

## Northview Heights Secondary School

### School Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 start 6:31 pm-7:37 pm

Present-in person Administration Anita Ghazariansteja (School Principal)  
Christine Lee (Vice Principal)

Parents Anu Baskshi, Mary Sayyad, Xwan Luc, Scott Moore, Ali Lila (Co-Chair), Suzanne Yoo (Treasurer), Soma Choudhury (Co-Chair), Kayla Rudberg-Rotman (Secretary), Raj Persaued

Land Acknowledgement was read by Ashley Marshall (Vice Principal online)

Approval of Minutes from school Council meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. Xwan approved.

Suzanna second

Agenda Co Chairs were given feedback from parents about what to be put on the agenda. An agenda was verbally shared. Going forward, Co-Chairs will have a printed agenda for parents at the meeting.

Agenda

School Updates from School Administration both in person and on-line

Parents and Caregivers as Partners Conference November 16, 2024

Grading and Marking

Busing Issues

Technology

New business

The Parents and Caregivers as Partners Conference is happening virtually, this Saturday, November 16, 2024. 10 am-1:30pm. The morning will start with Indigenous Elder Clayton Shirt Plains. The Keynote Speaker will be Sarah Rosensweet. Founder of Reimagine Peaceful Parenting. Various workshops and topics. Kayla will be presenting a workshop will fellow parents' topic about Recognizing Good Mental Health At the end of the conference there will be a game of Kahoot's with prizes. Hope to see parents at the conference!

### School Updates

Ms. Ghazariansteja introduced and welcomed the new Vice Principal Christine Lee

Christine shared a little about herself.

The principal then shared updates from the board.

### GOOD NEWS

New Superintendent for our school Ainsworth Morgan effective November 4, 2024

Open House last week for Central Student Interest Program (CSIP), reminded that students are selected centrally in a lottery system.

November 26 Open House for Grade 8's. Student Leaders, senior students to come out to highlight Northview.

Senior English grade 11&12 students' trip to Stratford last week

Clubs and Council Activities are busy!

Hallowe'en Fun! Haunted Hallowe'en Hallway to walk through, Movie Night

Monday, November 11 Remembrance Day Assembly -social studies and art departments put up displays in the front foyer of the school.

Hospitality and Culinary placed third at The Royal Winter Fair Jam contest, Wexford Collegiate placed first, Marc Garneau Institute placed second, Don Mills Collegiate placed fourth.

Last month the TDSB School Audit, randomly choose Northview.

Areas in compliance 20-page report; some areas of follow up related to facilities.

Blinds for the windows - have been ordered not put up yet, need Design and construction to put them up Swimming Pool still needs to be done.

Comment from parent regarding school swimming pool. "The school swimming pool has been closed for 2 years. Good swimmers who are competing now need to go to clubs to practice swimming. This is not providing equity."

Caring, Safe Committee - cameras are needed in the school because of incidents.

Cameras are needed on the third floor, some on the second floor. Eyes where we need them. The school needs 2-3 times more than it currently has. Need to have at the front of the line.

Northview was given two 0.5 extra staff allocations; focused on making Jr. Grades 9 & 10 classes smaller - English, Math, Geography

Try to keep only one teacher change for a student.

### **Update from Christine Lee (Vice-Principal)**

Afterschool English and Math help for grade 9 and 10 students

Math Mondays and Wednesdays (grade 9 and 10 students in different rooms)

Grade 9 students integers fractions like terms, Grade 10 students graphing powers.

English Tuesdays and Thursdays

Tuesdays EL students, Thursdays non-EL students prepare for Ontario Literacy Test (multiple choice questions, paragraphs, essay structure, writing structure)

Tuesday & Thursday Math drop in all grades.

Reach New Heights

Mondays and Tuesdays at lunch

Math, English, Science, French peer tutoring from Senior Students

November 21& 22 Literacy Test

### **Grade 9 students Math EQAO Test January 16 & 17, 2025**

Principal School Improvement Plan (SIP) in progress. Parents, students, staff all come forward to share their ideas. Principal will be having one on one with student representatives from each grade to share their voice for what they want to see in an inclusive and safe school.

