

Clarke Parent Council Meeting Minutes
for Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 7:00pm

In attendance:

Silvia Grdovic
Chris Scott
Robin Blesse
Trevor Stone
Claire Stone
Cassandra
Jen Sidlaukas

Regrets:

Maya Wade
Arnold Monstert

Call to order at 7:00pm

1. Approval of last meeting's minutes. Motion to pass minutes: Trevor 1st, Cassandra 2nd
2. Principal Report:
 - Progress reports are complete and available on Edsby
 - Teacher-parent interviews night went well. There was a good turnout. First one since before pandemic
 - Mid-term reports will be available around November 16
 - Three mandated fire drill and lockdown practices, to prepare staff and students for any emergencies, have been completed this semester
 - October 24, 2022 was a PA Day. Staff were engaged in two major topics in the morning which included Anti-Sex Trafficking and KPR Guidelines on the non-use of racial and other epithets and slurs. In the afternoon staff worked on topics which included creating culminating activities, de-streaming, and exploring resources related to post-secondary pathways
 - Upcoming events:
 - November 2 - Grade 9 TOKTWD, Grade 8 students visit Clarke
 - November 11 - Remembrance Day
 - November 15 & 18 - Grade 10s will write the on-line OSSLT
 - Grade 11/12 students who still need the requirement
 - November 22 - Awards Assembly
 - November 25 - PA Day
 - There are several activities for students to participate during the lunch hour. Right now, we have the volleyball team continuing in participating in games with other schools. Winter sports are still in discussion
 - The school cafeteria is now open at lunch. It opened on Wednesday
3. No teacher rep
4. Student Council report from Claire Stone, Student Council PM:
 - Student council helped with Terry Fox run held at the beginning of October. Lots of students participated and donated to the event. There were apples and water available for the participating students
 - Council planned a Halloween spirit week in October. The spirit week started on a Tuesday due to there being a PA day on the 24th of October. The days were:

Tuesday, October 25th: Country vs Country Club
Wednesday, October 26th: Adams Family Day
Thursday, October 27th: Colour By Grade
Friday, October 28th: Anything but a backpack day
Monday, October 31st: Costume Day

5. Regional Council Report:

- meeting attended in person by Chris and online by Cassandra
- Approx 30 people in attendance, lead by Jamila Maliha
- Elected new executive
- Educational Topics for 2022-23, Proposed topics:
 - How to integrate schools into community
 - Fundraising
 - Right to Read Program
 - Behaviour Concerns and Mental Health Management
 - Presentation by Human Right Commissioner
 - Anti Sex Trafficking Curriculum
 - Programs to help identify Anxiety
 - Program to help find Trades
 - Bullying

Trustee Report: Election Results

- New Board Members start Nov 12th
- Approved Policies on Media Relations, Human Rights. Internal/external communications, How to format policies and make them user friendly, How to open a New School
- Resource Community Consultation Meeting regarding Clarke. Dec 6th and Jan 17th at Clarke S S. Bring forth Ideas on improving enrolment

Superintendent Report:

- North Glenn Receiving a Modular School to be ready for Sept 2024
- Lack of Bus Drivers affecting contracts and cost. Resulting in lack of transportation for sports, school trips and after school functions. Suggested contract Durham Transit and develop community partnerships who have transportations services
- Volunteers a concern at some schools. Criminal Records Check extended for multiple years vs every year. Trustee and Superintendent to investigate
- Discussion on Boards decision to have Grade 9s and 10s not write formal exams. Rather develop skills and strategies on how to write and then grades 11 and 12 will have formal exams. Superintendent to revisit messaging to staff on Cumulative Evaluations
- Next meeting is Nov 23

6. Questions/Comments from parents:

- Fundraising:
 - What, if at all, should we raise money for? Garden Phase 2?? Any item we raise money has to be an item the school board does not provide, student driven
 - Decided to take the year to develop strategies to achieve fundraising for next school calendar year. No fundraising this year
 - Council to generate ideas for items to raise money for and then a strategy. One idea brought forth was continuation of Garden Development (phase 2)
 - fundraising idea is Legacy Garden
 - Claire to probe ideas from Student Council

- All ideas to be brought forth for Nov. Meeting
- Methodologies or marketing Parent Council to capture more adults
 - Discussed open link to meeting (Concerns of Security, Privacy)
 - Discussed fundraising topics as this historically brings in people who want a say as to type of fundraising
 - Decided on adding more to the monthly communique on Meeting Date to include a few topics of Discussion on Agenda
- Methodologies or marketing Clarke HS to increase enrolments
 - Reiterated the Dec 6th meeting for Community Consultation on Clarke
- Possible increase in community involvement
 - Council to identify event for next calendar year to work with Student Council on participating in parades, festivals, events within the community to promote the school either by setting up video about Clarke, having band members perform, student involvement. (possible link to volunteer hours)
- Assisting student body with sourcing out volunteer opportunities
 - To help assist student body with volunteer hours locally. Council to promote and attempt to have opportunities brought to the school. For Example if an opportunity is known, bring contact information to school who will then promote through announcements, boards etc.
 - Currently Newcastle Santa Claus parade looking for volunteers for Nov Parade
- Digital Promotion Board for Parent Council
 - Replace and update the Parent Council Display Board.
 - Up Date and modernize Parent Council as a Slide Show via a storage device to be used at events via Chrome Book, TV, Tablet etc. Stored on USB Device. It can easily be updated and then used at events to promote what council does.
 - Approved and Chris and Maya to work on project to have ready for upcoming Grade 8 night
- Council requesting additional information and process for student held events like dances or after school activities if parents can volunteer
 - Teachers need to be present as the Authority Figures over students if emergency or other action is required during event
 - Discussion on timelines for event planning for then future and addressed to Claire, for student body to plan 2-3 months or for the Semester before to provide administration to confirm bookings from outside community groups (no conflict of dates) and obtain resources (teachers and staff) to assist and supervise the events
 - Planning taken into consideration and Student Council to work with liaison and when required other administration representatives
- Discussion on the announcement of Grade 7 & 8s joining Clarke to assist with the overflow of the elementary schools. This model is not new and other schools in Clarington and Durham are having success and capturing the bodies to remain in highschool. Negatives and concerns discussed. As this was a new announcement hours before meeting everyone encouraged to attend Dec 6th meeting to voice ideas concerns and feedback to the Board

6. Next virtual meeting will be November 24, 2022 at 7pm

8. Meeting adjourned