



GFESS Parent Council Minutes - November 21, 2022



Attendance & New Business:

Student Council's Report (Hailey H.):

- Halloween Spirit Week went well along with the sales of Candy Grams(October 25th-31st), but future efforts will be made to get the word out to more students in order to increase participation.
- Council would like to see more Senior Students (gr.11/12) attend the Halloween Dance.(Nice to see the Juniors attend)
- Preparations and planning for the upcoming Semi Formal dance taking place on December 1st.(Tickets \$45 with contract) *****SOLD OUT***** (Over 300 tickets were sold)
- Grade 8 Day which took place on November 2nd: Hands on activities went well, while also providing good student leadership opportunities.
- Remembrance Day which took place on November 11: Post cards for Peace were handed out.
- The Christmas Toy Drive is currently taking place from November 1- December 13.
- We feel that the "We Scare Hunger" food and hygiene drive was very successful, and were pleased with the support.
- Current planning is underway for the Colour Wars day taking place on December 23rd. We are aiming to increase our advertising potential to make the experience even better with more participation.
- Student Council also had the privilege of attending a Leadership Conference which was found to be beneficial.

Teachers' Report (Mr. D. Gilmore):

- CUPE strike was cancelled.
- Mid-term reports were sent out. Unfortunately there hasn't been an increase in turnout for extra help since the reports came out.
- English Help: Mondays & Tuesdays (after school in room 167), Thursdays at lunch.
- Math Help: Tuesdays (@ lunch) & Wednesdays (after school) in room 215.
- Science Help: Thursdays (after school in room 214)



NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 19, 2022 @ 6:30pm

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Principal's Report (Mr. Fred Louws):

- Sports - Girls' Volleyball tryouts, Boys' Basketball, Football (Sr. Boys' team lost to A.N. Myer last week). The coaches are aiming to keep practicing through the winter in order to prep for the spring football league. These practices will take place after school in the gym as long as it doesn't interfere with the winter sports.
- Brock Caribou Math Contest - November 23rd (Ms. Tonin teacher rep). There were approximately 15-20 students from GFESS participating. More students are encouraged to participate. Universities take note for those who do well in the contest, but do not penalize those who don't do as well.
- Grade 8 Open House on Nov. 29th from 6pm - 8pm. Signs put up in key locations around town to draw attention to the event and encourage attendance. Most students will be from feeder schools although, there will be a table for non-DSBN students to gather information & hopefully register for the new school year (September 2023/24). There will be a mini open house with those students after the winter holiday break. There will be a video presentation on course selection. XELLO will be the replacement for Career Cruising. This will be introduced as well. During the OPEN HOUSE, the students will be carrying around a DSBN Passport. They will have this passport stamped as they go around the school. When all of the stops have been stamped, they can hand it in where directed in order to be entered into a draw for GFESS Swag. This promotes exploring the classrooms and programs throughout the school & aiding in familiarizing themselves with classroom locations as well.
- OSSLT will be taking place November 22—25/22.
- Honour Roll Banquet will be December 8/22 from 6-8pm. Invites will go out to those who are eligible. Specifics discussed during meeting will not be entered into the minutes until the December meeting. We don't want to spoil any surprises for those students.
- Student Recognition Assemblies
- EQAO will be taking place in January for those grade 9 students currently in those courses.

Round Table Discussion(Q&A):

- **The issue of the late bus stops continue to be a topic under review.**
- **All high schools will be destreamed by 2025.**

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