

HAMMARSKJOLD HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL MINUTES
April 3, 2019

Present: Jennifer Picard, Derek DiBlasio, Donna Flaszka, Cheri Lappage, Andrew Fiset, Nicole Morden Cormier, Heather Laur, Shelley Garr, Dimitri Demetrokopoulos, Kelly Fettes, Rob Thibodeau, Laura Pattison, Paul Fayrick, Michelle Arnold, Ian MacRae, Sherri-Lynne Pharand, Lee-ann Wills

1. Welcome and Introduction

Principal Derek DiBlasio welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved by Dimitri Demetrokopoulos, seconded by Laura Pattison

3. Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes were reviewed and approved by Rob Thibodeau, seconded by Heather Laur

4. Current Issues/Concerns

- When a threat is received, a decision needs to be made quickly with the Principal and Superintendent and Director of Education regarding whether to close the school or to put the school into lockdown or hold and secure. This partly depends on the time that the threat was received.
- Thunder Bay Police and/or Tactical Team has attended each time. Staff needs to follow their procedures to ensure student and staff safety.
- Empty lockers have all had locks put on them, including the ones in the bathrooms and staff room
- As well as our full time Guidance Counsellors, a full time social worker and additional support workers from Superior and a Mental Health Lead have been brought in to support students. If necessary, we could also ask the Westgate social worker to come to Hammarskjold.
- External people from Thunder Bay Counselling Centre are also available for Group or Individual Counselling outside of the school for those uncomfortable speaking to someone within the school.
- Therapy dogs have been to the school to visit with students.
- Staff have been debriefed after each incident
- We are trying to support students and staff, as well as Thunder Bay Police
- Actions are based on specificity of each threat
- We are reacting on the basis of specificity
- We will continue to base decisions on student safety

- Tip line has been set up – Call **684-5001** with any information
- A \$5000 Reward is now being offered by Lakehead Public Schools
- Crimestoppers is also offering a \$1000 Reward
- This is a very awkward situation
- Other steps being taken include the Board deciding to pay for police presence at all three secondary high schools on a rotating schedule
- There are three levels of security that can be implemented during a crisis
- 1) **Shelter in Place** - Stay indoors, turn off cell phones and remain in place until Shelter in Place is lifted
- 2) **Hold and Secure** – Stay indoors, close and lock all windows and doors, stay away from doors and windows, turn off cell phones and remain in place until Hold and Secure is lifted
- 3) **Lockdown** – As in Hold and Secure, plus turn off all lights and maintain silence and remain in place until released by Police Services.
- IT specialist will be coming into Hammarskjold twice within the next week to put stuff online so students/parents can see assignments to be done or other messages, etc.
- **Any suggestions that anyone might have to help are welcomed**
- Upcoming parent meeting for people to ask questions or for us provide any new information that we are able to discuss without compromising the investigation
- Hoping to give out counselling resources and information to parents and students at upcoming meeting
- **If you wish to be added to the text/email notifications from the Board**, you can go to Board Facebook page or the following link <https://www.lakeheadschoools.ca/get-the-latest-information-about-your-childs-school/>
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5. New Business

- Information from the Ministry will be coming soon regarding Ministry Funding

6. Teacher/Staff/Administration Report

- 206 Grade 9's coming next year
- Four retirements this year
- Remainder to be discussed next meeting

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION REGARDING THREATS WILL BE ON THURSDAY APRIL 11 @ 6:30 IN HAMMARSKJOLD GYM

NEXT PARENT'S COUNCIL MEETING DATE: WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 @ 6:30