

## Eden High School - School Council Minutes - 24 September 2024

### In Person Attendance:

(VM indicates a voting member of Council):

Kelly Parlatore, (Principal - *Ex officio*), Janine Alexander (Former Chair), Melanie Smith (VM - Vice-chair), Sarah Danial (VM - Secretary), Cheryl Caldwell (VM - *Ex officio*), Fran Cerminara (VM - *Ex officio*), Morgan Dickinson (Prime Minister, Student Council - *Ex-officio*) Bella Minovsky (Athletic Rep., Student Council - *Ex-officio*), Trish Andres, Yvonne Asekunowo, Lori Barrett, Erin Bice, Angela Birks, Brad Bullen, Crystal Cline, Renee Delaney, Michelle DenBak, Tiffany Derkson, Val DeVries, Ashleigh Dixon, Margaret Dul, Kristy Duncan, Kevin Dyck, Sarah Dyck, Ken Friesen, Insaf Goraish, Aaron Hahn, Rebecca Hahn, Sara Holmes, Jonathan Janzen, Brigitte Knapp, Thomas Knapp, Jenn Rekker, Robert Riediger, Pamela Sykes, Oliver Trefz, Richard Robinson, Mithun Shrivastara, Amy Vanderkooy, Sharon Velsink, Kaley Ward, Milan Yarich.

**Guests:** Leanne Smith, Superintendent responsible for Eden, Victoria Leng-Marini (VP), Josie Martens, Ron Martens, Kaysa \_\_\_\_ (Student Council)

**Online Attendance:** Becky Arnold, Leanne Blanchard, Brian Cline, Kristina Dickinson, Laura Higginson, Samah Marei, Tracy Mumford

### Welcome and Call to Order at 7:01 p.m. – Janine Alexander

No one presented a reflection. - not part of the meeting and therefore not reported on

1. Human Rights Complaint
  - Discussed by Superintendent Leanne Smith and Principal Kelly Parlatore
  - All information is public on the DSBN website
  - Questions can be directed to the principal

### Introductions

Janine asked any new attendees to introduce themselves.

### Approval of Minutes of May 27

Amanda Goulet, moved and Yvonne Asekunowo seconded a motion for acceptance of the Minutes of the May 27 School Council Meeting. The motion was carried and the minutes were approved,

### School Council Report

- Three members of Student Council introduced themselves including Morgan Dickenson, Prime Minister; Bella Minovski, Athletic Events Coordinator and Keza Hiebert introduced themselves.
- Eden held a Purple Shirt day for Rowen's law for concussion awareness. Students led various activities. Eden also held an Orange Shirt day for Truth and Reconciliation and participated in Indigenous sports. \$2000 was raised for the Terry Fox foundation.

- Eden will be holding a Homecoming Dinner and Dance on Nov 14.
- Bella and Kesa described the athletic events: 200 students
- There will be 30 games days for basketball and volleyball home games.
- Intramurals are available for all students, not just those who play competitive sports.
- 30 other students will be helping with athletics.
- Arts Council - *Little Shop of Horrors* will be the Eden production which will take place in late April. Auditions for the cast will be held on Monday and Tuesday. Eden will be sending a team to Frames, the film-making competition at the Shaw Festival. Music bands are in full swing. Students will also be organizing a new seasonal Pep Band and some events, e.g., the football games.

### **New Business - Janine Alexander**

#### Voting in New School Council voting members

- Janine explained that the School Council can have a maximum of 19 parent representatives of which four are executive members. Some parents decided to withdraw their self-nomination, so the following 19 people, in alphabetical order, will comprise School Council for the 2024 to 2025 academic year:

1. Janine Alexander
2. Lori Barrett
3. Erin Bice
4. Sarah Danial (Secretary)
5. Renee Delaney
6. Val deVries
7. Kristy Duncan
8. Kevin Dyck
9. Carolyn Eich
10. Amanda Goulet
11. Rebecca Hahn
12. Brigette Knapp
13. Crystal Kline
14. Richard Robinson
15. Mithun Shrivastara
16. Melanie Smith (Co-Chair)
17. Pam Sykes
18. Kaley Ward
19. Milan Yarich

Kelly Parlatore (*Ex-officio*, Principal)

Cheryl Caldwell, (*Ex-officio*, Teaching Staff Rep.)  
Fran Cerminara (*Ex-officio*, Non-Teaching Staff Rep.)

