

# January School Council Agenda



## Voting Members

Co-Chairs: Freda Vanopoulos and Alex Zych

Treasurer: Amy Dodds

Secretary: Jenny Green

Members at Large: Jonathan Yantzi, Jessica Taylor Charland, Lauren Tomson, Kelsey Phillips, Andie Morton, Krista Craig, Kimberly Hall, Sonja Kovacevic, Lisa McLaren, Debra Orrell, Heather Jepson, Danielle Leahy Laughlin, Tulika Patankar

## Non-Voting Members

Mareika Smith (Principal)

Zara Moazzam (Vice Principal)

Tania Laurie (Staff Rep)

| Time    | What   | Minutes   |
|---------|--|---|
| 7 pm    | <p>Land Acknowledgement</p> <p>We begin by acknowledging the land and our responsibility to care for and respect all that provides us with life. This land upon which HDSB is situated is on the ancestral, treaty, and title lands of the Anishinaabek Ojibwe Michizaagiig Nation, now known as the Mississaugas of the Credit. Michizaagiig territory in the past and present continues to host both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.</p> <p>The HDSB is committed to continuous knowledge building with respect to actions that address and resolve the ongoing impacts of colonialism. We do this by learning and understanding the true history, treaty obligations, duties and responsibilities, and Indigenous Rights while actively maintaining mutually beneficial relationships and collectively respecting and caring for the land.</p> |   |
| 7:05 pm | <p><b>Approval of the Minutes from the November Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Approval of the Agenda for the January Meeting</b></p>   | <p>Moved by: Tulika<br/>Seconded by: Krista</p> <p>Moved by: Jessica<br/>Seconded by: Jonathan</p>  |
| 7:10 pm | <p><b>Principal and Staff Report</b></p>   | <p><b>Tania re: Staff report</b></p> <p>Fundraisers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Over \$3000 for Open Doors and Wellington Square program (\$1280)</li> <li>- Book fair: Blanche sends thanks to parents who volunteered. First order placed with credits we kept. Some cash has been kept back from Scholastic and they will be ordering books for the library</li> </ul> <p>Student Leadership Team</p> |

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|      |      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Each class came down to play games one day in December</li> <li>- Something similar during the Winter Olympics</li> </ul> <p>PLC Team (Kindness, Community &amp; Connection)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- running events as well</li> <li>- Cougar Day would be games outside, pushing to May due to weather, and out of consideration for younger grades in snow gear. February “Caught You Being Kind” in the classrooms, and Kindness Week the week after family day</li> </ul> <p>Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Junior Ski trip has been cancelled 6 times, have brought younger grade into trip with older grades</li> <li>- Grade 6’s won a trip to Paramount Foods on Jan 27</li> <li>- Grade 8 Grad Photos on 21 Jan</li> </ul> <p>Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KidsLit sending 4 teams to regional qualifiers</li> <li>- Later in Spring, Jr. and Sr. Battle of the Books teams will represent Tuck at the Burlington Library</li> <li>- Rubix Cube club starting, grade 4-8 every Wed during 2nd break starting in Feb; Rubix cubes were provided by School Council last week</li> <li>- Vex Robotics very grateful for supplies paid for by School Council recently; tournaments upcoming</li> <li>- Tuck Idol: students are auditioning now, for show 5 March (7-9pm) in the Tuck Gym. Grades 6-8 used to fundraise for the Grade 8 trip, but now \$10 ticket will go to support Halton Learning Foundation. All grades can attend the performance of the 12 chosen acts.</li> <li>- Concert Band and Jazz Band and Rock n Roll Club all ongoing</li> <li>- Choir not running in January; Jr. Choir starting in February (will sing at Christopher Terrace); Sr. Choir will start up after Volleyball due to scheduling</li> <li>- Performance being planned for Music Day</li> </ul> |

