

# **Sturgeon Heights School Council**

## **Year in Review 2018 - 2019**

**Written by**

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# **Sturgeon Heights School Council - YEAR IN REVIEW**

**2018 – 2019**

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**This year was full of staff and Board changes. With all the movement and changes, the leadership at Sturgeon Heights kept parents well informed and minimized the impact to students. The School Council was resilient at welcoming the new staff, new Trustees, and new parents.**

## **September 2018**

- Introduction of a new Principal - Shannon Requa as well as some operational staffing changes. Also, a change occurred at the Division with a new superintendent, Mary Lynne Campbell.
- Reviewed Student Achievement – focus was in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy.
- As communication has always been a topic of discussion at School Council, communication venues were discussed and clarified.
- Completed annual review of all Sturgeon Heights School Council Operating Procedures and Roles and Responsibilities. Elections then occurred and all positions were filled.

## **October 2018**

- School Board Trustee resigned at end of September. We waited for direction as to by-election and/or possible interim Board Trustee.
- Digital Citizenship presentation provided to parents. Was brought forward to education parents about children and online presence. Reviewed the agenda of “Digital Citizen Week” and participation by students.
- Interactive communication occurred regarding some recent events that took place at the school – late dismissal/incident in community and vaping incident at the school. Administration was able to share how things are being handled effectively and that policies are in place.

## **November 2018**

- Reviewed structure of this year’s Christmas concert – 3 separate nights depending on grades.
- New Board Trustee was introduced, Tasha Oatway-McLay.
- Discussion occurred about communication of Parent Representatives and how best to get communication through to School Council if there are comments or suggestions. Communication was created to identify parent representatives and to increase visibility.

## **December 2018**

- **No meeting**

## **January 2019**

- Resignation of Vice President, School Council was announced.
- Ms. Bruinsma accepted position as Principal at Camilla School – Ms. Dafoe accepted Vice Principal position.
- Reviewed Christmas concert and the potential of needing to review venue based on strong family attendance.
- School counselor had begun planning student activities such as Pink Shirt Day and a Career Fair, as well as setting up additional support groups for students.

## **February 2019**

- Responsible/appropriate technology use in Jr High was identified as an ongoing concern and a Code of Conduct would likely be established. Conversation was had around responsible technology use in the school.
- 24-hour wheelchair basketball event was held and raised over \$3000. It was very well attended.
- Sturgeon Heights was approved for two new portables with the anticipation of increase in grade 1 and grade 2 in the upcoming school year.
- Trustee provided update on progress of new schools in the Division, policies being updated, and transportation challenges within the Division.
- Discussions continued for grade 9 in preparation for the Grade 9 Farewell.
- Once again, additional interviews were being held to cover the vacancies based on the promotion of Christina Dafoe to the Vice Principal position.

## **March 2019**

- Conversation was had around the reorganization of school spaces (Wellness Hub, Oasis). The computer lab has been rarely used this year, so consideration was given as to how to use that space. The hope was to re-designate the space into a STEAM work area.
- Conversation was had around the wellness goal of healthy eating as well as cell phone use and a cell phone policy.
- Parents discussed the positive changes of staff hires and changes. Students seem very happy with the changes.
- Amazing job by the senior boys' basketball to win the consolation final.
- Marmot and Rabbit Hill ski trip were a great success.

## **April 2019**

- New Trustee, Trish Murray-Elliott was welcomed to the group.
- Open house was held on April 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success with over 200 attendees.
- Initial discussion occurred about the changes for next year including the changes in junior high teachers and the introduction of a Sports Academy. Changes were positive and supported strongly by parents.
- Visibility to parents was given around the Election polls occurring at the school, the clearing of trees to the north of the school, and the upcoming Spring Tea.
- Grade 9 Farewell was scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>. Parents were encouraged to check out the video of SH students on Facebook singing their grad song of "Country Roads".

## **May 2019**

- Sports Academy was approved for next year. Enhanced Health was also approved for Junior High students.
- Parents watched movie which was going to be viewed by junior high students in alignment with Pride Week (June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>). Some of the planned activities included students dressing in rainbow and reviewing the colors of the flag.
- Funds were procured to hire a literacy intervention teacher for mornings for the last 5 weeks of the school year. The teacher would support primary students in achieving literacy goals prior to the end of the school year.
- Suggestion was brought forward to share School Council minutes from our meetings more widely. It was decided that previous meeting's draft minutes could be circulated with the Friday emails prior to each School Council meeting.

## **June 2019**

- No formal meeting – School Council off-site parent night out instead.

While the Parent Fundraising Association is independent from the School Council, every meeting there is a PFA update and visibility on the financials in support of an overall goal.

*Note: There are no funds being managed by the Sturgeon Heights School Council, therefore, there is no Financial Statement attached.*