



A.N. Myer School Council Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2016

1. **Welcome**

Principal, Johanna Provost, welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Introductions were made around the table. Johanna introduced Vice Principals Eric Stewart (grades 11 & 12) and Jessica Folino (grades 9 & 10).

2. **Principal's Report:** Johanna Provost reported.

- **2016-17 Student Enrolment:** almost at 1,100 students. A. N. Myer is the largest school in the DSBN and possibly in the Niagara Region.
- **New Staff:**
 - Mr. Albano – Music (filling in for Mr. Gow's sick leave), Mr. Anderson – English, Mr. Fleming – History, Mrs. George – English, Ms. MacDonald – Social Science, French, Mr. Nickel – Tech, Ms. Pavlovich – Science, Mrs. Prsa – Special Needs, Ms. Straitton – English, Mr. Vanderperk – Science & Phys Ed, Mr. Zapata – Math
- **Plant Update:**
 - **Outdoor Athletic Complex:** the plexisurface is being applied now and landscaping to follow. **Grand opening to be held on Thursday, October 27th at 4:00pm**
 - **Turf Field at Myer:** excavation will begin in March 2017 and the field will be ready for September 2017.
 - **Food Lab:** reno will be completed by the end of September. Industrial size fridge has been installed as well as new ovens. The lab now has an open concept and is more flexible for various lessons/activities
 - **New Furniture & Curtains:** Five more classrooms have been refurbished.
- **Principal Exchange from New Zealand:** a principal from NZ will be visiting Myer over the next 10 days. He is doing research on the Ontario education system.
- **Camp Myer:** Students attending Camp Myer will leave the school after period 4 on Tuesday, September 27th and return on Friday, September 30th. Grade 9 students not attending Camp Myer will have regular classes on Wednesday, September 28th, and will participate in Woodend's ropes course and outdoor activities on either Thursday, September 29th or Friday, September 30th. The Woodend programming is offered to students at no cost. Students are required to bring water and a bag lunch. Grade 11 students not attending Camp Myer will participate in their choice of 17

university/college/careers workshops on Thursday, September 29th during periods 1, 2, & 3. Students will schedule their workshops using the Remind App

- **OSSLT:** There will be some big changes to the Ontario Literacy Test at Myer this year. The online test will be written by all grade 10 students on October 20th (morning or afternoon sessions). If the students pass the online test, they are not required to write the pen/paper test in March 2017. Those students who are unsuccessful in the online test will have teacher support in preparing for the March test. Grade 11 & 12 students will not be excused from classes on the OSSLT testing dates – regular programming will continue
- **Important Dates:**
 - **October 11:** Progress reports are issued – letter grades will be given. Number grades will be given on mid-term reports.
 - **October 13:** Parent/Teacher interviews beginning at 4:30pm. Online scheduling will be available on the Myer website on October 6th.
- **Marauder Logos:** The Myer Marauder logo is being refreshed and updated. Samples were provided and parents were asked to indicate their preferences.
- **Student Council:** Executive positions are decided based on an application process. Grade reps are chosen by ballot and where possible one male and one female rep will be chosen for each grade. A report from Student Council will be made available for School Council meetings.

3. **Election of School Council Chair:** Christina Armistead nominated – acclaimed.

Election of School Council Secretary: Kim Martignago nominated – acclaimed.

- Minutes of School Council meetings will be posted on the Myer website.
- **Remind Me App:** an app that reminds students of upcoming information/events in the guidance department (i.e. university/college visits) and some teachers use the app to remind students/parents of assignment deadlines or upcoming tests. For more info on Remind Me please contact the guidance department. Johanna will send Remind Me app information to Parent Council members.
- **School Council Committees:** Christina shared information regarding the Grade 8 Open House and Fundraising/Trivia Night Committees.
- **Trivia Night – November 18, 2016:** will be held in the school cafeteria and funds raised will support the Robotics Team.
 - Johanna will update the prize request letter and send it out to Council members. Kim & Lynda will coordinate the major prize raffle and penny auction table. Parents are asked to notify Kim or Lynda regarding any requests made for prizes.
 - Tracy will contact and book John (\$300 recycled event) – positive feedback from last year's event.
 - Tracy will coordinate beverages and borrow the prize buckets from St. Gabriel's.
 - Christina will coordinate the food again this year.

- It was recommended that the Trivia Night Poster be created and circulating by Thanksgiving in order to generate more community involvement.
- **Picture Retakes:** October 19th – Parents are encouraged to contact Brian at Lasting Images regarding any questions/concerns with school photos.
- **Grade 8 Open House – December 1st:** New School Council T-Shirts (short-sleeved, purple) will be ordered. Parents are asked to give their sizes to Johanna for ordering. More planning to come at future meetings.
- **Pro-Grant Event – February 23, 2017:** Christina reviewed the grant and the theme of the 2017 event. The event will target students (and their parents) in grades 10 and 11 and will focus on post-secondary information. This event will also be open to grade 8 parents/students and anyone else interested in attending. Workshops will include the following:
 - Scholarships, bursaries, OSAP
 - Applying to University, College
 - SHSM programs, Co-op opportunities
 - Apprenticeships, Trades
 - Hour Republic, Career Cruising
 - Academic vs Applied programming
- **PIC Conference:** November 2nd at Eden Secondary School in St. Catharines. For more information visit the DSBN website.
- **Privacy Act & Students turning 18 years of age:** Each month a letter will be sent to parents of students who will be turning 18 in the next month. The letter will inform parents of the Ontario Privacy Act and the need for students to give the Myer Administration written permission to communicate with their parents regarding school/student concerns.

4. **Around the Table:**

- Myer Grad: discussion followed regarding the 2016 graduation at the Scotiabank Centre in June. Feedback was given regarding parking, venue, certificate and program errors, sound system issues.
- Myer & AC: AC is not a possibility due to structural issues. Parents asked if working fans could be placed in classrooms during very hot days to prevent students and staff feeling ill due to extreme heat.
- Honour Roll Breakfast: will be scheduled in November. More information to come.
- Additional fees for certain classes: It was asked if parents could be notified prior to course selection if certain classes require additional fees (i.e. personal fitness).
- Drama Productions: two productions are planned for 2016-17. More info to come.
- Community Hours: students can record their community service hours through D2L and Hour Republic.

- Cashless Online Payments: Myer Attire will be soon be listed on the Cashless online payment system. Parents can order Myer Attire online and items will be delivered to students in their homerooms.
- 2015-16 Yearbook: should be available soon – usually arrives by the end of September or beginning of October.
- School Library Hours: the library is open Monday to Friday from 8:00am until 3:30pm. Students are able to use the library during the lunch hour but not during their MSIP periods.
- MSIP attendance is compulsory.
- Encouraging Paper Mindfulness: Johanna has encouraged teachers to be mindful of the amount of copying done to reduce paper usage and encouraging students to be good environmental stewards. When possible, teachers are asked to post information on D2L for student access rather than printing everything.

Future Meeting Dates: all meetings are at 6:30pm in Rm #120a unless otherwise noted.

- Tuesday, October 18th
- Tuesday, November 8th
- November Ad Hoc meeting to prepare for Trivia Night & Open House – date TBA
- January Meeting – date TBA
- Tuesday, February 14th
- Tuesday, April 11th
- Tuesday, June 13th – Social evening – location TBA

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm

Minutes recorded and prepared by Kim Martignago