Mental Health and Well-Being is a priority for the staff. Staff P.D Day on Friday November 15,2024 there will be workshops from Youth Wellness Network Committee.

Youth Wellness Network does workshops for students, parents, and staff.

### **HEALTH and WELL BEING**

Ashley Marshall (Vice -Principal online)

Mr. Marshall has taken over the Nutrition staff leadership role.

He shared that there was a great turnout of non-perishable foods donated at the parent teacher interviews.

Offering culturally relevant foods for the students

One week, samosa (donations from local restaurant), One-week bagels (donations from Happy Bagel -Bathurst/Finch, One-week lumpia (donations from local restaurant)

Open for suggestions from parents, local businesses

### Questions from parents

“Are the vendors nut free?”

Answer “Yes vendors are nut free.”

### **CSIP - Central Student Interest Programs**

Students are selected into CSIP programs by a lottery process instead of on skills, or merit. The rationale for lottery versus merit is for no child to be left behind.

All schools are to do a rebranding, to define their own programs to what their students’ needs are, what enrichment looks like and a deeper look for each student’s programs.

On Friday, Northview will be hosting four schools during the PD Day who are also in the same process of rebranding their schools HMST Programs Mackenzie, Vanier, Polyani and Victoria Park?

Learning Coach at PD Day this Friday

Workshop together some schools on environment topics. HMST Programs end in grade 11. Students need meaningful experiences outside the classroom. Examples such as speakers, trips, networking. This is what post-secondary schools are genuinely looking for when students are applying to their programs.

## Assignments

Teachers give assignments that should look the same as any other subject area. For HMST Programs, teachers give challenges and other experiences, offer extra enrichment but assessments remain the same.

## **GRADING & MARKING**

Concerns brought up about marking to be marked equally so students do not have a disadvantage.

Curriculum expectation deeper; Evaluation needs to be authentic.

Opportunity to correct learning. Students do not always speak up to advocate for themselves if evaluation is unfair, they suffer silently.

Create a committee or Forum about how to do marking and evaluations about this (afterschool or PLC?)

The principal shared that Department Heads are to bring data of all the grades marked so far (Midterms) and discuss next steps and plan accordingly.

Look at assessments and discrepancies - moderated marking.

(I do not remember what this was in reference to) 6:30 - 8:30 pm Sessions at Willowdale?

## **BUSING ISSUES**

Timing Issues

Buses tend to arrive late in the morning to pick up students from home which causes them to be late for first period class.

Students who use the buses to go home are expected to leave their last period class prior to the end of the school day for the bus (need to be at the buses for 3pm)

The concern is not that students will be marked late for class. The concern is that students are missing important learning when arriving late in the morning and are missing learning at the end of the day. These students are already marginalized and have other learning challenges. The bus scheduling adds another layer of learning challenges to these students. This is not an issue that only effects Northveiw. This is an issue across the Board.

Parents have shared with the administration their concerns, who have reached out to the bus companies. Bus companies mention that they are short-staffed. They have many students to provide service, and this is the best they can offer. Parents have also contacted the bus companies, and they are given the same line.

Discussion came about that parents should contact the bus coordinator - contract services Northview services terms. Other suggestions were to continue to document the frequency of late pick-ups and record the number of hours students miss at the end of the school day. Call the Ombudsman regarding this issue. This would be seen as Human Rights, and this could help with the situation. Another option is to approach SEAC and for them to reach out to the superintendents and trustees about this matter. Parents can also bring the issue to our school Superintendent.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

Regarding meetings that are hybrid. Better quality speakers, cameras so parents online can see and hear better, and the principal is not having to keep moving the laptop during the meeting.

Is it possible to purchase some type of technology to be used for hybrid meetings so the meetings are more equity friendly? Co-chairs suggested to be creative in using some funding.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Instagram for the school clubs better promoted put in one Instagram to post - the SAC Instagram

Mr. Marshall to put in parent newsletter,

Northview concessions, Instagram accounts - Parents see report to school.

Adjourn by Anu 7:37 pm