



## **Uxbridge Secondary School Community Council Meeting**

**November 19, 2019 – Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Michelle Crawford-Eade (Principal), Mark Lynch (Vice-Principal), Lisa Edwards, Trish Irlen, Jason Cole, Nancy Mann, Heidi Weitzman, Sandra Haworth, Charlotte Truter, Caroline Jones, Sonya Kehoe, Kimber Stokes (Student Council), Mary Stewart (Student Council), Julie Morrison, Michelle Lindsey, Robert Walker (Teacher Rep), Nicole Cantkier, Nancy Sekharan, Kim Kalinich, Cyndi Fagan, Karen Weisner, Carolyn Allen (Guidance)

### **1) Welcome and opening remarks by Lisa Edwards**

### **2) Approval of Minutes from September. 1<sup>st</sup> Michelle Lindsey, 2<sup>nd</sup> –**

### **3) Student Council Report – Kimber and Mary**

- Please see attached report

### **4) SCC Items**

#### **Fundraising Discussion:**

It was proposed to look into the possibility of raising funds to increase the value of the SCC Scholarship that is currently at \$300 and awarded to a student pursuing Education in post-secondary school.

The committee will consider:

- \* how fairness and equity will be ensured year to year?
- \* will the criteria for the award need to be re-assessed?
- \* Who sits on the decision committee for this award?
- \* How will the funds be raised?

A vote was held to determine if we should move forward and was passed by voting members.

Next meeting will be extended by up to an hour for a decision to be made on how to move forward.

### **5) Principal's Report – Mrs. Crawford-Eade:**

Snow Days: There has not been a snow day in DDSB in about 20 years. What we have are bus cancellation days. Last year we had 14 days of missed instruction due to bus cancellations.

Of approx. 1200 students, roughly 550 are bussed and the rest either walk or drive. On bus cancellation days, we only have about 50 students attending class. Students who do come find this is to be excellent 1-1 time with teachers.

The admin would appreciate the parent/community effort to encourage students, who safely can, attend school on bus cancellations days. Also looking at ways to leverage technology to minimize loss of instruction time. Lessons will not go forward if there are not enough students are present.

Upcoming student trips: Rockies trip with the Geography dept. USS and Anderson CVI students. Approx 40 from USS.

Potential Human Rights trip to the museum in Winnipeg. Hopeful that the museum will pay for the student flights.

REMINDER – Exams are “protected time”. DO NOT book vacations for your family during exams. They cannot be rescheduled.

ESL Students have started a “No Borders” Club to tutor interested students in their native languages. These include Spanish, Turkish, Arabic and Mandarin. Great idea for bridging communities.

Mr. Lynch –

- Math EQAO results and grade 8 data show that USS has strong math scores. Currently 14% above the DDSB avg. in grade 9 & 10 streams. Great news. Results are consistent in both Academic and Applied. Areas for improvement are measurement and Geometry. Teams are assessing data and setting goals.

OSSTF Update – Parents should follow the news and school website for the latest information. Business as usual until admin is instructed otherwise.

#### **Teacher Report – Mr. Walker**

- Music Dept Holiday Concert is Wednesday Dec. 4. Please join us for this festive night
- Staff are seeing tremendous results with the use of Chromebooks and spec ed students. There has been very positive uptake by the students of the technology. More enthusiasm for learning is being demonstrated in over achievement and heading in work ahead of schedule.
- Safe schools update – walk through completed Nov 20. Members of the team will report back.
- OSSTF strike vote was 95% of teachers in favour, 92% of custodial staff
- For updates from the union visit [www.bargainingforeducation.ca](http://www.bargainingforeducation.ca)
- Latest offer from government reduces classroom from 28-1 to 25-1. Online learning still among the issues.

#### **Guidance Report – Mrs. Allen:**

- Grade 8 tours took place on Nov. 6. Student leaders were tour guides.
- Scholarship Report was issued in early November and all grade 12 students should have received it.

- Resiliency education and coping skills remain a focus for guidance in helping students navigate transitions. Grade 10 students recently focused on kindness and left anonymous messages of kindness, forgiveness, apologies and thank yous.
- On the 28<sup>th</sup>, grad details will be shared
- Application support for students preparing for post-secondary is being offered.
  - Myths about school application (these have been shared on Google Classroom)
  - “Early acceptance deadline – does not exist”. Acceptance can be random in timing
  - “If I wait to apply, they will see better marks”. DO NOT wait to apply. All marks submitted are the same. Term and midterm marks only.
  - “Some applications are free”. NO applications are free. You get 5 applications to colleges for \$99. No additional fee or more than 5. You get 3 university applications for \$150. Each additional application costs \$50.
- OUAC – some schools have supplementary applications. These may not be due with the application so do not wait. They will follow through the portal.
- Leadership Fundraiser, selling of Kicking Horse coffee, resulted in \$700-800 raised.
- Honour Band has been organized by Ms. Peck. Great participation and feedback. Other departments are reaching out to the elementary schools for other opportunities (ie Drama, Art).

#### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

February 11, 2020

April 21, 2020