

WRAPSC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 10th, 2017

Forest Heights Secondary School Library

Attendance: 11 WRAPSC reps

Guests: Angela Sider (SEAC), Jill Magazine (SCIS SubCommittee Chair), Peter Rubenschuh (Superintendent), Scott Miller (Superintendent)

*All presentations will be sent out along with the minutes

Welcome - meeting start at 7:00pm

Approval of Agenda

Motioned by: Heidi

Seconded by: Tammy Dahms

Approval of Minutes

Motioned by: Sara Heroux

Seconded by: Heidi

WRAPSC Co-Chair Report

Laurie Tremble (PIC/WRAPSC co-chair)

PIC Parent Event - April 8th at Bluevale Collegiate

Volunteers are needed. Please contact WRAPSC or Christie Penner Worden (christieworden@gmail.com)

Keynote speakers are a father/daughter duo

Well-being feedback deadline has been extended to March 19th. A new date to meet will be scheduled in February.

Wi-Fi Changes - the board sent out messages regarding changes to internet screening. To maintain access to sites such as YouTube, Twitter, etc. devices must be hooked up to the secure server. All board devices have been updated. All personal devices (including Chromebooks) need to be updated. Instructions are on the board website (wifidocs.wrdsb.ca).

The International Dyslexia Association - looking for new board volunteers. This is your chance to help ensure that individuals with a language learning difficulty have the opportunity to lead a productive and fulfilling life. We are looking for experienced individuals to fill both general and specific roles including roles in Social Media, Website Design / Administration, Finance, Fundraising, PR/Marketing and Email administration (information and referral). We are also looking for volunteers with an expertise in literacy, education, policy making and law. Please contact WRAPSC if you are interested.

Parent resource sheet for math - Staff have created a brief document with tips and resources for parents to help their children's math learning at home. Laurie to email out, it is also on the board website.

2017-18 School Year Calendar - committee has met and tentative dates have been scheduled. Laurie to send out more info. Questions for parents that will be sent out through WRAPSC to take back to school councils:

- How do you feel about 3 day weeks (Monday holiday, Friday PD day)

- How do you feel about several 4 day weeks in a row
- How do you feel about Monday PD days?
- Do you receive communications from your school or the board regarding the purpose of PD days?
- Do you understand the purpose of PD days?

Bullying Prevention & Intervention

Peter Rubenschuh (superintendent)

What does well-being actually mean?

What is the underlying reason for bullying? We used to ask if/how often bullying was occurring - now we want to look into the root causes.

Policy 6009 - Bullying definition:

“Aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a pupil where, the behaviour is intended by the pupil to have effect of, or the pupil ought to know that the behaviour would likely to have the effect of, causing harm, fear, distress to another individual or creating a negative environment at a school for others.”

Bullying has a significant impact to students’ learning

Report to person you are most comfortable with (E/A, teacher, principal, guidance counsellor, custodian). Everyone has a duty to act/report (Bill 157/13).

Bullying tends to be progressive. Incident reports stay in the student’s file.

In the event you suspect your child is involved in a bullying situation, first contact the teacher, then if more help is needed you can approach the principal, then the superintendent (you can find your superintendents name on the board website under About, Roles and Responsibilities), then you could go to the senior superintendent or the Director of Education. At any time, you can contact a trustee. You can also appear as a delegation to the Board of Trustees at one of their meetings.

Progressive Discipline -

- Non-punitive, whole school approach
- Consequences include learning opportunities
- Prevention & Intervention

SCIS Model - ministry requires survey done every two years but we do it yearly as the data is outdated after two.

Bullying did not use to lead to expulsion but since Bill 13 it is now a consequence.

Expulsion can be from the board or just the school. The tribunal decides whether the student will be expelled from the board (and offered the Choices program), expelled from the school, or to turn down the expulsion.

Timeline for expulsion process - 20 day suspension pending expulsion. There can be a hold up depending on the situation and if the police are involved as the school/board are not allowed to speak to the students until the police have done their investigation. After the tribunal the decision is made by the next morning.

In a typical year a maximum of 20 kids are expelled. Most situations are solved with conflict resolution. Most 3 days suspensions are now 1 day out, 2 days in and the student works with a staff member one on one.

If there is an issue with a teacher bullying a student it needs to be reported immediately and a report goes directly to FACS and there are significant consequences.

Acts that have impact on the student, even if they did not happen on school property (ie to/from school), can still be handled by the school.

SCIS

Jill Magazine (PIC SCIS subcommittee chair)

PIC's SCIS subcommittee's role is to provide support to SCIS teams, especially the parent members.

The board will be sending out a survey to administrators to confirm if their schools have SCIS teams. More details to follow.

The SCIS resource materials are finished and they are available on the board website. Please share them with your school community. All parents should know they exist.

Special Ed & IEPs

Scott Miller (superintendent)

Lead India - the tree video

The Ministry document governing special education is Learning for All and is available on the ministry website.

Work together, use creativity. Fairness is not sameness.

Supports in our board are accessed through Student Support Teams and Multi-Disciplinary Teams. If you suspect your child has special education needs, start by contacting your child's teacher.

There are three levels of support in our board. Tier 1, where the majority of children are serviced, keeps children in their regular classroom and provides supports through the classroom teacher, the Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) or consultants from the Ed Centre. This includes things such as differentiated instruction and strategies to improve curriculum accessibility. Children at Tier 1 are still working at grade level.

Tier 2 involves more central staff support such as psychologists, itinerant teachers, social workers etc. Children in tier 2 will have an IEP or Safety Plan but remain in their classroom. They may not be working at grade level.

Tier 3 is somewhat controversial as it involves removing children from their regular classroom and placing them in congregated classes with children who have similar needs. This allows the board to provide more support, more expertise, like peers and a lower student-teacher ratio. These children are likely not working at grade level and includes classes for children with needs in areas such as Learning Disabilities, Behaviour, Enrichment, Developmental Disabilities and Life Skills.

IEPs are honing in on clear goals formalize accommodations, modifications and alternative expectations. They used to have too many goals and they would get lost. The majority of IEPs are for accommodations (instructional and environmental). If the IEP is only for accommodations and the child is working at grade level, then it will not indicate the presence of an IEP on the report card. Everything that is in an IEP should be happening in the classroom.

SEAC

Angela Sider

IPRC - identification, placement, and review committee looks to identify who would benefit from being in a congregated class.

How many children are represented by the organizations on SEAC? Each organization monitors things differently so there is no way to say.

Is there training/education for the students about the special need children? There is no official training, this is all done on an individual basis.

Meeting adjourned 9:15pm