

**HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 9th, 2006  
Seminar Room – 7:00 P.M.**

Present:       Dorian Young           Debbie Sternberg       Theresa Riley  
                  Jan McMaster          Rob Stonehouse       Marg Cox  
                  Tammy Rea            Gary Brohman         Helen Callaway  
                  Stephanie Foster     Dorothy Owens       Terry Goodwin

Regrets:       Diane Welborn         Marg Cox               Debbie Sternberg  
                  Patti-Lou Robinson   Donna Austin          Christine Collins

1.       **Welcome**

Dorian Young welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the academic year.

2.       **Guest Speaker**

Christie Chester, Janice Rickard and Irv Sternberg  
LINK Programme for Grade 9's at HHSS

- The Peer Mentorship program at HHSS is now evolving into the LINK programme for Grade 9 students. This is already in 816 schools, close to 950,000 students have gone through this programme.
- Irv, Christie and Janice and Bruce Griffith have had extensive training.
- This is a programme that inspires leadership from older students, - 67 have applied to work with the 160 new grade 9's in September.
- In August, these older students will be trained, and then the matched up with 10 grade 9 students. They will then mentor this group through the first semester.
- The group leaders represent all facets of student life – athletics, scholars, musicians, volunteers, and students that just enjoy school, they are not all “leaders” – this is to give a true “peer” mentorship.
- The programme claims to reduce absenteeism, and discipline, and creates a sense of belonging for students.
- HHSS staff is very excited and Parent Council was very supportive - the programme can only improve upon the community the students at HHSS share.

Jan McMaster to send a thank-you note.

3. **Approval of Minutes from April 4<sup>th</sup> 2006**

Point 10 - Adjournment was 8:50 not 9:50.

The motion to accept the minutes from April 4<sup>th</sup>, with the above change was made by Helen Callaway and seconded by Rob Stonehouse.

Motion carried.

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

Stephanie Foster, SAC Co-Captain presented.

- School BBQ – free BBQ in honour of the Snowboard Team
- Beach Spirit Week – Big success, in the paper
- Spring Fling Dance – great turn-out
- Up-coming Spirit Week – last of the year
- Battle of the Bands – board wide – postponed til next year
- Prom – May 26<sup>th</sup> – Vegas theme
- SAC has made a good profit this year – plan to buy a new sound system for the school
- Elections for next year upcoming

5. **Principal's Report** – Gary Brohman

- Ms. Burghdorf has taken over the teacher advisor to SAC and has brought an enthusiasm to the role, including a retreat for Council at start of year, and essays to run for president.
- Thanks to Stephanie Foster for running an outstanding Student Council
- Snowboarding team was the first team in 50 years that HHSS won at OFFSA
- Music Concert tomorrow night, May 10th
- Past semester was the lowest failure rate ever – success can be attributed to the programs such as Student Success and Destination Success for helping students cope and achieve
- Grad Breakfast Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> 7:45 – 8:30 for all grads (Parent Council members are invited to attend)
- Wanda Moles will be holding a Job Fair the morning of Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 76 new computers have been ordered – 30 will be wireless laptops
- 3 Interactive White Boards will be installed in the school
- A Code Red will be held next week
- Staffing and Timetable – next year will have a need for an equivalent of 6 FTE's to replace staff on leave etc. The timetable will hopefully be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Grad is Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

6. **Report on Events** –Dorian Young

- Ministry of Education Parent Involvement Initiative allocates \$500 to HHSS Parent Council to be spent by June 15<sup>th</sup> to encourage Parent involvement.
- After discussing the matter, Parent Council has decided to purchase a display board so that our Council will have a larger presence at school functions. Terry Goodwin to research Grand and Toy and Gary Brohman will purchase this through the school. We will focus our efforts on the new parents on May 24<sup>th</sup>, when the Grade 8's visit the school. We will run ads in the paper. Dorian, Tammy and Theresa will work to prepare a short presentation to the parents for that evening. Patti-Lou Robinson, and Tracey Pratt, as presidents of the Elementary schools will be consulted. Dorian is also to pursue a more direct HHSS web address for the school, to make the website more accessible for students and parents.
- Trillium Lakes District School Board hosted "Safe and Caring Schools" program in Lindsay on Sat April 29<sup>th</sup>. Dorian and Kate Young and Diane Welborn all attended. Workshops and guest speakers such as Barbara Coloroso were excellent. Diane wrote a report which will be circulated to Parent Council.

- Dorian attended the MPP Query Meeting at LCVI in Lindsay. Dorian had previously submitted Parent Council's response to the Focus questions from the Board on their Strategic Directions.

Key issues were: PTR (Class size)  
MSIP  
Late School Bus  
Focus on Schools, not the Board

Dorian was pleased to report that HHSS's responses were taken quite seriously and that initiatives that our school has started are being followed by others, such as the Eating Healthy programme.

7. **New Business**

- Dorian will be interviewed on Canoe FM on the HHSS program, Monday May 16<sup>th</sup> from 6-7. He will be discussing Parent Council.
- Tammy Rea is working with Mr. Woof's class and they will be screening works from the video class, and the Ontario video winners from the Jump Cuts program (Part of the Toronto Film Festival). There will also be a short movie from the HHSS student trip to France and Spain. This will be held in the Northern Lights Theatre on Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

9. **Final Words**

Another great school year, thanks to everyone for their involvement.  
Have a wonderful summer.

