

Sherwood Parent Council  
3 May 2018 Meeting Minutes  
4pm MVDHS Library

Attendance: Mr Harkness, Yvette, Megan, and Natalie

We agreed to stagger meetings next year, so some are at 4pm, some are at 6pm, to include everyone's work schedules.

### **Principal's Report**

- plans are underway for grade 8 graduation
- Sherwood is participating in a reading focus, along with Killaloe and Palmer Rapid Public Schools. Most students are reading at level, but a few need extra help. The school board has a kit with step by step process for getting students up to level. Teachers will be trained on how to use the kit.
- It is possible there will not be triple grades next year, and we get a fifth class again. This will be confirmed mid-May. Mr Harkness has expressed concern about triple grades to the board throughout the year.
- Mr Harkness is working on getting permanent goal posts installed in the yard. The cost would be \$10,000: there are funds in the school budget, as well as the school board may contribute, and Parent Council could make a contribution. The current portable nets are damaged. The new posts would not have netting.
- EQOA is coming up. Students are preparing. This is the first time grade 6 have participated, since when they were in grade 3, it was work to rule.
- The school board plant manager was at school recently to review the parking issue. Signage will increase. As well parking in front of the school will be changed so there may be more spaces for visitor parking. They are also looking at the issue with buses and parent pick up/drop off in the mornings and afternoons.
- Sherwood also had a visit from the director of education and Mr Harkness pointed out the parent's issue with the current office situation, regarding elementary school not feeling like part of the school.
- grades 4, 5, 6 have been mentoring the kindergarten students with Math.
- grades 7 and 8 will be mentoring the grade 1, 2, 3 class with reading.

**End of year trips:** Mr Harkness still needs to get plans from the teachers so we can consider fund allotment per class. We also received a \$3400 grant that can be put towards school trips.

**Tournaments** are board sanctioned so the funds for transportation etc come from the school budget and parents are asked to contribute a minimal amount (\$5).

**Paint Day:** will be held May 18. Younger students (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) will paint in the morning, and older students (6, 7, 8) in the afternoon. Yvette to discuss times with the organizer so they do not overlap nutrition and outdoor breaks. Megan will pick up plastic tablecloths for the desks. The school will send home a parent letter with information; mr Harkness will post copies of the paintings in the hallway and classrooms. Younger kids will paint a whale; older kids will paint an owl.

**T-shirts:** We will provide shirts to each student. The school will send home a form asking for students' shirt size. Natalie sent the contact information for the company who made Sherwood t-shirts in the past.

**Student Reporter:** Danielle Paul at The Current asked if a Sherwood Student would be a student reporter. This would be an irregular contribution. Written pieces would have to be approved by the principal. Grade 6 or 7 students will be asked in the fall if they would like to participate.

**Primary Soccer Tournament:** We will look at solutions for the primary soccer tournament next year. Unfortunately, we are not participating this year because there isn't a teacher who was able to take on the task; as well there was negative feedback last year about the distance of the field to the washrooms, and having the students use washrooms in the high school. Portable toilets and hand washing station or use of the high school gym for indoor soccer were some suggestions.

**Participation in events:** There was a question about why Sherwood doesn't participate in as many things as Bosco, for example. We discussed the funding of different school boards, as well as number of staff to facilitate, etc.

**Recycling and composting** were stopped because students were not sorting their garbage. The custodians will not sort through garbage and recycling. Students need to be taught how to respect the process. Perhaps an assembly with information would be needed. Or an opportunity for older students to start a program and mentoring younger students. It could be a school challenge to recycle etc. Something to start in the fall?

**Community building:** Mr Harkness has made an effort this year to build community in the school among students and staff. The move created a lot of stress, and much of it is starting to dissolve. Use of high school resource is an ongoing issue and Mr Harkness is working on solutions. For example, booking the science or art room and then offering the slot to elementary teachers.

**2018-2019:** We will aim to meet earlier in the fall - mid- September - so we can focus on plans for the year and how to allot funds.

**Next meeting:** No more meetings this school year.