurt. The drop off area and the Stop sign area continues to be a concern from a traffic safety perspective. Ideas were floated about outreach to the Trustee or the Councillor for assistance.
 - Continued collaboration on ideas to make washrooms a safe space; reporting is key especially if it can remain anonymous through the new TDSB safety app. Education around harms of vaping
 - Discussion on spending School Council funds. Principal will assist in looking into possibilities to spend the funds consistent with the criteria and will provide suggestions to the Co-Chairs. Update: Equity and Indigenous learning resources were purchased for council members for our collaborative work and learning together as we plan for new school year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Next School Council meeting will be in September 2024 for the new academic year.

Upcoming Events

Arts Night: May 9

Prom: May: 16

Student Achievement Awards: June 6

Athletic Night: June 13

Commencement Graduation Ceremony: June 27