

# OTSS School Council

## Ottawa Technical Secondary School- School Council

Minutes of School Council Meeting held on April 1, 2014

### Opening:

The monthly School Council meeting of the OTSS was called to order at 19h05 on April 1, 2014 in the library by Bruce Giles, Co-Chair, School Council. Natasha Heston acted as secretary in the absence of Annette Vogt-Cearns.

### Present

Bruce Giles  
Natasha Heston  
Judy Dwyer  
Linda Kuo  
Beverly Mallon  
Carl Dobbin  
Andrea Fisher

- **Approval of Agenda and Minutes from March 4, 2014**

Approved by Andrea Fisher, seconded by Natasha Heston.

### 3. Happenings at OTSS Principal / Staff report

#### Happenings at the school – Jane Alexander

- Working on invalid parents email addresses for P/T interviews
- Proposed dates for 2014/2015 School Council calendar:
  - September 9
  - October 7
  - November 4
  - December 2
  - January --
  - February 3
  - March 3
  - April 7
  - May 5
  - June 2
- Usually no meeting in January – School Council to vote on this
- Parent made suggestion – re maps for P/T meetings in classrooms
  - To be considered or alternative – to have P/T meetings held in the gymnasium

- Up to discussion with the teachers
- Library update
- Literacy marks come out in June
  - 2 result sheets are received, one goes into the student's OSR and the second is sent home with the student

### **Happenings at the school – Carl Dobbin**

- Proposed student enrollment for OTSS is at 450 students
- Carl Dobbin (VP) will email the School Council of OTSS a summary of "Profiling our School"
- The School Board will repeat the "Tell it from Me" survey (it wants to compare some of the data)

### **Physical Education, Athletics and the Arts – Mustang Report**

#### **Varsity Sports**

Badminton has been working hard to prepare for their qualification competitions beginning Apr. 2nd where the Seniors will see action in the Far East championships held at Confederation H.S. Top 4 per category advance.

Volunteer Staff Coaches held try outs over the last 2 weeks & came to the conclusion we're not quite ready to get back into the Varsity scene but would like to continuing working with players on an ad hoc schedule in April & hopefully play a couple of exhibition games in May.

All the news is not bad, we have entered a Track & Field team in the NCSSAA for this spring. Practice start this month indoor & weather permitting will head outdoors in May. This is one of the few sports where OTSS competes at an 'open' level against all other high schools regardless of size.

#### **Vocom Sports**

With spring Work Experience taking place at both Sir Guy Carleton & OTSS early in April both schools have had to wait in through March to start Boys & Girls Ball Hockey. Sign ups are happening this week with practices starting next week leading up to tournament day, Wed. Apr. 23rd, this year the Boys play @ SGCSS with the girls @ home.

#### **OTHER NEWS**

##### **Spring Helmet Initiative**

In cooperation with, 'The Education Foundation', we made available the opportunity for students & their families or friends, to purchase new cycling helmets at drastically reduced prices. Several students/families took advantage of the opportunity & orders

are being processed.

### **M.A.D.D. Assembly**

While the Phys. Ed. Dept. didn't organize the assembly for this purpose we were sure happy to support it as it directly connects to health curriculum we deliver. We wanted to ensure all our classes attended the assembly, sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, & benefited from the message. The young speaker was compelling & the multi-media presentation provided a dose of reality as to the dangers of being in a car or operating a car under the influence of drugs or alcohol...an important message for all young people at an age where they are tempted to experiment with substance use/abuse.

### **Coming Up**

Arts students will have the opportunity to attend a spectacular multi-arts disciplinary show, "A Musical Taste of Our Canadian Heritage", at Algonquin College's brand new theater on April 9th. This should truly be one of the highlight field trips of this semester. We look forward to sharing more next month about it's wonderful costumes, music, acting & celebration of Canadian culture.

### **From the Special Education department**

#### **GLP News**

Mr. Rosecrans, the group B GLP teacher, in conjunction with The Environment Club, is arranging an educational program visit on worm composting produced by Geraldine Baker, aka - the Worm Lady - for all GLP and PSP classes in April.

Gerrie is a farmer who uses worms to solve a number of environmental issues in at her farm. She removes wastes, produces compost, and warms her greenhouse all with the digestive power of worms.

They will use the greenhouse to host the event.

### **Autism Program**

Some students are helping with sap collection at the Vanier Sugarbush, in March and April.

Other work sites currently ongoing are the Overbrook Foodbank, Salvation Army Thrift Store on Mtl Road, and several research labs (University of Ottawa) where students prepare sterilized lab equipment (tips for pipettes, etc) for use in the research labs.

Skating on Wednesdays has ended for this year. A series of different community excursions will be put on the calendar in its place - bowling, park cleanup, etc.

### **News from Science & Math**

- **Science**  
- Science Field Trip to the Canada Museum of Science and Technology ... Criminal Science Investigation Field.
- **Math**  
Earlier this semester we sent a Math teacher to the workshop ... Grade 9 Gap

Closing with Dr. Marian Small.

- **Pro Grant**
- Carl Dobbin would like to include videos and e-books with the ProGrant monies in creating the Parent Reference Library
- OTSS' Term 3 ends April 11, 2014 and the Term 4 begins April 14, 2014
  - Report cards will be distributed April 29, 2014
- **Adjournment –**

Meeting of April 1, 2014 adjourned – approved by Judy Dwyer and seconded by Beverly Mallon.

The **next meeting** will take place on **May 6, 2014**.

Submitted by Annette Vogt-Cearns, from notes taken by Natasha Heston. – Thank you Natasha!