

Henry Wise Wood High School Council Meeting Minutes February 24, 2025 @ 6:30 pm online

In attendance: Brandi D. (Chair), Teresa M. (Principal), Tony S. (Vice-Treasurer), Tinke Z., Tabi S., Cinnamon B., Caroline, Christina L., Haley M., Simeon P. (Assistant Principal), Thuy DN, Tonia VR, Shade, Jingnesh P., Michael O., Ecaterina

- 1. Call to order and Welcome: Brandi D. Meeting opened at 6:41 pm
- 2. Approval of agenda: Brandi D. 1st: Cinnamon 2nd: Tinke
- 3. Approval of December 16, 2024 Meeting Minutes: Brandi D. 1st: Cinnamon 2nd: Tinke
- 4. Land Acknowledgment: Simeon P.
- 5. Special Presentation: Simeon P.

School Engagement Report

- -Video from CBE about School planning was shared.
- -75% School budget is usually used for staffing
- -School fees are posted before school begins on school website. Consult with families regarding school fees before upcoming year.

School Development Plan - Year 1 of 3: (posted on school website)

School Goal: Student academic achievement will improve through the implementation of fair, transparent, and equitable assessment practices.

Outcome: The percentage of students acquiring credits for registered courses will improve.

- -This goal is the driver for school learning goals, school structure, resources to improve student learning, and is data-driven.
- -The overarching school goal focuses on student academics, outcomes measures, monitoring progress, and actions to implement to help achieve school goals.
- **-Outcome Measures:** high school graduation rates; report card data; course completion analytics; School Authority Reports Diploma Exam results alignment with school awarded marks
- -Data for Monitoring Progress: course mark analytics term 1 and 3 updates; credit recovery and credit rescue tracking; EAL (English as additional Language) Benchmarks data analytics; high school diploma analytics; AB ed. Assurance Measure Results reports 3 year high school completion; assignment stem/outcome analysis; perception data from students from surveys; "we walk together" data for self-identified Indigenous students

3 Actions:

- **-Learning Excellence Actions**: Outcomes Based Assessment across disciplines in core subject areas; continue to develop teacher and student understanding of how these work; next year all Phys Ed classes will also used Outcomes Based Assessment
- **-Well-Being actions**: reassessment opportunities; engage students through multiple ways of learning; extra time built in for assessments for all students; learning targets set; developing different articulation processes with our feeder schools to specifically target those students who need a "soft landing" transition into high school; student wellness action team and system symposium participation for students
- **-Truth & Reconciliation, Diversity, and Inclusion actions:** Culturally inclusive design tasks and assessments; implementation of culturally responsive pedagogy across all disciplines; student accommodations when needed; professional learning and resources; enhancement of relationships to strengthen cultural understanding

Professional Learning: System professional learning about outcome-based assessment takes places about every 4-6 weeks, where teachers bring back learnings to the school to share with other teachers

-Design of tiered tasks that map with the outcomes

Structures and Processes:

- -students in yellow zone, on bubble of not completing courses; teachers try to engage those learners so they can complete those courses;
- -strategies, structures and processes include: cohort of grade 10 students identified through feeder school transition articulation meetings; creation of courses to target students for credit recovery, literacy and math skills, CALM and Physical Education,; Warrior Connect, Warrior Voice Council, Warrior Diversity Council

Parent Question: Does any of this address the excessive classroom sizes and overflowing schools impacting the students' learning?

Answer: Sim: We try really hard to not overreach the cap of class sizes. Lots of classes are mid 30s. Because we're a growing school, we can hire more teachers.

Answer: Teresa: We use classroom data to see where we can improve things, in order to mitigate the class sizes. We have to be strategic with limited government dollars. Sim's budget presentation will address these more.

Budget:

As of September 30, 2025, 1905 students: \$11,235,916 budget this school year; 90% covers staffing; teachers in front of students is the best way to avoid large classes

- -the remaining portion covers instructional and operational supplies
- -funding is per student, and specialized funding for programs make up the RAM
- -103.3 teachers and support staff
- -\$256,430 decentralized funds to run the school; \$29,000 carry-over from previous year; the rest is for staffing
- -school fees: user pay for the most part
- -there is a fee guide on CBE website for all high schools
- -Some school fees for the 2024-25 year include: clubs, athletics, trips, courses, grad, parking pass, yearbook

Parent Questions: The funding that was listed for staff, does that include facilities staff?

Answer: no - staff for learning with students, office stuff, business manager **Teresa**: operational (heat, light, cleaning,) school board covers that, but not from HWW budget. Repairs or new purchases of things like furniture, we have to use money from the school budget. Casino funds really help with these kinds of purchases.

