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| Dartmouth High School  School Advisory Council | **A yellow and black logo  Description automatically generated**  Chairperson: Robyne Gorman  c/o Dartmouth High School  95 Victoria Road  Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B3A 1V2 |

**Minutes for Meeting on October 16, 2023 at 5:30pm**

**ATTENDANCE**

* Tara Arseneau, Jane Brison, Robyn Brown, Andrea Doucette, Gary Gallant, Robyn Gorman (Outgoing/Acting Chair), Rohen Hayne, Elizabeth MacPherson, Eartha Monard, Bowen Thompson, Rosella Winship
* **Regrets:** Shirlene Dancause, Paul Black, Terrilynn Rapitta, Melanie Ellis

**Minutes** prepared by Gary Gallant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

* Robyne called the meeting to order.

**2. AGENDA**

* Agenda was approved.

**3. STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT**

* Rohen Hayne:

Upcoming in October:

Pep Rally (Wednesday, October 18) – will feature football, hockey, soccer and volleyball teams

Halloween Spirit Week (Oct.24-31) – theme days and other activities

Upcoming in November:Family Feud (Teacher Edition)

Rohen noted the exceptional volunteerism of general student council membership as well as the executive members.

* Bowen Thompson:

Gave special thanks to Mrs. Monard, the admin team and the chaperones for providing opportunity for students to participate in the CSLC Conference. He said it was an amazing experience with great speakers and sessions, high-energy and a wonderful opportunity to build relationships/friendships with other school leaders.

**4. CORRESPONDENCE**

* Mrs. Monard received a SAC survey from Susan Tomie, Director of School Administration. The survey was completed at this time with SAC input.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

* LOA – membership

deferred discussion to next meeting

* Chair and Secretary voting/appointing

Vote postponed until next meeting.

**6. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

* Reported only one class over cap by one student.
* Re: Letter of Agreement – deferred discussion to next meeting
* MADD Presentation for Grade 12 students (November 8, 2023) – Note: This is a free, sponsored multi-media presentation
* Students and staff are enjoying our “new and improved” cafeteria service. Note that teachers Robyn Brown and Cassie Arsenault were part of a team that facilitated the selection process for the new cafeteria vendor contract.
* All staff participated in Diabetes Management Training
* Europe Trip: 28 students are going on the Italy/Greece Trip. This number is down from previous years. Possible factors were attributed to the high cost, inflation, grade 12 students’ other financial commitments, and the fact that a large number of grade 11s went on the trip last year.
* Short-Cycle Planning: Last year the focus was on Math10 only. This year we will also focus on English10 and student well-being for short-cycle planning. Tara Arseneau, the DHS Language Department Head, indicated that the department will be meeting to review grade 8, 9 and current grade 10 data to determine their short-cycle plan.
* Curriculum Night – The format was changed this year. There were 6 stations for each of the 6 departments. All teachers gathered within their departments, sharing curriculum information and displaying some course products with parents/guardians, who cycled through the 6 departments at their leisure. Parents were invited to complete an electronic survey about their impressions of the new format. Results were very favorable.
* DHS Health Action Team, supported by the YHC, has organized a speaker to come present about vaping/marketing/cessation strategies.
* Tara Arseneau presented about the success of the Capstone Program. 47 grade 11 Seminar students, now 41 grade 12 research students. Research students have chosen topics, will do literature review, identify gaps in research and use this information to direct their research project.
* TA: We had an 80% success rate – the global average was 85%. We scored higher in the writing component.
* TA: We have established a research partnership with Dartmouth High School in Boston, MA. On November 9, 2023, there will be an online Symposium, with Chris Cocek (St. F.X. University Department of Adult Education, HRCE TILT Team). Mrs. Monard thanked Tara for all her hard work to make the Capstone Program a success.
* Robyn Brown: Noted that DHS is now offering Mi’kmaq Studies 11 in French, the only program of its kind in Nova Scotia. DHS is the only high school in NS offering all three Canadian history credit options to FI students. This puts them on equal footing with their English program counterparts.
* TA noted that, at an EECD AI symposium, it was indicated that a policy on the responsible and ethical use of AI in schools will be coming soon.
* Math Boot Camp (2 days) occurred at the end of August. Approximately 60 students and 4 teachers/staff were involved. It was very positive. Along with the mathematics component, students noted that they were able to form connections with other students. They also connected with some staff, including our math coach.

**7. NEXT MEETING**

* Monday, November 27, 2023 @ 5:30 PM, in person

Vote for SAC chair and secretary will occur at that time. We will also choose our four remaining SAC Meeting dates at that time.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

* The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm

**Approved: Robyne Gorman, Chairperson October, 2023**