

Shannen-Koostachin - School Council Meeting  
Monday September 16, 2024 6-7pm  
Meeting Minutes:

Member Vote to open the meeting: Sara Momani & Kirsteen Cannell

1. Welcome/Land Acknowledgement & Introductions:
  - Kylie Gallagher: Welcome to the meeting & Land Acknowledgement
  - Kylie Gallagher & Saima Mirza: Co-Chair welcome & intro/bios
  - Mrs Maria Marino: Principal welcome & intro/bio
  - Mr Chris Hollingsworth: VP welcome & intro/bio
  - Ms Jaclyn Mitchell: Teacher Rep welcome & intro/bio
  - Mrs Stephanie Gear: Non-Teacher Rep welcome & intro/bio
    - o thank you for your dedication – please make sure to come back every meeting
2. Ballot Vote & Executive Members
  - Brief intro from Co-Chairs Kylie Gallagher & Saima Mirza (no vote required)
  - Brief bio from Vice-Chair nominees prior to vote:
    - o Kruti Desai
    - o Allison Larsen
  - Brief bio from Treasurer nominees prior to vote:
    - o Asmaa Salama
    - o Ibrahim Jam - unfortunately he is ineligible due to his lack of involvement last year. Removed from ballot.
  - Brief bio about Nominees for Secretary prior to vote: (Provided by Co-Chairs as neither nominee in attendance at meeting)
    - o Carly Gagnon
    - o Samira Nouri
  - Results of vote:
    - o Vice-chair: Allison Larsen
    - o Treasurer: Asmaa Salam
    - o Secretary: Carly Gagnon
3. Discussion
  - Expectation of members for an effective council
    - o If you are unable to attend a future meeting please notify an executive member of your absence.
    - o If you are a voting member attendance at meetings is imperative – if you miss more than one meeting expect that the chairs will reach out to discuss about ability to fulfill the commitment.
  - Introducing bylaws
    - o Work is underway to update the current Council bylaws – to be presented at a future meeting.
    - o Meeting Schedule – proposed monthly meeting except December, March & June.
      - October 7, 2024

- November 18, 2024 (moved from November 11<sup>th</sup> due to Remembrance Day)
- January 13, 2025
- February 10, 2025
- April 7, 2025
- May 12, 2025

### 3. Principals report

- Current school stats: 711 students - 36 teachers, 8 EAs & 2 support staff
- New Trio Model of Specialized Services Support (teacher, EA & CYCP)
  - Additional Supports include: Social worker, SLP, Psychoeducational Consultant, Special Education Inclusion & Equity (DECE, Communicative Disorders Assistant & Centre for Success C4S Itinerant.
- Admin Team: Chris Hollingsworth (full-time VP & Anna Ritchie Part-Time VP)
- Shannen Koostachin is excited to partner with System Behaviour Analysts & System DECE's from Universal Skills Development Program, Department of Special Education Inclusion & Equity as they train staff around ULS skills.
  - Pilot program (board wide initiative - universal skills learning 7 skills identified as precursors to learning) all board DCEs attended the school for the last week and worked with kinder classes-co-learning & training. Result = providing feedback for at home learning (and reinforcement of skills to promote learning).
    - Research based and analytics – co-developed. We are hosting this learning. Pre-life skills. Setting up learners for success long term. Reduced need for specialized services in upper grades.
- Weekly Student Success Team (SST) meetings: Lead learners committee meeting are gathering once/week to ensure channels to capture staff and student voices align within HWDSB mission "To ensure every Student experiences a sense of belonging & engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential & build their own future" Lead Learners include: Reading specialists, ELL, system support staff, administrators. First meeting happened today, sharing observations, collaborating, doing needs assessments, aligning resources, what's happening board wide and beyond to help us determine what would best serve the school/students most/best. Creating deep meaningful discussions. Specialized services attending these weekly meetings. Actionable steps, goals, aligning them with system supports. Having staff voices at the table is imperative in this. Already using some parent observations at this table.
- Athletics: many sporting events already underway – running club, Terry Fox Run happening for students September 27<sup>th</sup>. PhysEd teachers & staff collaborating to meet the needs of our learners across all grades.

### 4. Teacher's report:

- Ms Mitchell & Mrs Gear to act as a liaison between staff and School Council – she will report back to the staff after each Council meeting and present staff input at our meetings.
- Eco team, running club, Terry Fox Run sept 27<sup>th</sup>, for intermediates the Hamilton Philharmonic has a program where they will come to attend the school to do workshops.

Application has been completed and submitted by Council Co-Chairs so hopeful that our school will be selected and these workshops will start to happen later this year.

- Fall Meet the Teacher upcoming (beginning of October).
- Reminder: Records checks are required for any in school volunteering – must obtain from Hamilton police and submit to the office. Checks are good for 3 years (annual declaration is required). Contact: Nancy – Head Secretary for more information on this.

5. Chair's report

- Book drive for library – accepting book donations to help fill library shelves
- Looking to explore this possibly to do this for upcoming October open house or at a later date.
- Fundraising plans: Fundraising Proposal is due in October so we will need move forward with those plans quickly in preparation for next meeting .
  - o 1<sup>st</sup> Movie Night likely to be in Novmeber.
  - o Pizza days – hoping to start mid October (after classroom re-org)
- Next meeting (proposed) – October 7, 2024 at 6pm
- Meeting Agendas are posted 48hours prior to meetings. If you have anything you would like to bring forward please be sure to contact Co-Chairs by email before then.

Council email: [shannenkoostachinSC@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:shannenkoostachinSC@hwdsb.on.ca)

6. Adjournment - Thank you for your commitment to council this year.

- Vote to close meeting by Sara Momani & Kirsteen Cannell