Parent Comment: I have an issue with charging students for their math and science handouts. These are core courses and students having to get the workbook or photocopied notes doesn't sit well. I know that students can ask to have fees waived. **Teresa:** point taken. We navigate carefully with teachers. Already spending about \$100, 000 on photocopying and paper. Will take these comments back to teaches and departments

Sim: It's a balance. Photocopying can ensure up to date info rather than outdated textbooks which are very expensive. Point taken on costs for core classes.

Information will be gathered from the broader parent community. School Planning Survey will be shared on the website and Wednesday Warrior. Open until the end of March 2025. Info will be gathered and results shared at the April meeting. Will also be used for next year's School Development Plan.

People in attendance took a short survey with feedback about the School Engagement and Budget presentations from this meeting.

6. Principal's Report: Teresa M.

a) CUPE Strike update:

Message from CBE today, that there will be picket lines outside the school tomorrow. Student parking lot is scheduled to be closed, but Teresa is working on opening the parking lot. Picketers are usually on the sidewalk, and students are inexperienced drivers, and there could be safety concerns, out of an abundance of caution. Teresa and Assistant Principals will be outside as the picketers are there. Student and staff safety are priority.

-working in compliance with health and safety; have had to make some adjustments; students are asked to leave the school within 45 min of school ending, unless doing activities directly supervised by teachers. Everyone out of building by 6pm. Administration will sweep building at 6 pm to make sure people are out. Exception is basketball teams. Will keep us updated. Working to ensure in-person learning will continue.

a) Updates:

- -Grade 9 Feeder School Tours happened on January 27 it was a huge success
- -February Black History Month through daily announcements and in Warrior Connect information has been shared throughout the month by our Student Advisory and Action Committee & Warrior Diversity Council to highlight the importance of this month.
- -Leadership hosted Valentine's event Candy Grams, Crush for a Crush
- -Agents For Change field trip to the Food Bank; we received positive comments from the Food Bank people about how awesome our student participants were.
- -Fine Arts Trip to New York City happened February 15 20; by all accounts the trip was a fabulous learning experience.

b) Upcoming

- -Random Acts of Kindness week February 24 28
- -Pink Shirt Day February 26
- -The HWW Environment Club has partnered with eCycle Solutions to run an electronics recycling drive, from Monday February 24 th to Thursday March 6 th. Items can be dropped off in the main office for secure storage.

c) Athletics & Clubs

- -Athletics for Winter season is in full swing:
 - Curling teams wrapped up their season. The Girls Curling Team earned Bronze

in their performance. Our Boys Curling Team also had a memorable performance; they came very close to matching last year's gold medal performance, falling just short in a game that went to extra ends. Both Girls and Boys teams played so well and should be so proud of their achievements over their season.

- Basketball is nearing the end of their season with league play coming to an end this week before heading into playoffs.
- The wrestling team has been competing at many events and competitors are getting ready to participate in cities later this week (February 27 & 28)
- Rugby is just getting underway as teams have held organizational meetings for any student athletes interested in participating.
- Badminton team selection is nearing completion as their season is just beginning.
- The Debate Club has been busy as team members have been involved in several recent competitions as they prepare for the Southern Alberta Debate Regionals beforeProvincials. Debate team members placed 3rd at the Westmount Charter debate tournament, followed by several 1 st and 2 nd place finishes at the Redtabnet Pre-regional Online Debate Tournament.
- Robotics Club FTC had their last Southern Alberta meeting this past weekend at Nelson Mandela High School. Both junior and senior teams competed very well, with senior team placing themselves as runners up in the Design Award, the Think Award, and winning the Innovate Award.
- Work continues to happen towards the spring drama production of "Radium Girls"
 March 12th 15 th. Cast and crew have been busy preparing for this production.
- This is Teresa's last week, as she finishes Friday. Teresa shared her gratitude for everyone and gave thanks for all the kindness, support and collaboration that she has received. She loves being involved in high school, and has many fond memories with HWW. She will keep in touch!
- Thank-you, Teresa, for all you have done for our HWW students, staff, and community!

7. Chair Report (5 min): Brandi D.

- a) Fuel Your Brain Update: Thank-you to the 15 parents who volunteered during Fuel Your Brain! We handed out 1,470 healthy snacks during the January 2025 exam period. The top five favorites were: banana chocolate chip muffins, made good bars, cheese strings, Bears paws, and rice crackers. Special thank-yous to Tabi, who organized the event, and Cinnamon, who purchased all the supplies. We greatly appreciate all the help and support you've given our students!
- b) ASCA grant We are still in talks about how to spend the money, and will update when we have news. Any ideas or suggestions would be appreciated.

8. Other business - Parent Question: Will the Parent-Teacher conferences shift to being online, with the strike? Answer: It depends on the strike. They are slated for inperson on Thursday evening and virtual on Friday. The school will share information closer to the date

9. Adjournment at 7:52 pm

Next School Council Meeting March 31, 2025 at 6:30 pm, followed by the Parent and ALumni Association Meeting. We will communicate the format (online, in person, or both) through the Wednesday Warrior.