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|      |      | <p>Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intramurals for grades 3-5 ongoing</li> <li>- Skipping Club for January for Grade 2's; new club in February</li> <li>- Boys Volleyball (Jr.) 5-6, team has been practicing</li> <li>- Girls Volleyball Grade 5-6 have two tournaments upcoming (Mrs. Baswick &amp; Mrs. G)</li> <li>- Boys Basketball - Mrs. Shaw helping run</li> <li>- Girls Basketball - Mrs. Baswick and some families assisting coaching</li> </ul> <p><b>Mareika Smith re: Principal Report</b></p> <p>Scheduling / calendar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Online calendar for staff / office is the same as the one on the website, it is kept up to date</li> </ul> <p>Tennis lessons with Paula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School awaiting final documentation re: insurance</li> <li>- Instructional program leader will confirm (at the board)</li> <li>- Next steps for coach to be confirmed</li> <li>- Tennis will take place as part of the curriculum, possibly on one day when the classes cycle through the gym)</li> </ul> <p>EQAO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greatest area of need across the board is Junior Math, 51% in general met the scale; Tuck is 80%</li> <li>- Tuck scored scored well (% at or above level)</li> <li>- <b>Junior Reading: 96%</b> (Board 92%, Provincial 86%)</li> <li>- <b>Junior Writing: 93%</b> (Board 91%, Provincial 85%)</li> <li>- <b>Junior Math: 80%</b> (Board 62%, Provincial 51%)</li> <li>- <b>Primary Reading: 92%</b> (Board 80%, Provincial 74%)</li> <li>- <b>Primary Writing: 95%</b> (Board 70%, Provincial 65%)</li> <li>- <b>Primary Math: 92%</b> (Board 71%, Provincial 64%)</li> </ul> <p>Re-visioning Tuck and Mural</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mareika would like to work with students, teachers, and parents on re-visioning Tuck; who are we as a</li> </ul> |

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|         |  | <p>school community, what do we stand for? Then use that to create visual representations throughout the school, including potentially a mural by the students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop Vision Statement / Mission with the students and then hopefully have students participate in the creation of the visual work</li> <li>- Installation can take place over several years</li> <li>- There may be a request for carry-over money to be held so they are available in fall/winter 2026</li> <li>- E.g. past projects: each student gets a square which makes up part of a larger mosaic that represents the vision of the school</li> <li>- Jonathan: is there a chance of using Tuck graduates studying visual arts? Mareika will look into it.</li> </ul>  |
| 7:30 pm | <p><b>School Council Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gingerbread Social Review</li> <li>● Tuck Gives Back Updates</li> <li>● Connected Community Collective Update</li> <li>● Dance-a-Thon</li> <li>● Other Business</li> </ul> | <p><b>Heather re: Connected Community</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mareika sent out a summary; lots of younger parent engagement; high school considering connecting leadership committee to facilitate conversation</li> <li>- Meeting with Karina Gould fact finding about her mandate</li> </ul> <p><b>Mareika re: Screenagers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School Board has been purchasing licenses for Screenagers documentary (from 2016, somewhat dated now, but there have been updates); focused on the impacts of screens on mental health. All high schools have rights to screen; potentially have our grade 6-8 go to the high school to see a screening at Nelson in their auditorium, hopefully feeling special?</li> <li>- Parent Involvement Grant application, may secure \$500-700 for a student presentation (and potentially a parent presentation as well); Mareika submitted the form on behalf of School Council. Currently seeking presenters. Would need to be used by May.</li> </ul> <p><b>Frieda re: Gingerbread Social</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sold out within 48 hours (oversold); 260 registered,</li> </ul> |

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|      |      | <p>~240 attended; had lots of volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not a fundraiser, \$20 per family.</li> <li>- For next year, planning feedback session next week to get older students involved to make a STEM or competitive challenge</li> </ul> <p>Krista re: Tuck Gives Back</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Goal is to create a year long calendar of fundraising and share with the community</li> <li>- Met in November and meeting tomorrow night</li> <li>- Currently working on Mission and Vision</li> <li>- There are a few organizations involved this year; helping with Lighthouse Run at end of May, determining how we can support (e.g. running club)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can the kids do cross country on the field in the spring to practice?</li> <li>- Danielle and Krista meeting with Angela from Lighthouse for next steps</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Also connecting with ROCK for event in June (INfant Food Drive</li> <li>- Other months' to be confirmed next meeting</li> </ul> <p>Jessica re: Tuck Gives Back</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Clothing drive in November; huge collection last year filled up an entire gym; this year we still had a huge collection; anything remotely warm for ages 5 and up were taken and deeply welcome</li> <li>- Fill a Tuck Truck filled two F150 Lightning beds and 'frunks'; community hamper program received most of it (42 families supported)</li> <li>- 3 Pillars are: Donate. Participate. Advocate.</li> </ul> <p>Jessica re: Dance-a-thon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wednesday March 25 for the Dance-a-thon, during the school day</li> <li>- Team met and selected Out of This World space theme</li> <li>- Fundraising will go towards Active and Artistic Initiatives for the entire school to enjoy (may tie in to</li> </ul> |

