

Hadley Junior High School & Philemon Wright High School Governing Boards

Joint Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 9th 2022

5:30PM to 7:00PM

Hadley Junior High School GB Members:

Isabelle Richard
Jane Bouchard
Karen Wyatt
Jen Carbonnell
Sarah Kane
Bess Forrestall
Erin Millar
Amber Dorion

Non-voting Members:

Dodie Payne, Principal
Kate Smith, Vice-Principal
Correne Giles, Administrator

Regrets:

Andrew Leach

Absent without notice:

Crystal-Lee Beausoleil
Steve Swenson
Chev Pryce
James Price, Vice-Principal

Guests:

Letitia Taylor
Abby Karos
Meredith Daley
Carol Meindl – H&S
Chris Schaler – H&S
Marlyn Brownrigg – H&S
Rosemary Murphy – H&S

Philemon Wright High School GB Members:

Amrit Bains
Julie Kennedy
Amanda Kemp
Colin Bunge
Katie Clow
Mario Cuglietta
Adam Leclair
Erin Gowriluk
Bronia Sussmann
Britta Nielsen
Daphne Jurgens
Furaha-Safi Karubara
Isabella Boucher

Regrets:

Erin Connell

Absent without notice:

Anselme Nsoga
Cameron Swann

ITEM	REF	PRESENTER	TIME	ACTION
OPENING BUSINESS				
Restorative Justice	<i>Verbal</i>	Abby Karos	15 min	Abby presented work she is doing to help manage conflict with students – she is working on circle work and restorative justice, and would like to do peer mediation, relationship-building, social/emotional learning. Training for 20 teachers on PD days. Started meeting with a check in on feelings and meeting guidelines.

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				When presented this addition to the agenda, there was a misunderstanding on what would be presented, so Call to Order followed this presentation
Call to Order	<i>Verbal</i>	Isabelle	2 min	Welcome, land acknowledgement & meeting guidelines
Roll Call	<i>Verbal</i>	Karen Wyatt	2 min	Attendance
Agenda	<i>Emailed</i>	Julie & Isabelle	2 min	Outdoor Ed trip added to agenda Motion to approve the March 9th 2022 agenda as presented. PWHS/21-22 #34: Adam Leclair, Colin Bunge. Carried. HJHS/21-22 #35 : Jane Bouchard, Jen Carbonnell. Carried
GB Minutes	<i>Emailed</i>	Julie & Isabelle	2 min	Motion to approve the February 16th, 2022 minutes as presented: PWHS/21-22 #35: Adam Leclair, Amrit Bains. Carried. HJHS/21-22 #36: Jane Bouchard, Jen Carbonnell. Carried.
STANDING REPORTS				
School Council	<i>Verbal</i>	Dodie	5 min	No School Council meeting was held since last GB meeting
Parents Committee	<i>Verbal</i>	Karen	5 min	Parents Committee met February 21st. Main agenda item was a presentation on the WQSB Anti-Racism Committee (by Ruth Ahern) EPCA update: gave a presentation on Bill 9 (which proposes a regional ombudsperson) to the Committee on Culture and Education, National Assembly of Quebec on January 18, 2022. See https://epcaquebec.org/ WQSB school board calendar for 2022-23 approved Next meeting: March 21, 2022
SEAC	<i>Verbal</i>	L. Taylor (guest)	5 min	See report below.

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Students	<i>Verbal</i>	Isabella & Furaha	5 min	Motion to approve a famine fundraiser on April 22nd. Students would like to do a fast as a fundraiser for 2022 Food Drive. Overnight stay at school while fasting, with teacher supervision, and breakfast in morning to end fast. PWHS/21-22 #36: Colin Bunge, Katie Clow. Carried. HJHS/21-22 #37: Erin Millar, Jane Bouchard. Carried. Motion to approve a Prom fundraiser. Poppa Jack's popcorn sale during lunch as fundraiser for Prom. PWHS/21-22 #37: Mario Cuglietta, Adam Leclair. Carried. HJHS/21-22 #38: Amber Dorion, Sarah Kane. Carried. For information Proposed project in grade 10 Ethics class to highlight prominent female Canadians as inspirations to younger Canadians, for Women's History Month.
NEW BUSINESS				
Home and School	<i>Emailed</i>	Jennifer C and QFHSA Guests	20 min	For approval See attached document on history of the H&S Association and benefits of membership. The H&S committees are independent, but work in collaboration with school. QFHSA advises and troubleshoots management of the H&S committees. The H&S committee requires a constitution, by-laws, minuted meetings and elections for board positions. Fee \$20 for family. Members determine projects or fundraisers. Elementary H&S run differently than Highschool H&S, which does more behind the scenes, rather than running events.

