

Parent Council September 26, 2019:

- Introductions
- Election of chair:
 - o Acclaimed Martina Whittiker (M.W) as the chair
 - o Martina accepted
- Asked if anyone would like to be secretary:
 - o Joy Webster agreed to take on the role of secretary
 - o Requested computer for notes
- Noted the need to address the field trip plans to seek approval
- Questions about field trip opportunities that arise as the year progresses that may not be on the list
- M.W. noted we address on an individual basis
- Joy Webster (J.W) asked about OELP trip, gave the price, and not noted in the field trip plan
- J.W. notes the need to get back to students and families about the need to communicate if the trip is taking place- A. Bernardi to be notified
- Dana Wright (D.W.) noted concerns around the current climate
- M.W. notes that there is likely a lot new
- Question asked if there was school funding to subsidize costs, if it is able to be fundraised or if the cost is on the families
- Question: Are the majority of these trips actually taking place?
- M.W. Yes, many do, lots of athletics and field trips. If no additions, chair needs to sign.
- Next item: Fundraising plans
 - o Shared copy for review
- Question Asked: about the OELP and how it functions, explained the 4-credit program.
- Question Asked: about Parent Teacher Interviews- A. Chornobaj advised it was October 17th 5:30-7:30pm
- Asked how to request interview- slips will be given and students and students could book with each teacher
- Question: asked about the Bear Creek online program for booking parent teacher interviews. Need to investigate- Follow up with Bear Creek
- Question: asked about second semester parent-teacher interviews: Advised date is March 26th 5:30-7:30
- M.W. noted a table set-up to meet parents and direct traffic requested for Parent Teacher night- A.Chornobaj to arrange with custodial
- Asked if any parent can join parent teacher night. J.W. has volunteered
- M.W. noted you can reach out to teachers at any time during the year if you have any concerns.
- M.W. notes that meeting dates that are confirmed will be shared with families in other events (i.e. scholarship presentations, etc.)
- Asked if we are going to do the community tables: M.W. advised he will have the community partners as well and in progress of reaching out.
- D.W. notes: Sports are running, she recapped all extra-curriculars that are currently running (I.e. October 7th- NHL 20)
- Question: Can the Outdoor classroom be used in connection to the agriculture program.

- Answer: Outdoor classroom is accessible to all teachers, identified some of the concerns (i.e., noise, maintenance, etc.) but that it is fully available.
- Link Crew activities taking place and upcoming were noted
- Politics debate open to students upcoming
- Student vote for election campaign
- Will announce after the 21st
- Flag football girls get to go to play with the women's argo team
- Robotics teacher: notes the club and the information about the club, looking for staff and community mentors and/or community supports
- M.W. opened up to new business:
 - o Question: notes A. Bernardi's struggle with keeping students in the building at lunch. Notes opportunity for "beautification" opportunities. Asked if there are opportunities to make this happen
 - Answer: Absolutely and would be presented to a variety of faculty who can incorporate into programming
 - o A.C. noted the SHSM health and wellness and the fact that they are undertaking to beautify the space
 - o D.W. notes that they are using common spaces regularly by classes and at lunch, but notes that not all areas have A/C so windows are open and noise and it carries.
 - o M.W. noted 5 picnic tables have been made and will be going out into the courtyard.
 - o M.W. noted the intermurals that are also taking place
 - o J.W. likes that her sons go out and downtown and the life skills that are being learned.
 - o Asked about reducing time at lunch and concerns for social time at lunch and that their social needs won't be met. Doesn't want to reduce the time at lunch.
 - o Noted that the board minutes had BMHS as the 2nd listed as a priority on capital plans.
 - M.W. will put on the next agenda to readdress with A. Bernardi
 - o Requested to know about the scholarship presentation when and information session on a parent council night.
 - o Question: Award night- specific to honour roll and not on other achievements. Should your parents not be in the audience to "cheer" for them?
 - Answer: A.C. currently being presented to the Excellence committee to determine specific details about the event
 - o Concern: Didn't like that at commencement when students were asked to stand as Ontario scholars after being recognized on stage. Didn't feel it was fair.
 - o M.W. discussed what goes into Character Awards and what goes into it and how they are honored.
 - o M.W. notes that we have sought student voice and students have noted that they want it in the day.
 - o Concern: Noted that we are one more step away from the community if we move it away from the evening.
 - o Suggestion: Parents coming to support maintaining the outside space by weeding and helping with the gardening. Alliston District Horticulture society plant sale.
 - o Conclusion/ Dismissal