

March 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 |
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| 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>Approval of the Minutes from the January Meeting</p> <p>Approval of the Agenda for the March Meeting</p> | <p>Moved by: Amy Seconded by: Krista</p> <p>Moved by: Krista Seconded by: Lisa</p> |
| 7:10 pm | <p>Principal and Staff Report</p> | <p><u>Tania Laurie re: Staff Report</u></p> <p>Dance-a-thon The Dance-a-thon is happening March 25th. Classes are creating a song list for the DJ and are collecting pledges for this awesome event. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who are working hard to make this event such a success.</p> <p>Yearbook Cover Contest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yearbook Cover and Front Page contest is now open to all students - Entries are due by April 3, 2026 - Classroom teachers were all given entries today regarding this contest. |

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| | | <p>Grade 8 Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Starting Build projects at the end of March. - Was able to replace some old palm sanders, a new drill and a bunch of new clamps thanks to the money from Parent Council. - Project introduced following March break. - Tool training for a week or so. - Groups design and draft up ideas for the project; can be anything they want provided it moves 3 different ways and is powered by hydraulics - After drafts are approved, kids can start building. They will then go through troubleshooting, as there is a slim chance it works first time - They document the entire process digitally through images and videos as they go - They finalize with a “reveal” video, showing off what their system can do <p>Grade 7/8 Girls Basketball</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have won all their games so far. All dedicated to practices and thanks to the dads helping to coach <p>Grade 7/8 Boys Basketball</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The boys won against Pineland last Wednesday. A testament to their hard work and the support of Aston, Weston and Trevin's parents who have stepped in to help coach the team this year. - Mrs Shaw, Mrs Mills and the boys really appreciate their support. Tonight they play Tecumseh. If they continue doing well the season could continue well into April. <p>Get REAL Presentations for Grade 7 and 8 in April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In February, we participated in a workshop led by the Get REAL Movement, a Canadian organization that delivers anti-racism and inclusion workshops to schools. They presented a Social Media Literacy workshop to our Grades 6–8 students. - The session helped students understand how misinformation spreads online, how to fact-check |

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| | | <p>sources, and how to use social media more responsibly. It also promoted healthy online habits, balance between online and offline life, and encouraged students to stand up against online hate and cyberbullying.</p> <p>The Saidat Show</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This Friday, our students will be engaged in The Saidat Show. - Saidat is a children’s entertainer, speaker, author, singer and songwriter. - The Saidat Show’s message of encouragement, self-worth and community-mindedness is now motivating a global audience with over 6 million views on YouTube and over 100,000 followers on social media. She presents a very strong message that comes from the heart: one person can make a difference, together we can change the world. <p>Grade 7&8 Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rock and Roll Club: Tuesdays at 11 am - Concert Band: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:07 am - Jazz Band: Wednesdays at 8:07 am - West Halton Bandshare: April 30 (restarted this year) - Bucket ball: Wednesday, the first break - Lit Quiz: Kidslit Quiz Team came in third place in Canada! <p>Lip Sync Contest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We’re opening it up to anyone in grade 3/4/5 and 6 to sign up and have an idea of what they’re doing by Monday. - The song should be something connected to kindness and/or inclusion. - Replacing Tuck Idol as a competition for older grades - Have had challenges getting kids to participate in performing in front of their peers; issue appears to be unique to Tuck. - Per Mareika, there appears to be an impact of covid era online learning leading to a reluctance to perform for |

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| | | <p>peers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Per Nat & Mike: can we consider bringing in a service to do a play or a musical? Is there anything we can do if this is unique to Tuck as a cultural issue - Per Mareika: consider using speakers budget next year for building performance arts; information will be provided <p>Manie Musicale for Grades 5-8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An annual, March Madness-style music tournament designed for students learning French to promote contemporary Francophone music in the classroom. So far 7505 schools & 927,227 students are participating worldwide. JTT students in grades 5-8 will be participating this year. - Each year, 16 French-language songs compete in a bracket-style contest. Students listen to the songs, then vote in head-to-head matchups until one song is crowned champion. The activity helps students improve listening skills, cultural knowledge, engagement and exposure to artists from different Francophone countries as well as understanding regional accents and varieties of French. - Mme Palumbo's students will be creating French music videos, artwork and poetry to further engage students & celebrate this amazing opportunity <p>Vex Robotics for Grade 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vex junior team participated in a competitive tournament on Thursday 26th @ Escarpment View PS with 4 teams. - Salma, Carter and Kayva - 3rd out of 49 team - Alexa, Claire Tran, Remi and Nathan 6th place <p>Vex Robotics for Grade 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Grade 3 Vex Go club will be starting soon <p>Rubik's Cube Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still happening on Wed. - Some of the Rubik's cubes will soon need to be replaced |