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				Purchases for school can be done outside of government mandated process/suppliers. Good community building for other initiatives. Don't have to be a parent to participate in H&S – anyone can participate – past parents, teachers, etc. Functions like a non-profit. Members see financial statements and Association also reviews financials. Audit has to be done every 3-5 years. Financial signing power should be shared by 3 people. PPO has no mandate to fundraise, only GB can fundraise. But funds raised under PPO belong to school, and spending is determined by GB and Principal. H&S is financially independent from the school. Can have a rep from H&S on GB to inform and get approval for fundraising and purchases (for coordination and teamwork). Hadley/Philemon does not currently have a PPO. Motion to approve will move to next meeting.
Budget report	<i>Emailed</i>	Dodie	5 min	For information Moved to next meeting
Professional Development Reflection and Vision	<i>Verbal</i>	Dodie	10 min	For information Move to next meeting
National Gallery field trip for art club	<i>Verbal</i>	Bess Forrestall	5 min	Motion to approve May 6th trip to NGC and OAG for Hadley students. Need money to cover bus and entrance fees. HJHS/21-22 #39: Jane Bouchard, Karen Wyatt. Carried.
Drama Initiatives	<i>Verbal</i>	Meredith Daley	5 min	Motion to approve a Talent Show for April 20th for Hadley students. Students

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				can sign up. Fundraiser for Prom might happen at event. HJHS/21-22 #40: Erin Millar, Jen Carbonnell. Carried. Motion to approve a Cabaret night for Philemon students. Proposed show in May. PWHS/21-22 #38: Amrit Bains, Adam Leclair. Carried.
Outdoor Ed Trip	<i>At meeting</i>	Colin Bunge	5 min	Motion to approve Outdoor Ed trip to go dog-sledding on March 25th. One day trip with lunch included. PWHS/21-22 #39: Amrit Bains, Mario Cuglietta. Carried.
WOPT	<i>At meeting</i>	Adam Leclair	5 min	Motion to approve trip to CWM with WOPT group on April 20th. Students to use public transport. Funds to cover costs from grants PWHS/21-22 #40: Amrit Bains, Colin Bunge. Carried.
CLOSING				
Next Meeting: April 13th	<i>Verbal</i>	Isabelle	1 min	Agenda items?
Adjournment	<i>Verbal</i>	Julie & Isabelle	1 min	Motion to adjourn the March 9th GB meeting: PWHS/21-22 #41 Adam Leclair, Colin Bunge. Carried. HJHS/21-22 #41 Jen Carbonnell, Jane Bouchard. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm

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NOTES ON THE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
March 9, 2022

Since the last Hadley/PWHS Governing Board meeting, SEAC has met three times, including Monday and Tuesday of this week, in order to draft responses to the ten questions posed to us by the Resource Allocation Committee (RAC). The RAC makes yearly recommendations to Council about the allocation of resources. As I mentioned at your previous meeting, the Education Act requires the RAC to engage in an annual consultation exercise before making its recommendations, and SEAC is a part of that process.

You will recall that with regard to SEAC's specific questions in January about the impact or outcome of any of our previous recommendations on the allocation of resources, the Finance Director and Complementary Services Director stated clearly that they were not able to provide many answers. In the meantime, we continued to gather information about student statistics and allocations of funds to schools, notably the Complementary Services Parity Committee minutes from last November tabled at Council. All that to say, the reality of operating in an environment where there is low functional accountability for the expenditure of millions of dollars for special needs students shaped SEAC's focus as we drafted recommendations this year.

The first question asked us:

1. Do you have any recommendations related to the **objectives and principles** used to govern the allocation of funds (specifically as they pertain to equitable delivery for students with special needs)?

Our answer emphasized the importance of transparent, data-driven, evidence-based decision making that should undergird the expenditure of taxpayers' dollars. Ensuring equitable delivery of services across the WQSB is dependent on a clear accounting of how and where funds are being spent, analysis of educational service impacts, trends in terms of progress on measurable goals, etc. To that end we recommended among other things that investments be made in creating a systemic management tool to track the effect of any recommendations that were chosen to be implemented.

We also observed that school-based control of funding often means that there is no consistency for students who may struggle with the same difficulties in different schools but do not always have access to effective support. We believe that families with limited means should not be expected to pick up the financial burden of securing private assessments, support and services; and most importantly, socio-economic status should not be an insurmountable obstacle to students with special needs accessing the resources they need to reach their full individual potential in the educational setting.

We recommended a variety of what we think are innovative solutions, including developing mechanisms that leverage online resources to gather and support isolated, underserved students when category of need permits, thus permitting support staff, professionals and educators from across the Board to reach those students, encouraging the Board to join with other school boards to engage the Ministry of Education around the pressing issue of reducing waiting lists for assessments in English by accepting licensed professional services from outside the province or subsidizing travel to say Montreal to get assessments done.

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We have continued to advocate for increasing training for support staff and teachers who work with special needs students but understanding that these are for the most part school-based decisions, I will at the next meeting offer suggestions to the GBs to follow up on with regard to specific training concerns, like around Human Rights. Also, SEAC perceives a need for more training of all students so that understanding and sensitivity towards special needs students is improved.

The next SEAC meeting is planned for March 28.

Respectfully submitted,
Letitia Taylor, EHDAA Parent Commissioner