- Janine reminded attendees that two student council members and two community representatives can also vote. Eden School Council can have a maximum of 25 voting members, with the Chair voting only if there is a tied vote.
- Secret ballot elections, (counted by two parents who were not running for election), were held for the executive positions.
- Renee Delaney, Sarah Danial and Melanie Smith ran for the position of Chair, and Melanie was elected. Sarah Danial, Renee Delaney and Richard Robinson ran for the position of Vice-Chair and Richard was elected. Milan Yarich ran for the position of Treasurer was acclaimed. Sarah Danial decided to continue her as Secretary for the second if her two year term.

#### Appointing Community Representatives

- Ron Martens and Tracy Mumford were again appointed as Community Reps.

#### **Treasurer's Report - Janine Alexander (presenting for Treasurer)**

- \$500 of Ministry Education funds must be spent on Parent Engagement and funds cannot be given to any particular group. In the past, School Council has decided to purchase items such as bags for the sausage sale, "high quality" pens, giveaways for parents, a banner for School Council and calendars. The funds can also be used for a speaker to come in and for inclusivity and parent engagement events.
- The School Council financial report will be sent out with the Minutes.
- At the next School Council meeting, voting members will vote on recommendations about how to spend the funds from the first sausage sale.

#### **Principal's Report - Kelly Parlatore.**

- 1150 students are registered at Eden, which is similar to 2023-2024, and classes are very full.
- Two contract teachers are teaching outside of the union caps.
- 309 course sections are running, with one section supporting literacy for Gr. 9 students.
- Ms. Parlatore gave a detailed overview of Eden's budget which is relatively the same, 3.5% for occasional teachers; professional development for 4.5%; instructional supplies for 32%, 10% for technology, e.g., literacy whiteboards, Chromebooks, etc., team shirts for Special Olympics
- She also spoke about the School Improvement Plan, the Annual Learning Plan and the Board Improvement Plan

- White boards will be installed in the math classrooms and a Gr. 9 workbook for math has been prepared.
- The Math Association will hold a mini conference on October 3 at West Niagara Secondary School.
- School staff did a “Data Dive” into EQAO results, and found that DSBN and Eden are above the provincial level with 65% of students at the Level 3 and Level 4. Teachers will be implementing strategies to enhance learning of Grade 10 learners who will have to take the OSSLT. 93% of students were successful in OSSLT. Teachers are building a Literacy Toolkit.
- Teachers are teaching students “PPL writing = point-proof-link”, to learn to write a paragraph to show components of critical thinking.
- Teachers are engaged in professional development for multi-language learners (MLL) and have prepared a tool-kit.
- Continuing to work on equity, diversity and inclusion. If students feel a sense of belonging, they will do better. The professional development day on 11 Oct will focus on this topic. IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity Alliance of Students) Committee is a group of student leaders. Four student reps. attend from Eden with a focus on talking about issues and problem-solving. Meetings will be held on Oct 1, Dec. 3, April 24, and May 27.
- Rise-Up Conference
- Annual learning plans - focusing on PPM - Code of Conduct - cell phone and vaping policies have changed, classroom practices to enforce the new policies,
- Geography, Gr. 9 and 10 Business have new curricula, and a Mental Health Unit has been added to Careers to help students learn the signs of stress.
- Parent-Involvement Committee (PIC) - conference will be held on November 6 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Eden. A light dinner will be served and childcare will be available. The topic is mental health.
- Eden has growing capacity in de-streaming and is now a fully de-streamed school.
- Open houses have moved back to January and dates are coordinated with other schools so that students can attend several. Applications will be available the day after the open house.
- The second week of February will be the deadline for course selection for current Eden students

#### **Chair’s Items (Janine Alexander)**

Constitution - School Council will be revising constitution in November; the ministry is implementing one-year terms, so executive will not carry over for the next year.

Goals Committee and Fundraising Committee - Parents can get involved in these committees.

### **Committee Reports**

Fundraising Committee - Karen C. - not available

- Sausage Fundraiser - asked for more volunteers for first sale delivery on November 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- COBS Bread
- Tru Earth update - had issues with payment options with School Cash Online

Next Meeting: November 4 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Danial, Secretary  
School Council