

Minutes

Sir Robert Borden High School Council

January 13, 2015

A regular meeting of the Sir Robert Borden High School Council was held on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 19:00 hours in the library at Sir Robert Borden High School, 131 Greenbank Road, Ottawa.

Present:

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| Michael Blakely (Teaching Staff) | Carolyn Matson |
| Sonya Boersmo | Samira Ouaz (Secretary) |
| Ema Chaudhuri | Heike Payne |
| Sheryl Hamilton | Paula Shaver (Chair) |
| Louise Halpenny | Wendy Verreault (Principal) |
| Ismail Elmi | Andrew Williams (Teaching Staff Rep) |
| Cynthia Mar | |

1. Call to Order

Paula Shaver called the meeting to order at 19:05 hours.

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Heike Payne, seconded by Sheryl Hamilton, to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2014 meeting.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Heike Payne, seconded by Sheryl Hamilton.

4. Student Report – The Student Rep was absent. (Students are busy with exams)

5. Principal's Report - Wendy Verreault

Wendy Verreault invited the attendees to a tour of the Music rooms at Sir Robert Borden.

The tour was led by the Music program teachers.

Naming the SRB library - Robert D. Hayes:

Robert D. Hayes had been a teacher at SRB for 40 years, and was a highly regarded professional, coaching basket ball and was involved in the local community.

The staff at SRB has approved the naming of the library in 2012 and this council has approved it in 2012. The trustees have also approved and the students were informed. There is a request from the staff to the council to re-approve the motion in 2015.

Robert D. Hayes library

Motion presented by Principal Wendy Verreault to name Sir Robert Borden school library Robert D. Hayes.

Motion moved by Cynthia Mar, seconded by Louise Halpenny.

Motion unanimously approved by the council.

Presented the results of the recent district review. The principal was pleased with the results. Charts displayed on the wall show heat maps of many positive aspects of the school:

- **Listening actively**
- **Collaboration**
- **Independent work**
- **Lots of technology**
- **Diversity**
- **Group work**
- **Students happy to be in class**

The district review left 3 unanswered questions:

- **Collaboration inquiry**
- **Opportunities**
- **Students' needs**

The Principal to present a plan to the board that will come with funding: this will allow the teachers to go to other classes (release time)

Students spoke very well to the district reviewers.

There is a need to have teachers get together so they can discuss about to improve the teaching.

Wendy Verreault reported that she finally found the third microwave (had been discussed in previous meetings).

Newsletter update:

Well received and the council liked it.

Information related to costs:

61 cents each color, 9 cents B/W, 37 cents color + B/W

Total cost was \$405 for 900 copies.

Council would like to do it again with a mix of color and black & white to reduce costs.

Give back

3 gift bags were given to students.

Fundraising for Corporal Nathan Cirillo.

Bullying Prevention Plan:

SRO was invited to the school. Documents were distributed to the school community about the program. SRB is the first school to implement the plan.

Girls Talk is a weekly event and 8 to 10 girls are attending.

Upcoming Events

Grade 8 Information Night

Course Contracts in February

Guidance Councillors at GMS for future Grade 9 students

Reboot assembly

A flyer about Resources for Parents was circulated among the attendees.

School Safety Indicators:

Bullying at SRB is lower than the board's average. It occurs most often during break periods (hallways, locker rooms) and after school.

The SRO s always involved in bullying incidents

A suspension is the most frequent outcome.

The \$500 deposit has not occurred yet.

Discussion

1. A question was raised by Heike Payne about the impact on the students when the bus is late to pick them up. The principal was not aware of any bus being delayed. Proposal to make sure the teachers will know about it when it happens. The rules about the the students being late were relaxed.
2. Comment by Paula Shaver about moving the traffic signs since the drop off is too slow.

6. Teaching Staff Report - Andrew Williams

Upcoming Events

January 20/21: Math EQAO

Jan 26-29: Exam Days

Feb 2: Start of semester 2

Feb 9: Assemblies for Course Contracts for Grades 9 to 12 for 2015-16

Feb 11 : Report cards issued @ 3PM

Feb 13 : PD day

Feb 23 : Day of Pink and Toonie Tuesday (for Education Foundation)

7. Teaching Staff Report – Michael Blakely (Math Report)

Lots of good food for students

Beaver Contest

University of Waterloo Math Contests in February

Canada Computer Competition in February

Contests are useful for University admission

Math enrichment for Grade 8 students under way

Technology use of "DESMOS" - useful for graphing applications

8. Secondary School Committee Update – Paula Shaver

Main topic was the Prom.

Principal sent a report by email.

Board recommendations: no alcohol, keep it in Ontario.

More communication is needed and more accountability required.

Five high schools are taking back the proms.

Wendy Verreault stated that pre-planning is ideal and grade representatives will be elected next year. A presentation was held for the students.

A follow up with the parents' committee is planned.

The students are making the decisions. The principal prefers the War museum over the museum of Nature. The students chose the boat cruise for after party. Security was confirmed by J.R (checked by Gatineau police). No response about security on the boat. It will be an SRB only party.

No contract was signed as of January 13/2015

Results of a survey conducted on December 8, 2014 (inspired from AY Jackson) :

80 students over 220 responded.

94% for choose Diner and after prom

83% wanted it after June

54% wanted it downtown, 4% in the school

Preferences were: event to be formal, no parents attending, a unique location and a buffet

Discussion:

Sonia: can we make the students look into alternatives next year?

Date has to be in May but the problem is that the Catholic board already book everything in May.

Paula: How to get started on having a shift in the culture of the proms.

Wendy Verreault: The change has to come from the students. We need to talk to small groups of students. We need to inform the students of Grade 12 and as well those of Grade 11.

9. Financial Report – Wendy Verreault

The balance is \$ 267.23.

The council has not received the \$500 fund from the Ministry.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 21:30 hours.

Next meeting : March 10, 2015 at 19:00.

Minutes approved by:

Paula Shaver, Chair

Samira Ouaz, Secretary