Halton District School Board

School Council Minutes

Sam Sherratt Public School

School Council Meeting Minutes
Date: November 2, 2026
Time: 6 pm
Location: Online

Attendees

Kerrie, Heather, Linda, Michelle, Anne, Jessica, Puja

Regrets

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Meeting called to order at: online

Notes:

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

3. Principal’s Report/ Teachers Report:

October Wrap-Up

Sam Sherratt's Terry Fox Fundraiser
Our school community collected $1307.35 which surpassed the $1200 goal. Students enjoyed an extra 20 minute recess for surpassing the goal, on Friday October 23.

Extra-Curriculars

Student Leaders (Grades 7 and 8) began on October 20.
This is a leadership opportunity for intermediate students. They meet throughout the year to organize assemblies and special events. They organized the Fall Dance and Primary Halloween Parade on October 30, and are currently meeting to plan activities for Anti-bullying week **(Nov 16 -20)**

VEX Robotics - For students in Grade 5 and up. Application forms were given out today, if any interested students would like one they can see Mrs. Paulson. She will be reviewing the applications and putting a team together sometime over the next few weeks.

Two choirs -
Grades 1-8 for Remembrance Day Assembly (Mrs. Kim)
Grades 1-4 for Winter Concert Mrs. Brazeau

Senior boy and girls Volleyball - Season is close to finishing up. We have one regular game left, we are starting playoffs this week, based on the standings.

Field Trips/Guest Speakers

November 4 - Grade 8's visit Milton District High School

November 23 - Guest Speaker **Willie Poll** (Grades 7/8)
WILLIE POLL is a Métis author from Sault Ste. Marie, ON
Authored the book - "Together We Drum, Our Hearts Beat As One"

November 24 - Grades 1-3 Field Trip Milton Arts Centre
Live theatre production of The Velveteen Rabbit.

Other items for November:

Treaties Recognition Week Nov 1-7

November 8 - Diwali

November 11 - Remembrance Day

Classes will be discussing these events, and engaging in learning activities, in an age appropriate way throughout the school.

Grade 4's writing NGAT test on Wednesday Nov 3, 4, 5

November 12 - Photo Retakes

November 16 - 20: Anti-bullying Week

November 17 - Progress Reports are going home.
Student Led Conferences will be scheduled shortly after. Teachers will send home information about the conference schedule.

November 27 is a P.A. Day - Student Led Conferences

Upcoming:

Immunization Clinic Dec 1

Winter Concert: Thursday December 10

November 2 Admin Report

Staff and Student Learning
Teachers are engaging in professional development in collaboration with our Human Rights, Equity, and Inclusive Education Department. The PD is to deepen our understanding of how to ensure students see their backgrounds, perspectives, and lived experiences reflected positively in what they learn every day.

Why This Matters: Research shows that when students feel safe, recognized, and valued for who they are, their engagement and academic performance increase.
Our commitment: We are prioritizing this learning ensuring we dedicate time at every staff meeting and PD day. We are embedding the learning so that it is reflected across our School Improvement Plans in Literacy, Numeracy and Wellbeing.

Students in Grades 7 & 8 have reviewed our Code of Conduct and the Harmful and Discriminatory Language Protocol with admin to ensure students understand their responsibilities and roles to ensure we create a safe learning environment for all students. We will continue to reinforce the learning with our younger students in Grades 1-6 in the upcoming weeks.

Operations
Re-organization- Our enrollment remained the same as projected (just under 400 students) and as such we did not need to have a re-organization to ensure our class met the Ministry class size requirements.

Emergency Planning- We are wrapping up our required practices for the fall (eg Fire Drills and Lockdown). We will continue to practice in the Spring.

Student Life
Student Senate- Our student senator has been selected and has attended the first student senate meeting. She has also begun to gather data from students by posting a survey in grade 4-8 Google Classrooms seeking student input on what they would like to see at our school.

Teacher report will share details about clubs, extracurricular activities, field trips

Presentation for our Grade 7 & 8 students IB at Craig Kielburger. Milton District Open House this week for Grade 8. All specialized programs for high school applications are now open and close on November 30th

Student Leaders- Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week (Nov. 16-20th) students will be creating the activities for the week and will share with families in Gator Bites

Prayer Space- A multi faith prayer space will be available to all students during the first half of our second nutrition break. This space will be available daily for the remainder of the school year.

Facility

New flooring on the stage (replaced carpet)

New flooring in the literacy rooms (replaced carpet)

New paint to denote crosswalk at the front of school to increase visibility/safety

Gym inspection in December

Fundraising

The funds we raised last year through food programs paid for a variety of items to benefit our students. Chromebooks, new jerseys for Junior students sports, buddy bench, equipment for recess (eg balls), reducing costs of year end field trips.

Future planning:

- Side yard. We are reviewing our space to ensure it intentionally supports diverse learning, physical and sensory needs
- Inventory/Replacing/Updating of our Kindergarten outdoor equipment

4. Treasurer's Report

Jessica confirming our funds in the council is $2548.19 of which $1273.19 is available. The remainder is allocated for pro grant and pic.

5. Committee Updates

a. Fundraising

-Council will brainstorm some ideas for this through discussions on Whatsapp and get Admin approval.

b. Events

We are pausing the primary literacy night planning for now as we organize logistics.

We are going ahead with STEAM night for the spring (May on a Thursday night) and will therefore have lots of time to plan a robust program and planning. We are looking for 4-10 companies to come showcase their organization. Council will use the list from Heather and our own research to reach out to those companies. We discussed the idea of doubling up and making it a fundraising event as well and we have the go ahead to do so.

c. Other Updates

Anne is our PIC rep and sent notes below: (she highlighted that the majority of the discussions focused around fundraising)

Overview of Fundraising Sessions

- I attended two fundraising sessions for School Councils:
    - "School Council Fundraising: The Essential Dos and Don'ts" by Kathryn Samarin, Manager of School Financial Services, HDSB
    - "Beyond Pizza or Cookie Sales: A Strategic Approach to School Fundraising" by Marc Clare, CEO of Halton Learning Foundation

3 Components of an Effective Fundraising Plan

- **Clear goals:** Tie fundraising to a specific end goal that addresses our school's needs.
- **Target audience:** Identify who we are asking and tailor the approach to them. Ideally, these are people who connect to the school or to the goal we are aiming for.
- **Compelling story:** Share a heartfelt story that shows the real impact of the funds raised.

Fundraising Ideas to Consider

- Bruce Trail school program
- Learn to Love School program
- Fun Fair
- School library fundraiser
- Book sale or book drive
- Parent donations, either cash or in-kind
    - In-kind donations require a minimum value of $1,500 and an appraisal.
- Partnering with other schools in our family of schools
    - Schools with excess funding may be able to help those that are struggling.

Payment Tools

6. HDSB is setting up a POS (point-of-sale) device (still in pilot phase).
7. Once available, School Councils can rent it for events to make payments easier.

8. Questions/Discussion

Are there options for community/ parent donation options on cashless online and will be checked.

9. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at: 7 pm