

**HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, April 4th, 2006  
Seminar Room – 7:00 P.M.**

Present:       Dorian Young           Kate Young           Theresa Riley  
                  Diane Welborn       Rob Stonehouse     Marg Cox  
                  Tammy Rea            Gary Brohman       Patti-Lou Robinson  
                  Stephanie Foster

Regrets:       Jan McMaster        Debbie Sternberg    Helen Callaway  
                  Donna Austin       Dorothy Owens      Terry Goodwin  
                  Christine Collins

1.       **Welcome**

Dorian Young welcomed everyone.

2.       **Guest Speaker**

Kathy Hutson, Head of School Improvement and Student Success Teacher

- Under the McGinty initiative to have an 85% graduation rate by 2010 Kathy has implemented the Student Success program.
- This includes Room 26 “the Zone” for targeted students to have as a safe room, and a place with support to increase self esteem and get back on track.
- Two Half time EA’s work with Kathy as a team to track the attendance of “at-risk” students, provide an alternative to suspension, teach the students interpersonal skills and how to make good choices, and sometimes “just listen”.
- Program seems to be working, given Kathy and her staff’s dedication and genuine concern for the students.

Tammy Rea to send a thank-you note.

3.       **Approval of Minutes from January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Meeting**

Marg Cox approved the Minutes and Patti Lou Robinson seconded.  
Motion carried.

4. **S.A.C. Report**

Stephanie Foster, SAC Co-Captain presented.

- Valentine Spirit was successful although there were 2 snow days
- Much Music Video dance, typically the largest of the year was good except for a few students behaviour
- Board-wide Art Challenge was set-up by student councils and we had three (3) of the top seven placements
- Currently running a Make Poverty History petition banner to be sent to the government
- Beach Spirit week is up-coming
- SAC trying to arrange a motivational speaker for students
- Board –wide SAC’s are arranging a Battle of the Bands (winners to make a demo and be a part of the DogBus competition)

6. **Principal’s Report** – Gary Brohman

- 28 students returned from a wonderful trip to France and Spain
- HHSS won an award for the Eat Smart program – French fry sales are down 35% in the cafeteria
- 2<sup>nd</sup> night of Parent Teacher Interviews completed
- Grade 10 literacy test is now one day instead of 2 -this is fine except for the high needs students –too stressful and difficult to do in one day (Gary to bring a letter about the literacy test issues to the next meeting)
- Projected enrollment next year is down 13 students but staffing will remain constant
- The HHSS Snowboarding team (3 years old) won OFFSSA
- The half day was cancelled due to the unusual number of snow days this year (8)
- The Rail’s End Art Gallery has a wonderful display of Student Portfolios
- MSIP (the 5 Period Day) is currently in 60+ schools in Ontario but HHSS is having difficulty getting the OSSTF to allow it to be trialed at HHSS

Motion was made that HHSS Council support the implementation of MSIP and write a letter if necessary to the OSSTF with a copy to Kathy Verduyn.

Made by Diane Welborn and seconded by Marg Cox. Unanimously carried.

7. **District School Council Report** –Dorian Young

- Trillium Lakes District School Board is hosting a “Safe and Caring Schools” program in Lindsay on Sat April 29<sup>th</sup>. Workshops and guest speakers such as Barbara Coloroso are on the agenda

- The new Parent Involvement Policy will allocate \$500 to each school to aid in getting parents involved. A gathering after Parent Night, or when the new parents tour the school, were some suggestions.
- Focus questions from the Board on their Strategic Directions were discussed. Dorian is to draft a summary and circulate it.
  - Key issues were: PTR (Class size)
  - MSIP
  - Late School Bus
  - Focus on Schools, not the Board
- May 1<sup>st</sup> is the annual meeting in Lindsay with Laurie Scott. (Dorian, Kate and Tammy to attend)
- Dorian was thanked for all his extra involvement in Board-wide activities

8. **New Business**

Gary to invite one of the teachers involved in the upcoming LINK program (a motivational Grade 9 program) to speak at our next meeting

10.. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned by Dorian Young at 8:50 pm.

NOTE: Next meeting (last one of the year)  
TUESDAY MAY 9th, 2006  
7:00 in the Seminar Room.