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|         |                    | <p>mural initiative)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Photo booths, cotton candy, face painting all still on the roster</li> <li>- Aluminum foil stars to be created with cardboard leading up to it</li> <li>- Volunteering is across 3 blocks throughout the day</li> <li>- Tulika: Consider subbing in older student volunteers given return to work mandates, many parents aren't available; can we do events on a Friday so parents can participate?</li> </ul> <p>Natali Walton re: mud vs grass on the field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Any plan to replant grass? Kids are running on mud.</li> <li>- Mareika: There is a wasp situation complicating issues. The field is town owned, but not highly maintained but the trade off is that we have open access. There is also a sand base under the grass.</li> <li>- Mareika to check on whether anything can be done</li> </ul> <p>Jessica re: ice between the portable &amp; the kindergarten pen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- can we do re-grading?</li> <li>- Mareika to look into this</li> </ul> <p>Alex re: Movie Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April?</li> <li>- Alex to bring movie ideas to the next meeting</li> </ul> <p>Tulika re: STEM initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reached out to Mr. MacLean re: robotics competition within the school</li> <li>- May not be possible this year, especially given other events ongoing, but robotics fundraiser could take place next year?</li> </ul> |
| 8:15 pm | Treasurer's Report | <p>Amy re: updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sub Day Term 1 closed; netted \$3000 available for allocation</li> <li>- Term 2 ongoing; 213 orders last term and 175 orders this term</li> </ul>   |

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|      |      | <p>Mareika re: timing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Can we also do 3 separate terms for pizza day so that the funds are available sooner?</li> <li>- Jessica: trying to spread out financial requests</li> </ul> <p>Mareika re: Teacher Support list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Originally \$250, then it dropped to \$100 approved at last meeting; money hasn't been moved yet; has reconsidered and things we should raise it back to \$250; some teachers may use entire \$250 and others may not use any.</li> <li>- Can be essential for classroom supplies; Mareika is approving funding requests where teachers needed elastics and beads, for example. These sorts of things would be paid for by that \$250</li> <li>- Sarah re: can teachers pool their \$250? This has been contentious in the past. Mareika: yes then can.</li> <li>- Teachers pay with their credit card and get reimbursed from the administration or school council; this fund is like petty cash but it can't be essentials (e.g. paper, chairs, tables), but it can be cool crafts. Mareika decides where the funding comes from, but grants the request. Teaching teams can pool their funds for larger activities.</li> <li>- Bilal: Last year some funds were reallocated because they were unspent.</li> <li>- Teachers need to spend up to \$100 before claiming the full amount (it's not done piecemeal to save effort by Lisa at the office); will need to operate differently with a \$250 limit</li> </ul> <p>Mareika re: recent purchases / needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Last year School Council bought Vex kids; 7 additional kids purchased this year</li> <li>- Outdoor storage box added to Kindergarten Pen (FDK request)</li> <li>- Literacy resources purchased (\$1500 in library, and \$260 for Grade 6 reading club books)</li> </ul> |

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|         |                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sporting supplies</li> <li>- Projectors and Chromebooks</li> <li>- Haven't invested lately in refurbishing / replacing instruments that are at the end of their life</li> <li>- Robotics requested an additional \$1000</li> <li>- In total, Mareika is requesting \$2000 allocation for STEM</li> </ul> <p>Mareika re: Jungle Sport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Down payment has been made (approved last meeting)</li> </ul> <p>Motion to increase teachers' discretionary spending from \$100 to \$250 for teachers to the end of May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moved by: Jonathan</li> <li>- Seconded by: Jessica</li> </ul> <p>Motion for \$1250 to Junglesport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moved by: Freda</li> <li>- Seconded by: Alex</li> </ul> <p>Motion \$1750 to Vex Robotics and Grade 8 STEM Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moved by: Freda</li> <li>- Seconded by: Krista</li> </ul> <p><b>Mareika to share the school budget at the next meeting</b></p> |
| 8:41 pm | <b>Motion to Adjourn</b> | <p>Moved by: Jessica<br/>                     Seconded by: Krista</p>  |