

DHS SCHOOL COUNCIL Minutes

Wednesday October 5, 2022 (6pm-6:45pm)

1. Call to Order

Natasha Menard-Mousseau (Principal)

2. Roll Call

Present: Melissa Smit, Sheri McMenemy, Pame Williams, Lesley Norman, Christine McLeod, Natasha Menard-Mousseau (Principal), Syrena Lalonde (Vice Principal), Tristan Ilko (Vice Principal)

Regrets: Doreen Armstrong-Ross

3. Minutes from the previous meeting

No previous minutes to review for the 2022/2023 school year; deferred until next meeting

4. Election of School Council Executive

- Chair: Doreen Armstrong-Ross
- Vice Chair: Pame Williams
- Secretary: Christine McLeod

5. Meeting Dates

- DHS School Council will hold at least 4 meetings during the 2022/2023 school year; 2 each semester
- Tuesdays and Wednesdays were flagged as days to avoid as a few parents would not be able to attend
 - ACTION: Natasha will reach out to others, including the Chair, to see what dates will work for majority of council members


6. Principal's Update

- Enrollment
 - 592 students enrolled in DHS for the 2022/2023 school year:
 - Grade 9: 137
 - Grade 10: 143
 - Grade 11: 114
 - Grade 12+: 198
 - Full compliment of teaching staff this year
- Grade 9
 - Intro Day took place for students entering into grade 9 and included tours, activities and teaching/staff intros
 - T-shirts have been ordered for all students in grade 9; will be distributed soon
 - "Workshop Day" is taking place on October 28 for all grade 9 students; focus will be on online safety, team building and mental health

- All grade 9 classes have been “destreamed”; students will now have a longer and more equitable opportunity to decide their academic future
- Post COVID
 - Current COVID guidelines for schools:
 - Screening of all students/staff before going to school each morning; if sick, stay home
 - Masks worn when required (10 days after being sick or having tested positive for COVID)
 - All extra curricular activities, including sports and clubs, are back and running as usual
 - Lockers and cafeteria are fully accessible and open to all students
 - Learning Recovery Funds were provided to all Ontario schools; DHS using the funds to offering free tutoring opportunities:
 - Tutoring is available to any student that would like to access it, for any subject
 - Grade 12 tutors are available during lunch hours (they either receive volunteer hours or wages)
 - Mrs. Lotze is available after school
 - DHS will be sending out weekly reminders via email/social media and internally so that students and parents are aware of when/where tutoring is available each week
- Progressive Discipline
 - DHS is using a form of progressive discipline in partnership with restorative practices for issues that require discipline (ex: bullying, vaping, cannabis, alcohol, etc):
 - 1st “offence” – education on specific topic (google classroom), discussion with staff, completion of learning assignment
 - Next “offence” and beyond – consequences will increase leading to suspension when/if necessary
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
 - School staff will be taking part in regular PLCs to increase personal development and student achievement/success
 - To accommodate PLCs, there will be the usual PA days and 3 late start days each semester; dates and reminders will be shared via email/social media and internally with students
 - Bussing students will be able to access the library during late start days
 - ACTION: Natasha to look at possibility of opening up a gym or other area that bussing students can access on late start days
- KP HITS (High Impact Teaching Strategies)
 - New KPDSB resource for teachers focused on 10 key strategies that can have a greater impact on student achievement and success

7. Other

- School Council meeting participation:
 - DHS student council reps, teaching and non-teaching staff members will be invited to attend future school council meetings



8. Adjournment - Next meeting:

Nov/Dec 2022 – date TBD

- ACTION: Doreen/Natasha will send out dates asap

