



Parent Council Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2018

7:00 –8:50 pm

Reviewed minutes from January 15, 2018

Review:

1. Course Selection – February 12 – 23 for 2018/2019 School Year

- Reminder will go out to students / parents
- Important that all students choose correctly as projections are submitted to the Board to determine staffing requirements etc., these go to the board before March Break

New Business:

1. Guest Speakers, current Grade 12 students

- Nick Donovan
 - i. Well-rounded, intelligent, structured, goals for future is in business
 - ii. Students should start to close doors on careers where they don't want to focus on; begin focusing on subjects that will help you for future goals
 - iii. Suggested that students (if they can) study a year ahead, helped to meet people a year older and gain their perspective when they were in University to find out what courses to take, where to go, what Universities offered best programs etc.
 - iv. Students should focus on school
- Chloe Miller
 - i. Athletic, driven, logical, passionate
 - ii. Entered high school with intentions on going to University
 - iii. Interested in Welding / Tech School, U.S. Schools
 - iv. Suggested that schools need to offer more trades to students, both genders, Chloe feels she would have learned more as to direction of her future
 - v. Stigma is that University / Colleges are the way you have to go, trades are viewed as inadequate
 - vi. Suggests taking your time to see what high school has to offer

2. Special High Skills Major (SHSM)

- Includes many fields (Culinary Arts and Hospitality, Construction, Wellness, Manufacturing, Business)
 - ODSS is one of the few schools to offer welding certificates
 - Red seal program, received upon receipt of diploma
 - Program creates opportunities for women in trade
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3. Special Education / Resource Centre

- Led by a large team of teachers
- Includes 50 life-skilled students and 400 IEP students
- Resource Centre is a supportive place where students can receive assistance with course material and assignments, complete tests in a quiet setting, learn how to better use technology for learning, and get support for learning challenges
- Elementary and Resource team work together prior to student attending high school to conduct full assessments for those students who require additional assistance, a transition plan is put into place to determine needs and requirements of those students
- Students with an IEP (Individual Education Plan) are also supported by the Resource Department. They are provided accommodations to help them learn, teachers are advised which students have an IEP so they can know how to assist
- Types of accommodations provided: extra time for assessments (including exams), assistive technology such as computers and speech to text software, an alternative quiet setting for working, and rephrasing or rewording of instructions
- Assessments are conducted after high school to determine lifestyle plan; same accommodations are provided at the College or University level
- How do students stay under the radar? Do students become embarrassed have an IEP etc..?
 - i. It is becoming less common for students to decline any assistance
 - ii. Teacher observations assist Jill in determining what students require an IEP
 - iii. Students who leave class go unnoticed
 - iv. Fluid atmosphere

4. President's Report

- Silent Auction for Breakfast Club (February 20-23, 2018)
 - i. Donations for the Silent Auction can be dropped off at the front office any time
- Course selection
 - i. Students need to make good choices when preparing for course selection
- Public Health Deadline – April 12, 2018
- Families should receive letter that their child(ren) need to be immunized
- Students can be suspended if not vaccinated

5. PISA – Program for International Student Assessment 2018

- ODSS randomly chosen out of 137 schools
- Run by EQAO, 50 students are randomly tested
- April 23 – May 31 (two 60-minute tests and questionnaire)
- No individual or school data is recorded, will not affect students marks

6. New Staff at ODSS

- Mr. Graham (Math)
- Mr. Clendenning (Science)
- Mr. Azimi (Math)

Upcoming

February 20-23	Silent Auction for Breakfast Club
February 20-23	Course Selection
March 12-16	March Break
April 5	Parent / Teacher Interviews
April 10	Literacy Test (Grade 9 – Mock test – with support Grade 11 / 12 – Full day career fair / guest speakers)
April 12	Public Health Deadline

Next Meeting

March 19, 2018, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Meetings will be held every second Monday of the month (unless it falls on a Holiday)