



DHS SCHOOL COUNCIL Minutes **Monday November 28, 2022 (4:30pm-5:30pm)**

1. Call to Order

Doreen Armstrong-Ross (Chair)

2. Roll Call

Present: Doreen Armstrong-Ross , Melissa Smit, Pame Williams, Christina Baril, Christine McLeod, Sheri McMenemy, Lesley Norman, Michelle May (staff rep), Natasha Menard-Mousseau (Principal)

Regrets: Syrena Lalonde (Vice Principal), Tristan Ilko (Vice Principal)

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

October 5, 2022

Approved

4. Principal's Update

- Report/Interviews - midterm reports went out last week, parent/teacher interviews on Thursday December 1 from 3:45pm-6:15pm; community and school info will also be available during that time including e-learning optout, there will be a student art display and the DHS store will be open for parents to shop for students
- Tutoring - continues to take place Tuesday/Wednesday evenings, reminders regularly go out; also available at lunch; a tutor has been hired for inclass assistance as well; hoping all 3 options continue into 2nd semester
- Staffing - several retirements coming up; new teachers have been hired for 2nd semester including an extra teacher to assist with larger classes
- School Improvement Plan – has been completed; data in plan was collected via surveys/observations of both students and staff; plan includes ways to address student/staffing needs and key areas of focus with goals for each
 - ACTION – Natasha to share plan electroically with school council (completed)
 - ACTION – if anyone has feedback, please share with Natasha
- KP Hits – document was shared at last meeting; continues to be a focus of professional development for staff including how to implement the strategies into the classroom to increase student success
- Discussions:
 - Support for student socialization? Staff identify students needing support with DHS's student success process (parents can also reach out); students that need support are linked to an administrative staff who works with them and follows up on any issues
 - Lockdowns – can students get their phones during one? No, phones should be off and not in use; information about lockdowns was sent out via email to parents; school priority is safety of students/staff; school admin will take direction

about communication from emergency response and will not communicate until approved/suggested by them

5. Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Update

- PIC is a committee made up of school council reps from all schools in KPDSB; a space to share between schools; info from the board is also provided during meetings
- Doreen and Pame represent DHS on the committee
- PIC meeting is taking place on Monday December 5; minutes will be shared once available
 - ACTION – if anyone has questions/concerns that they would like taken to a meeting, please share with Doreen and Pame

6. Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

- Funding is available for the 2022/2023 school year; schools will need to submit a letter of intent before PIC meeting on Monday Dec 5
- Discussion around what DHS could use the funding for (all funds must be used to engage parents in some way) - link with what the school is doing around mental health/coping strategies for students as parents can further assist with that; offer something similar to a “health fair” with community/school info for parents during parent/teacher interviews
 - ACTION – Lesley will take the lead on drafting the letter of intent for DHS
 - ACTION – Christine to send letter for 2021/2022 PRO Grant with Lesley (completed)

7. 2023-2024 School Year Calendar – pre-consultation survey

- Sent to all school councils with request that they submit a response
- Preferred start date – Sept 4
- Preferred winter holiday – Dec 22
- Scheduling of PD days suggestions – November 1 (after Halloween), Monday/Friday preference
 - ACTION – Doreen to submit response on behalf of DHS school council

8. KPDSB Policy 313 (Anti-Sex Trafficking) – review

- school councils (and all parents) can review KPDSB policies that are currently up for review
 - ACTION – review Policy 313 and send any comments to Doreen

9. Gender-related Awards – discussion

- Has there been any discussion about continuing to offer male/female academic (and other) awards taking into consideration that students may not identify as either gender or as the gender marked on enrolment?
 - Yes – discussions have taken place with both staff and RADISH student group, RADISH suggested that it be taken to the Student Senate where more students could voice their opinion; the school will take any feedback into consideration



10. French Immersion Recognition at Graduation – discussion

- Is there a way to recognize students graduating with their French Immersion (FI) certificate at graduation ceremonies?
 - Suggestion that FI students are provided with a graduation sash similar to those who complete any Specialist High Skills Majors (SHSMs)
 - ACTION – Natasha to look into this further and consider what might be done to recognize these students

11. Adjournment

Next meeting: February 6, 2023 at 4:30pm

