

OTSS School Council

Ottawa Technical Secondary School- School Council

Minutes of School Council Meeting held on November 4, 2014

Opening:

The monthly School Council meeting of the OTSS was called to order on November 4, 2014 by Bruce Giles at 7:00 pm., Chair, School Council in the OTSS library.

Present

Bruce Giles
Carl Dobbin
Jane Alexander
Christina MacDougall
Linda Kuo

- **Approval of Agenda and Minutes from September 9, 2014**

Since there was no members at this meeting that were at the October Meeting, Bruce Giles approved Minutes and Agenda with no Second.

- **Happenings at OTSS – Principal/Staff Report**

Principal's Report – Jane Alexander

Recent events:

- We had a very successful 10th annual Terry Fox Walk, Run & Roll on October 9th, raising \$100 to support cancer research
- October was a very busy month with the last week in October being a very active spirit week. Among the events were a Bake Sale in which our baking students raised \$150.00 for the Ottawa Mission and on Friday afternoon, a super successful Halloween dance.

Upcoming events:

- November 7th, 9am – Awards of Excellence at 9am in which we recognize our students many achievements. Parents are welcome to join us for the ceremony.
- November 11th, 10:30am – Remembrance Day Assembly
- November 26th – Term 1 Report cards distributed to all students

Debrief of school response to tragic events on Parliament Hill on October 22nd:

- We were alerted to the events on Parliament Hill by our School Resource Officer, who directed us into "secure school" mode at approximately 10:20 am. Secure school means all exterior entrances are locked and students remain in their classrooms, proceeding with their regular classroom activities.
- Our Board's communications department was providing our admin team with regular updates about the ongoing situation in the community. At about 11am, we were able

to switch from secure school mode to "Shelter in Place". This allowed students to move freely within the school, but not leave or enter the building.

- Our priority during this time was to ensure the safety of all of our students and staff, while maintaining a calm atmosphere and communicating appropriately to all involved.
 - Once the lunch period was over, at approximately 12:50pm, I send a syner voice e-mail informing all parents/guardians that we continued to be in Secure School mode.
 - At approximately 1:30 we were advised by police and the School board that we could resume normal operations. At that time a 2nd syner voice e-mail was sent to all parents advising them of this development and that transportation would be in place as usual at the end of the day, though some delays could be expected.
 - At 6:30pm we received the all-clear that all transportation drop-offs had been completed.
 - In the days that followed, all staff were asked to remain vigilant for any students who may be experiencing distress or anxiety surrounding the events, and to refer any concerns to our guidance department.
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- **Report from Departments**

Tech News:

Our students participated in the "Finding Your Pathway" event (formerly World of Work) sharing their skills and knowledge in Baking, Construction, Masonry and for the first time Jewelry making. Our Marketing students helped grade 8 students fill out surveys about the event. It is very exciting to see what great ambassadors our students are for OTSS!

The Baking program held a Bake sale last week raising \$150 for the Food bank! Stay tuned for the upcoming Christmas bake sale.

Co-Op Update for School Council:

All of the co-op students have placements and are working hard at work! We have students in many different types of jobs from retail, garage, restaurants, school, hotel kitchens and hair salons.

On Wednesday, Nov 5 there is Take Our Kids To Work day. Students have an opportunity to go to work with a parent, guardian or friend. It is the first introduction for many students to the World of Work.

Science:

We have successfully prepared for chemical disposal and are gearing up for safety inspections. these efforts are important to ensure lab safety for our students and staff.

Mustang Report

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Varsity Sports

Most of our fall teams have completed their regular season schedule. Congratulations to Sr. Boys Soccer & Co-ed Cross Country on their efforts. In particular, all of the Cross Country team members accomplished personal best performances both at the NCSSAA East Division meet, as well as, in the NCSSAA City Championships !

Thanks to all the volunteer staff-coaches & student-athletes who participated.

Varsity Hockey continue to complete their regular season schedule, with 5 games still to play, the boy's working hard to make the playoff's. Home games are played at Bernard Grand Maitre Arena at nearby McArthur Rd.; Wed. Nov. 5th 4 p.m., 2:30 p.m., Wed. Nov. 12th 4 p.m., Wed. Nov. 19th 3 p.m. & Mon. Nov. 24th 5p.m..

The NCSSAA winter sports season is now upon us. Several try out sessions were held recently for both boys basketball & Sr. Girls Volleyball. Coaches have carefully evaluated talent & have decided to go ahead, as well as, Boys & Girls Wrestling. There are 15 weight classes within each gender to compete. Weight classes are approx. 8 pounds/4 kilo's apart.

Vocom Sports

The beginning of November brought with it the annual Vocom **Soccer** Tournament. Between both schools there were 11 teams boasting over 70 students-athletes. The mighty Mustangs took the boys crown & our girls team were finalists. Several Mustangs players for both boys & girls were recognized for their talents by being selected Tournament All Stars &/or receiving True Sport Awards.

Next Vocom sport is the ever popular, **Co-ed Dodgeball**. Practices start week of Nov. 3rd. Tournament day is Nov. 20th @ OTSS. December features basketball.

We have a new group cheering on THE MUSTANGS, this year marks the return of our **cheerleading squad**, they are fine tuning their skills a couple times a week at lunch under the watchful eye of staff & hope to make their debut in the near future.

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Clubs

Fitness Club continues to build a following who utilize the fitness center before school (on Tues.'s & Thurs.'s thanks to staff volunteers who come in early to open), selected day's at lunch & after school Monday-Thursday. This is bright, well appointed space, with a large variety of different training apparatus, certainly above average quality compared to most school sites.

5. Report Cards

- Go out on November 26, 2014

6. Meeting Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned by Bruce Giles, seconded by Linda Kuo. Next meeting December 2, 2014.