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| | | <p>Grade 6 Speakers & Field Trips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grade 6's had a parent speak on their involvement with the CANADARM on Friday 27. - Grade 6's will be having a virtual field trip with scientists involved with the Artemis 2 expedition around the moon on Monday Mar.2 - Grade 6's will have an in-school session with Halton Environmental Network on "Where Does Our Food Come From?" On Mar 27th. <p>Run Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grades 6, 7, and 8 will be invited for the run off the property and to the beach. Usually, at the end of the month, when it isn't as icy. - Junior run club (grades 2 to 5) will start when the field is dry! - Mrs. Hill & Mrs. Laurie are planning to do the Run4Lighthouse, end of May. This is a race that raises money for grieving families and children. Angela Mallard very involved. - Information about race and fundraising after the break <p>Choir</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Starting in April after Volleyball <p>Grade 4 Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CBC kids: They asked the board to send in any olympic themed work that classes were doing in Halton. Students created olympic torches, athlete biographies, medal designs and trading cards for the Canadian athletes. I submitted some of our athlete trading cards and you can see our school mentioned at the very end of this link. https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/watch-medals-arent-the-only-hardware-olympians-are-bringing-home - ROM on April 8. Ancient civilizations exhibit, and they have a lab exploration activity - Medieval Times - May 8 - We have two grade 4 students who have started a Drama club for grade 3 students. They plan all of the activities and meet once a week on Wednesdays in the |

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| | | <p>library.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grade 4 boys have started a comic-making club for grade 4 students, which will start this week, meeting on Thursdays in the library. <p>Grade 2 Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flat Stanley's have been sent home, and the grade team will be having an Open House to share their projects. The Flat Stanley unit is used to increase reading and writing skills, as well as teaches children about people and cultures from different places. <p>Grade 1 Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chicks coming in May <p><u>Principal's Report from Mareika & Zara</u></p> <p>Student community thank you letter to school council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs. Moazzam presented a letter to parent council from Grade 4 class thanking us for our support and organization <p>New soap dispensers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seems to be an urban legend that students are tampering with/contaminating the soap, leading to students refusing to use it (this was widely confirmed by parents present) - Mareika has ordered several new soap dispensers with locks to address the issue |
| 7:30 pm | Treasurer's Report | <p><u>Budget Report from Mareika (with Amy)</u></p> <p>Budget report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Budget summary was presented (categorized cleared vs not cleared vs anticipated) - Pizza prices increased for Term 2 as a delayed rollout; chose not to increase price for Term 1 even though pizza vendor increased their prices after registration opened - Estimated income for other events based on last year's data |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is approximately \$24k to distribute today <p>Staff Wishlist review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Items have been categorized red (paid for), yellow (partially allocated), and purple (not paid or distributed yet) - Needs added to the list and identified as <i>purple</i> (a priority): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Musical instrument renewal - Egg hatching: initially miscategorized; council to approve - FUNdations small group instruction books aligned with new curriculum; old readers not sufficient or aligned with current teaching. Supports K-3 classrooms - Syliasense full set - Additional Chromebooks - Remaining Junglesport payment - Note that money for most of the wishlist has been spent so teachers can use the resources this year; Mareika is providing some budget upfront that School Council will be reimbursing - Discussion introduced by Jonathan re: bulk approval & allocation of upcoming expenses (with the understanding these are likely to be funded anyway in the future) rather than approving individual items at this meeting. Supported by Mike. Concerns from Danielle that this might essentially reflect an unannounced cutoff for teachers, limiting ability to meet future requests. - Mareika requires specific direction from School Council before she moves School Council funds (a safety mechanism) - Group considered a vote to appropriate the money in advance and plan to fund the list 100% for the year. Group agreement not reached. - Group decided for today to allocate what is available <p>Motion to spend \$24750; introduced by Amy, seconded by Alex. Motion passed.</p> |

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| 8:00pm | <p>School Council Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuck Gives Back Updates • Dance-a-Thon • Movie Night • Other Business | <p><u>Krista re: Tuck Gives Back</u></p> <p>Different abilities initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lauren leading initiative - Bulletin board and announcements - Looking to start small and grow - Rollout in April <p>Lighthouse in May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting the signature run on May 30 in downtown burlington <p>Infinite Food Drive with The Rock in June</p> <p><u>Alex for Jessica re: Dance-a-thon</u></p> <p>Dance-a-thon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theme “out of this world” - Currently have raised \$2800 in school cash online - Giveaway will be rock candy on a stick instead of cotton candy, individually packaged - Each grade gets 45min at the dance; 1 hr for 7/8's <p><u>Alex re: Movie Night</u></p> <p>Movie Night at 4:30pm April 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alex proposed Dogman based on popularity and runtime - Mareika suggested Zootopia 2 (runtime 100min) - Popcorn is \$130 and will be provided by School Council free of charge <p>Motion for popcorn \$130ish from school council; made by Alex, seconded by Freda. Motion passed.</p> <p><u>Freda re: Connected Community Collective</u></p> <p>Connected Community Collective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event coming up at Nelson High School this week (Thu Mar 5); open to feeder schools. Screening a movie called Screenagers |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hoping to partner with Nelson to get senior kids involved from Tuck- Presentation for grades 6/7/8; one takeaway is to not only present the negatives; Mareika collected pros and cons from students and will be doing a bulletin board- Need to decide if attending Nelson or at Tuck; per Mareika, will take the kids to Nelson if opportunity arises |
| 8:20 pm | Motion to Adjourn | Moved by Lisa, Seconded by Freda. Motion passed. |