

**AY Jackson Secondary School Council**

Monday, February 29, 2016

6:30 p.m. in the Library

**Present:** Lillian Neitzel, Susan Wehrmann, Sandra Blakely, Jasmine Larocque, Betsy Collins, Tania Nefedova, Diane McFaul Freeman, Deb Hickey, Mike Hickey, Diane d'Entremont, Kelly Wiebe, Rhonda Gerkema, Natalya Gribanov, Pam Peters, Kim Caulfeild, Tracy Ahern, Jayesh Patel, Kristine Belanger, Kathryn Tranter Abt.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Co-op/Dual Credit – Betsy Collins**

Co-op is available to Grade 11 and 12 students and can be taken both years. It is ½ day and is hopefully in an area that interests the student and will give them an idea if it is something they would like to pursue in Post Secondary education.

To earn 1 credit they must do 110 hours, 2 credits 220 hours and 3 credits 330 hours.

Diane Stevenson is AY's co-op teacher and has a lot of connections for students. However, students can arrange their own co-op placement.

There are some regulations – cannot be a firefighter or paramedic. Students can work for police but only in the station and can also work in a lab.

All students should be encouraged to do co-op, however Gr 12 students wanting to attend university don't have a lot of room in their timetable for co-op. There is a summer co-op, they start in May and it can be a single (110 hours) or double (220 hours). Summer co-op can be paid or unpaid but students must be 16 years old to do co-op.

The dual credit program is in partnership with Algonquin College. Dual credit English students do grade 12 English plus Algonquin Communications credit. They are students of AY and Algonquin with a student number and card and an Algonquin teacher comes to AY to teach.

To take dual credit course select it on career cruising, grade 11 teacher will be asked if they feel student can do it.

You can also take a course at Algonquin. To find out what dual credit courses are offered at Algonquin College check out their website. Students go to Algonquin to take these courses. They will earn a credit at high school and also at the college level. AY works hard to make courses fit with students' high school schedule. Guidance councillors help students to apply, there is no cost, transportation is provided, and books are paid for. This helps students to establish a connection with someone at Algonquin. Priority is given to at risk students.

### OYAP – Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program

Students participate in co-op in grade 11 in a skilled trade, they do co-op again in grade 12 and apply for OYAP. Students get several credits toward their high school diploma and work towards a Level 1 Apprenticeship. They reduce the number hours needed after high school. They can do Auto Mechanics, Chef Training, Hair Styling as examples. Students usually spend a full term at Algonquin.

### Student Council Report – Srikar

There were 3 impromptu spirit days in February. Feb 14<sup>th</sup> was red, pink and white day; Toonie Tuesday raised funds for the Education Foundation and students received 1 point for every \$2 donated; last Thursday was Pink Day to help eliminate bullying. There was a lot of support and a lot of students wearing Pink.

Comfy week is coming up with a new pit game.

### Teacher Report – Jasmine Larocque

March 11 was Take 20 – students take 20 minutes of last period and watch a video on character. This one focused on sportsmanship, compassion and empathy.

March 7-11 is comfy week

March 14-18 is March Break

Grade 10 Literacy test is March 31<sup>st</sup>. There will be a literacy test boot camp the week before. Students will write practice test. All students take the test, no matter which program they are in (Regular English or French Immersion).

April 1 progress reports come out.

April 7 is parent/teacher interviews. Mr. Barter is in Peru on school trip. There may be some other teachers also out.

April 8 is Relay for Life. The goal this year is \$20,000 (update was cancelled due to lack of participants. All students were invited to attend Earl of March Relay for Life)

April 19 is the grade 9 CPR training for all students taking gym this term.

April 25 Midterm report cards are sent home. If students do not have a 4<sup>th</sup> period class they can pick up their report card in the library. Co-op students can also pick up their report cards there.

April 27 is Coffee House

### Principal's Report – Sandra Blakely

Approved trips for 2016/2017 school year:

- May 27<sup>th</sup> Stratford

- 2017 March Break to Italy is a go

- April 2017 Spanish exchange, currently 17 students going. In September Spanish students come here.

- This year's Nova Scotia civic exchange was a huge success. Students had a great week. May 21-28 our students will go to Northumberland
- Fall trip to New York – keep your eyes open after March Break for details. This is a weekend trip.

Tree Grant – unfortunately the board funding did not come through. Called City Arborist and was given 3 applications for other funding as we need to have a raised garden. City put our funding on hold until we hear about the other funding.

We got our new sign. We are trying to get it raised. We still have some money to plant a garden around it.

Mrs. Kirby will be taking over the website from Mr. Barter. Our school community is very attached to our website. We want it to look like the AYJ.ca website so we will not be officially changing over to the new website until September. At April's meeting we can have a sneak preview and can offer suggestions and thoughts.

Preliminary enrollment shows that we are likely to have a reduction in our population. We have a large grade 12 class this year. There are 75 less students in the current grade 11 class than the current grade 12 class. The following year it may increase again. We spoke to Superintendent Reynolds and it seems that this year is an anomaly year. Hoping it will not affect all staff as we will be right back up again in 2017/2018 school year. We will know more at the April meeting.

Prom update – April 11-22 tickets will be available for sale. We are finalizing the details with the Shaw Center.

April 2 they will have another bottle drive.

April 7 they will be having a bake sale on parent/teacher interview day. It will go all day and into the evening during interviews.

## **OCASC**

Kevin Gardner talked about the budget process. Board needs to tighten belts, there is no slush fund left. Board must have a balanced budget (staffing could be effected), no EDP subsidies.

Kindergarten EFI program passed 5/7

**OCDSB Update** - Lillian Neitzel

### **Important dates**

March Break holiday: March 14-18

Easter Holiday: March 25 & 28

Grade 10 Literacy Test: March 31

## **Speaker Events:**

*Youth Substance Use - Support when you need it*

Thursday, February 25th -

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sir Guy Carleton Secondary School Cafetorium

55 Centrepointe Drive

Concerned about youth drinking, drugs or substance abuse? The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board invites you to attend our next free Speaker Series event hosted by the Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services. Learn signs and symptoms to be aware of and how to access help when needed.

*How to Parent when the Brain Rules* with John Antonetti

Thursday, March 3rd - 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School Auditorium

149 Berrigan Drive

Most of us have no idea what's really going on inside our heads - or our children's heads. How do we learn? What exactly do sleep and stress do to our brains? Why is it so easy to forget-and so important to repeat new knowledge? John Antonetti takes us on a journey through the latest brain research in a humorous, interactive workshop that integrates strategy, thinking, and engagement - truly a three-dimensional approach to look at what makes each of our children unique.

## **Round Table**

Parent feels it was too early to choose courses. Had hoped it was a bit later. Mrs. Blakely said can change before end of school year, just contact Guidance councillor.

Summer courses come out 1<sup>st</sup> week of May.

Protocol – Mrs. Blakely will address staff about not suggesting staying home during snow days, get staff to do meaningful work.

Students can borrow schools Chrome book or can bring their own device. Phil Bradley is technology support person at AY.

Kids who took First Aid training/AED training had a great time. There were 17 students in class.

Meet was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

## **Next Meeting**

Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. All are welcome!