

Dartmouth High School School Advisory Council

Chairperson: Paul Black
c/o Dartmouth High School
95 Victoria Road
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 1V2

Minutes for Meeting on January 20th, 2025 - 5:30pm

1. PRESENT

- Eartha Monard, Phillip MacEachern, Greg Brophy, Shirlene Dancause, Jane Brison, Celine Hoyek (Student Council), Elizabeth Tia (Student Council), Paul Black, Melanie Ellis, Lisa Glennie

Regrets: Terri-Lynn Rapitta, Elizabeth MacPherson

2. CALL TO ORDER

- Paul Black called the meeting to order.

3. AGENDA – was approved as circulated.

4. MINUTES – Minutes of the December 9th, 2024 meeting were approved.

5. Student Council Report (Celine Hoyek and Elizabeth Tia)

- Now split into 3 PR groups
 - Design
 - Entertainment
 - Announcements
- Mascot Showdown - Feb 20th @ Auburn Drive HS
 - dance tryouts Jan 15th
 - callbacks Jan 17th
 - Video of event to be included in Community Video
 - Giant Tiger mascot to be in the Showdown

6. New Business - Phillip - SSP (Update)

- Literacy
 - Silent Writing
 - structurally sound paragraphs are a focus
 - success is slow but improvements are there
 - PEEL process is being used (Point/Evidence/Explain/Link)
 - Exams to give further evidence of success.
- Mathematics
 - Relationship building is key
 - Diversity of assessment and instruction with a focus on observation and conversation
 - Change in strategies for teachers

- Positive impact on engagement, recall, grades, vocabulary, risk taking, practice, self-correction, and analysis of others' work.
- Well-Being
 - Equity Training for staff coming soon
 - Student survey has been completed (results to be tallied)

7. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- OPI Exams - 1st semester students completed Oral Proficiency Exams (FLA 12)
- Sewing Machines and tables have arrived and fabric is being donated
- Noon hour and after school sewing sessions
 - Teachers and community members offered to volunteer over the lunch hour and possibly right after school.
 - Machines could be open to the public for rentals (also a way to bring the public into the building)
- Games room almost ready to open (next 2 weeks)
 - Basketball machine has arrived
 - Ping Pong coming soon
 - Need another gaming computer for sports/popular educational games
- Culinary 11 - We have been approved
 - Service Trades 10 will lead into Culinary 11 as a prerequisite
 - Service Trades 10 - Master Chef Challenge has taken place - went very well
- Drama Class - Alice in Wonderland (Feb 26/27/28)
 - Feeder schools invited
 - Could we invite Regional Counsellors?
- Feb 13th - Curriculum Night
- Contemporary Canadian Studies is confirmed to replace Canadian History 11
- Provincial Student Attendance and Engagement Policy
 - Monitor and analyze attendance as well as take steps to increase attendance
 - Collaboratively create and implement interventions
 - Exemptions were good to keep students in seats but absenteeism has increased since they were eliminated.
- AP Program
 - Lost a few ANS students when TA left
 - Kenzie Green took over (excellent teacher), did not lose any students after she took over the program.

- 83% average amongst students who identify as Black
- Many seeking extra help and using revision strategies
- Socratic Seminar - Injustice in Society
 - Enriching opportunity for students
 - Identifying and solving community issues together
- 20% of seminar students are ANS
- Developing strong writing and reading skills
- Peer-reviews and research papers - students very passionate about schoolwork. They are challenging themselves and each other.
- Cultivating Peace Forum - April
 - HRCE's PD focus culturally safe spaces
 - What do they look like? (panel discussions)
- Unified Basketball
 - Student led by volunteers
 - Great for social interaction and skill development
- Rock the Rings (Melanie) - curling
 - bring rocks and tarps (marked) to curl in the gym - option for the future

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- None to report

10. NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting will be held on March 3rd, 2025.

11. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Approved: _____

Paul Black, Chairperson

Date: _____

April 14/25

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