



Wetaskiwin Composite High School

School Council

Wetaskiwin Composite High School Council

Wednesday, January 28th @ 7:00 pm

Minutes

1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Review of School Council Officials
 1. Chairperson: Heather Rasmuson
 2. Vice Chairperson: Steve Bredlow
 3. Secretary: Myra Maciborsky
3. [Minutes from previous meeting:](#)
4. Reports
 - o School Clubs
 - i. Student Council – Darren Demone
 1. Our Student Council is happy to be back to school. They are planning many activities for our students. Some of these include spirit days, Pink T-Shirt Day, Fancy Friday and the staff baby picture contest.
 - ii. GSA - Kris Denney
 1. Our GSA group consists of a group of students who get together weekly to promote an inclusive environment for all kids at WCHS. They would like to ask parents if they could hang the Pride Flag in the atrium in order to show support for members of this group. Mr. Denney asked parents to contact him if they have any feedback on this request.
 - o Administrator's Report - Kris Denney
 - i. Staffing Update
 1. Sandra Hall has been away from school due to a medical leave. As a result, we are not offering band during Quarter 3. Choral is something we do want to run in Q4, pending Mrs. Hall's return. More information will be sent out to students and parents as it becomes available.
 2. Lori Hudacek has continued on with our staff. She will be teaching a Language Arts course and a Social Studies course during Quarter 3.



Wetaskiwin Composite High School

School Council

ii. Review / Recap of Online Learning

1. We are now finishing Quarter 3. Final exams are completed.
2. Teacher feedback regarding our second school closure leading to online classes was varied:
 - a. Teachers thought students worked harder and were more engaged this time since all class assignments and tests were worth marks;
 - b. The taking of daily attendance resulted in more students attending online classes on a regular basis;
 - c. Teachers realized the importance of breaking lessons into several sections during each class (i.e. chunking). This helped increase student engagement and understanding of the course material;
 - d. Various teachers indicated that some students felt burnt out during the online schooling process. These students struggled with organization and time management;
 - e. Creating effective and fair online tests was a challenge;
 - f. Overall, things went better this time around. Students responded more positively, were engaged and completed work once they got into a routine. Teachers have worked with students who have fallen behind during online learning, by trying to get them caught up during the three weeks students were back to school.

iii. Review of Covid Procedures and Protocols

1. Mr. DeMone and Mr. Willmott went around and spoke to students regarding proper protocols to follow during lunchtime breaks. Since Alberta Health Services recommended we work with students during lunchtimes to be mindful of their behaviours regarding COVID-19, administration made this a priority. The following items below outline what was discussed in classes. Of course, the goal here was not to create a list of do's and don'ts for students, but to make students more aware of the importance of healthy behaviours during lunchtime in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Topics of discussion included:



Wetaskiwin Composite High School

School Council

- a. Only 2 students can sit at a table with masks off (opposite sides of table). At this point students can eat their lunch; Once they have finished eating, they should put their masks back on;
- b. Anyone standing or walking must have masks on (no eating or drinking at this time). Students should be sitting if they want to eat or drink;
- c. If there are more than two students at a table, they must all wear masks;
- d. Students sitting on the benches in the atrium can remove their masks and eat their lunches as long as no more than 2 students are present, and both are sitting on opposite ends;
- e. Students may sit in the library if there is room; however, they should consult with the teacher on duty, since classes are going on during this time;
- f. Students should not share food or drink;
- g. Students should not cluster in large groups (4 or 5 students with mask wearing is acceptable).
- h. Students on morning and afternoon breaks can sit in the cafeteria, as tables and chairs will be sanitized throughout the day;
- i. Concrete Seating in the PE Hall – 4 students can sit on each of the concrete benches making a total of 8 students in that area. Students are to visit quietly so as not to disrupt classes that are in session. Physical distancing to be in effect if students are eating.
- j. Gym Foyer Seating – 4 students are permitted in this area. Students are to visit quietly so as not to disrupt classes that are in session. Physical distancing is in effect if students are eating.
- k. Northwest Entrance – 4 students permitted. Students are to visit quietly so as not to disrupt classes that are in session.. Physical distancing in effect if students are eating.



Wetaskiwin Composite High School

School Council

Lunchtime Areas for Students

- Atrium
- Learning Commons and Coffee Loft
- Cafeteria
- Wahkotowin Room
- Room 151 (Grade 9s only)
- PE Hallway and Gathering Area

iv. Planning for Q3/Q4

1. Course Creation and Course Cancellation: With many students moving to and returning from Outreach and School at-home Learning, we have been busy finalizing course sections. Some courses with very few students registered have been cancelled in order to find efficiencies. Those students have been placed in other sections.
2. Extensions Courses and Credit Recovery: For those students who struggled with online learning in December and did not pass their courses, our success coaches will try to get these students to complete these courses through credit recovery and/or course extension. In this way, students do not have to do the entire course over again.
3. Grade 9 - Numeracy and Literacy Recovery: We have targeted literacy and numeracy as our main focus for our Grade 9 students. With school shutting down last year, and with a move to online learning this year, we recognize that some students may have learning gaps in these two key areas.

v. Graduation Planning: Grade 12 Graduation is right around the corner. Our Graduation Committee has been exploring options for the 2021 Graduates. Knowing that health measures may be put in place at a moment's notice by the provincial government, we want to ensure we plan for an activity that will be permitted even under the most stringent restrictions. Thus, some ideas that we are exploring include:

1. Organizing a drive-thru graduation ceremony whereby students can drive up to a stage outside (south side of the school at Mellinenum Park) with



Wetaskiwin Composite High School

School Council

their family members in a vehicle. Students can walk across the stage, receive their graduation scrolls, and family members would be able to take pictures from their vehicles.

2. Date of Ceremony: Tuesday, June 29th - the last day of school.
3. Video Presentation: Similar to last year, we would like to create another video presentation for Graduates which would include various speakers, valedictorian address, grad photos, etc.
4. The cap and gown will be sold to students this year instead of being rented. The cost to purchase a cap, gown, V-stole and tassel would be approximately \$25.00. More information will be provided as soon as a definite price is determined.

Stay tuned for more updates about Grad 2021 coming soon!

- vi. Parent Feedback: Parents, please be aware that you can call our office any time if you have feedback regarding any of the items listed here, or just in general. We are always happy to answer any questions that you have.
 - Trustee's Report: Lynn Ware - School Board Trustees have been collaborating with Peter Baron, our new Superintendent, on the Division's five priorities. These are:
 - i. Assess and address student learning gaps;
 - ii. Emphasize early childhood learning;
 - iii. Champion student and staff well-being;
 - iv. Encourage and celebrate active citizenship in our school communities; and,
 - v. Align resources to advance board priorities.
 - New Business
 - i. No new business brought forward.
5. Adjournment: 8:05 pm.
 6. Next Meeting: Thursday, February 25, 2021 @7:00 pm