

St. John's Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 24, 2024

Minutes

Parents

1. Alumni

- a. **Parents** – want successful St. John’s Alumni to present to students on their successes and challenges, their life stories. These individuals are mentors, role models for our youth and set a great image of St. John’s High School. Important to create a community of proud graduates.
- b. Principal Davidson will connect with Brian Burdy, President of the Alumni Association, to discuss possible Alumni to come to school and parent council

2. WSD Strategic Plan

- a. **Parents** went to the **Strategic Validation of Data** at Tec Voc to go over the draft of results from last year, unfortunately they were presented on an unreadable screen with no handouts. They asked for comments if the data did not reflect or was missing info from prior focus group. The WSD summarized all the data into 3 words: Community, Inclusion, and Excellence. Attendees asked what is excellence?
- b. The information present was for Tec Voc & St. John’s Focus groups, which didn’t relate to most of the people at the meeting.
- c. St. John’s Parents went to North District Advisory Focus group, which will be presented at the next meeting in November, still don’t have a date due to scheduling. Parents expressed that they are not given enough notice for these meetings.
- d. Parents – need more notice for WSD meetings

3. School Population Growth

Principal Davidson:

- a. Population numbers are high for grade 7/8. Opening another classroom and hiring a new teacher for November. Not sure why the numbers are higher this year but could be due to WSD changes in keeping youth in their school catchment area

4. Cafeteria

Follow-up – Lunch Long Line Ups: youth are waiting in line for an hour to get food.

Principal Davidson:

- a. created a barricade for lineup so there is no cutting
- b. Extra classroom in November will help with cafeteria timelines
- c. Still a work in progress

5. Bursaries - Update on reward structure:

Principal Davidson informed that this quarter it will remain the same in structure due to timelines. A different structure will apply in the next quarter.

- a. Grade 7/8/9 - structure will change a bit but top 3 with highest marks will still receive bursaries.
- b. Grade 10/11/12 - will reward the highest academic student plus honour students' gifts / cultural teachings / practices / engagement
- c. Parents wanted to know who qualifies and who decides

Principal Davidson: the criteria will be collective decision as well as recommendations from: Peer, Staff & Committee. For example, students must attend 70% of the time

Once the criteria are decided – it will be sent to students and their families for feedback.

6. Educational Assistant:

- a. The number of EAs went from 44-31 from last year
- b. Principal Davidson explained that the needs are being met on a case-by-case basis and still figuring it out. EAs will work with several students and some will work 1 on 1 with students depending on need.
- c. Still till early to see the results of the change.
- d. Why did we remove so many EAs when Chief Superintendent Matt Henderson informed PAC parents at last year's meeting that WSD needs EAs, so apply and get training. Parents did apply and get training now on the sub list. Contact Matt for clarification.

7. New business:

Mark your calendars - Next Meeting – Thursday, November 14 2024, at 4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Any questions, please contact:

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