

BDHS School Council

Minutes

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Present: Jane Cartier, Tammy Toll, Cheryl Brooke, Anne Nanni, Pat Jackson, Mark Sherman, Donna Easter, Lynn Anne McEwen

Regrets: Julie Clendenning, Kathy Evans, Tammy Velinou-Richards, Lorna Bartlett

1. Welcome – minutes from last meeting (Feb.10th)
 - No corrections
2. Student Reports –
 - SC** – Melissa Langis reporting
 - Wacky Wednesdays underway this semester
 - Harry Potter week next week , lots of events
 - Grad Luncheon – Wed. June 1
 - Year End Assembly – June 10th
 - some discussion as to how to increase student participation in SC when it's a voluntary process (vs having mandatory class reps).
 - SAA** - Shawn Cartier reporting –
 - intramurals ongoing
 - ultimate Frisbee to take place outside
 - Staff . Student baseball game May 27th
 - SAA Banquet – June 7th, 6:30 - 7 pm awards @ Glad Tidings
3. Staff Report – Pat Jackson –
 - Lots of Smartboard training underway for staff
 - Coaches symposium, Pat J and Pam M. attended.

- Football sitting at 4 -1 in league play
- Kent Track and Field - some school winners, SWOSSA Wed Pm
- Rugby – girls won tonight, play SWOSSA next Thursday night (May 19th - 5 PM at BDHS) St.Clair Sec School from Sarnia is their opponent.
- basketball spring league is playing , incl. some elementary students
- outdoor trips underway – golf and canoeing as well
- curling done – appreciate the support of the community volunteers
- Career Fair – Friday May 13th , PM Café.

4. Principal's Report –Exam schedule – ABCD is continuing with A in the PM of Wed. June 22nd with four classes shortened in the morning.
- Commencement –June 29th , 6:45 PM will do AC for this year.
 - District Review from May 4th –went very well, external board visitors very complimentary and positive about the recent growth and changes at BDHS, as per our SEF indicators.
 - Wireless – expansion – added new hub in tech wing at school cost to improve access to wireless networks – still goes through the firewall for student safety.
 - Physical plant work –windows, major project to replace all the single pane windows at front of school, café, walkway. Summer installation
 - Staffing /enrollment – no changes since last update.
 - Handbook Planner – review in progress, goes off to print June 8th , please forward any items for discussion / revision

-Addition of KIDS-Help line number – to student handbook planner, consensus to include.

-Blenheim News Tribune – hats off to Tevin Shadd for his articles in the local newspaper for Bobcat events.

5. Annie Kidder –Event – April 14th

The BDHS School Advisory Council forwent its regular meeting for five members to attend the evening put on by the central Parent Involvement Committee. They hosted a guest speaker, Annie Kidder, who is the Executive Director of *People for Education*. This group is an independent parent-led organization that conducts research into the impact of government changes on education and is an advocate for the needs of the student. When it comes to looking at parent engagement that leads to improved student results at school – these were her top six suggestions that have been supported by the research:

- 1) Talk to your child about their school life.
- 2) Set reasonable but high expectations for them to work hard at school and achieve.
- 3) Go to Parent / Teacher interviews.
- 4) Read their report card and talk to them about it.
- 5) Go to school events such as: concerts, sports events, open houses.
- 6) Read to them at home, especially when they are little.

Six simple rules for success at school for your child.

6. Parent Tool Kit – resource – from CODE (Council of Ontario Directors of Education) – resources received re: increasing parent engagement. Available in office – will review at first meeting in fall, if group wishes.

7. People for Education – info –Jane some data covered re survey results of student trustees around the province, also, newsletters

are available on-line. Also mentioned that they had covered professional caution around social media use by teachers. School, along with OSSTF, has been cautious on this front for some years now.

8. PRO Grants – May 13th Deadline – On-line. – Approval in full consensus to send in the “Bobcats Keep In Touch” grant request for \$1000 to enhance , interim and mid-term reports mailing and to upgrade the student success pamphlets as well.
9. Positions for Next Year – discussion for timelines, elections – wait until fall 2011 was consensus.
10. Health and Safety – nothing new.
11. Spec Ed – not much new, although EA complement is under its annual review process currently, and there are overall Brd level program reviews ongoing.
12. Next Meeting Date - June 9th Scheduled - but group decided to forgo and keep elections, choice of Chair until the fall to include any new members in the process.
13. **Hearty Thanks to Jane Cartier for all her continuous efforts as chair of the BDHS School Advisory Council. Her efforts on behalf of staff and students is both appreciated and has had an impact. She moves on to other activities (lucky them) with the graduation of her son Shawn.**