

## **Student Advisory Council**

*Meeting minutes – February 28, 2023*

### **Attendance:**

Brea Roe, Grade 12 Rep  
Chloe Carabbacan, Student Government Co-President  
Rebekah Hart, Student Government Co-President  
Craig Poirier, Parent  
Sheetal Ajay, Parent  
Nancie de la Chevotiere, Teacher  
Jen Fougere, Teacher  
Jen McCan, Student Teacher  
Lee Anne Amaral, Principal  
Sarah Miles, Vice Principal  
Natasha Williams, Parent  
John Nisbet, Community Member  
Leah Bacich, Teacher  
Colleen Rollings, Parent  
Karen Williams, Vice Principal

### **Regrets:**

Julie Gibson, Parent and Chair  
Leslie Phillmore, Parent  
Shelley Drake, Support Staff  
Sehej Bhasin, Grade 10 Rep  
Tasnima Fabiha, Grade 11 Rep  
Tanya Skelhorn, Teacher  
Allison Lawlor, Parent

- 1. Call to Order:** At 6:00pm by Lee Anne Amaral
- 2. Approval of Agenda:** Approved by Karen Williams and Seconded by Craig Poirier
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Approved by Sheetal Ajay and Seconded by Craig Poirier
- 4. Business arising from minutes:** No business arising
- 5. Principal's Report**

Current Enrollment: 1537 students (530 Grade 10, 514 Grade 11, 483 Grade 12)

### Overnight Trips

Girls Hockey Provincials – February 24 - 26  
Boys Hockey Provincials – March 3 – 5  
Europe Trip – March 8-19

### Coming Up

Band Trip May/June 2023  
Europe Trip 2024 - March 22-31

### School updates

Production 12 class working on blinds for doorway windows.

Gym will be painted over March Break

Café wall was done looking to get the whole café and maybe some hallways

Ordered some bulletin boards

Courses – we were approved to offer a Skilled Trade 10 course for the 2023-24 school year

### Coming Up

Family Day – Monday Feb. 20

### Emergency Management Plan

Lockdown Feb 13-16 included 4 officers and went well

### Student Report

Co - Presidents : Chloe Cybel Carabbacan & Rebekah Hart

### Spirit Committee

- Love Is Love Theme Day
- Students wore Valentines Day Apparel and Pride Colors
- Coloring Activity at Lunch

### Volunteerism Committee

- Volunteer Expo
- Organizations from Keshen Goodman, Halifax Shoebox, The Halifax Help, Northwood, Ecology Action, YMCA and Feed Nova Scotia
- Grade 12 Assembly (Broadcasted to the grade 10s and 11s)
- Information Booths At Lunch
- Candy Grams - Wouldn't you love a world without Cancer
- Valentine Candy Grams (Buy one for themselves or to a friend)
- Raised over .....
- Grocery Bagging - No Frills, Spryfield
- Helped customers bag their groceries
- Successfully raised approximately over \$600 for the Terry Fox Foundation

### Arts Promotions Committee

- Coffee House
- Performances in the Cafeteria, which creates a coffee house ambiance
- Tables set up for snacks

### Athletics

- Girls Basketball are the new Division 1 Regional Champions
  - The Girls Hockey team are Regional and SSNS Division 1 Provincial Champions!
- During provincials they broke a new high school record for most games played without a loss and remained undefeated throughout the whole season!

- Halifax West Boys Hockey Team will be hosting provincials as well on the weekend of March 3rd

#### Improv Team

- Placed First in the second Play of the Regional Tournament
- Will be going to the Finals of the Regional Improv Tournament (February 28th)

#### African Heritage Month - Umoja group

- Announcements made by students of African descent and staff every morning (About their Heritage and facts about Black History) / Black National Anthem played
- Quizzes on Google Classroom for a chance to have the student interact and learn more about African Heritage Month. (Prizes given out to one student from each grade level each week)

#### Upcoming Events

Community BINGO!! (March 1st)

African Heritage Month Spirit Week (February 27th - March 3rd)

Cafeteria Staff and Admin Appreciation

Basketball 3v3 Tournament

Winter Carnival - Spirit Week

Head For A Cure (April 19th)

### **6. Finance:**

- SAC funding (\$5000 + \$1 for every student).
- SAC discussed the idea of improvements to the library. The library has become a safe, welcoming place for all Halifax West students, and could certainly use improvements such as additional seating, new tables, technology and more.
- SAC agreed to give SAC funds to the library this year

### **7. Policy Input**

There was no policy input to report at this time

### **8. New Business**

- Conversation was had around the students taking leadership roles, taking risks and preparing to present at the African Heritage Assembly. There was some discussion, within the group, regarding Black vs African but all students worked collaboratively. There was also conversation regarding the theme – Seas of Struggle. In a time where we should be celebrating the term struggle puts a negative connotation on the event. Students and staff are organizing the assembly for next week. Lunch events include musical chairs, ebony jeopardy, and cafeteria serving Jerk Chicken. Student created T-shirts are available for purchase as well.
- We had several students participate in the Buddy Daye Institute projects. A variety of projects were submitted.

- Modular - Temporary road has been created for construction staff so to not disturb the parking lot. The road will cross the pathway and the construction crew will have a spotter to support. The parking lot has lost some parking and communication has been sent to the school community that students cannot park on school grounds.
- IB – Halifax West will be investigating adding certificate courses for the 2024-25 school year.
- Credit Recovery/Insurance – continues to be offered and will continue into second semester
- Litter Campaign – a school wide clean up will be happening April 21. MLA Rafah Dicostanzo will be participating and supplying garbage bags and gloves. We are also looking at educating students about littering, the impact, etc. We are interested in the city adding garbage cans along the roads leading to the school, especially where students park.

**Next meeting:** April 25, 2023

**Adjournment:** 7:33 pm