

Earl Haig Secondary School

Parent School Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date and Time:	Tuesday: April 4 th , 2017	
Location:	EHSS, Cafeteria	

#	Topics and Notes
1.	<p>Welcome and Introduction: Susan Kenny and Sarah Chung welcomed everyone and announced the agenda as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introductions • Principal's Update • Student Update • School Trustee (Alexander Brown) Update • Terry Carson: I Get No Respect! Developing Relationships with Teens • YMCA – Youth Substance Abuse Program
2.	<p>Principal's Update (Vice Principal Stewart Burns in the absence of Principal Renata Gonsalves)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PORs update: Leadership Team remains the same mostly; 2 changes: Debbie Patty assigned as Asst. Curriculum Leader for Music and Marco Parasello as Asst. Curriculum Leader for Film • Fashion exhibit, inspired by One flew over the cuckoo's nest, parents encouraged to visit the exhibits in Wavey Hall • Report cards: April 20 • Approaching end of term 2, but still plenty of time left for students to continue to do their best/ make up. Exam schedule will be posted by 2nd week of April on the school website • Grade 12: April 24 and 25 Ontario College and University (OCAU) Transmission dates • Claude Watson dance night: April 5. Students deliver an outstanding performance and all parents encouraged to attend to watch the amazing talent. Tickets can be purchased at the door
4.	<p>Update by Alexander Brown (Trustee Ward 21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver Creek Public and McNicol Public School (also offers child care & Adventure Place) will be bought out by the Ministry and therefore will remain within the community. • Overcrowding in our schools: Due to significant amount of new development leading to overcrowding in schools and impacting ability of existing schools in the area to admit new kids, a levy being proposed for every new development in the area that will contribute to an education fund. Meeting being held on May 10th, 7pm, North York Civic Centre – all parents are encouraged to attend to show support for the initiative • Equity Task Force enhancement initiative: Members to include staff, 3 trustee attendees,

	<p>parents, community members. Public meeting being held at George Vanier Public School and the discussion will be facilitated by a 3rd party facilitator.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Safety Issue: Briefed by Parent School Council and will evaluate the proposal being brought forward by the council • Toastmasters Leadership International: Posters for enrolment posted in the school at the beginning of the school year. Limited number of spots available. • PO41: TDSB reviewing all policies related to distribution of materials for advertising in schools, and would like to get input from parents <p>Contact info: Email: alexander.brown@tdsb.on.ca Phone: 647-391-8410</p>
5.	<p>Developing Relationship with Teens – I Get No respect! Special Guest Speaker – Terry Carson, M. Ed.</p> <p>Presentation Topics:</p> <p>-Teen Brain vs. Adult Brain: In adult, various parts of the brain work together to evaluate choices, make decisions and act accordingly in each situation (remote control in pre-frontal cortex). In teen brains, pre-frontal cortex is maturing and instead, they rely primarily on the limbic system ('primitive brain') to process emotions, make decisions and react. Teens react to situations with more emotion, use feelings and gut instinct to make decisions, and can act dramatically and likely to take risks.</p> <p>-Top 10 Strategies for Developing Respect, Responsibility and a better relationship with your Teen</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen and Be curious <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen and be curious about what's going on in your teen's life • Curiously questions invite kids to explore what happened, what caused in to happen, how they feel about it and they can learn from their experience. It helps teens process their thinking and consequences of their choices. 2. Use active listening skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six active listening techniques Encourage: "Tell me more.." Clarity: "And what does that mean? So, how did you feel then..?" Restate: "What you're saying is..? So, you think..?" Reflect: "You seem sad about that.." Summarize: "You're upset with me because.." "You'd like us to spend more time together.." Validate: "I'm glad you felt you could tell me that.." 3. Use encouragement: Focuses on what teen is doing right. Tell your teen about the things you appreciate about her or what she's done. 4. Ask permission: Asking permission before you give advice can go a long way to improve relationships with your teens.

	<p>5. Model respect: Shows that the parent notices and values their child beyond their ability to get things done or follow the rules, but as an individual and a valuable member of the family</p> <p>6. Seek to understand: Understand the situation from your teen's point of view to come up with mutually beneficial solutions.</p> <p>7. Use acknowledgement: Acknowledge your teen for the value they bring to the table. Verbalizing a clear acknowledgement requires that the people think carefully about what is specifically they appreciate about their teen.</p> <p>8. Involve teen in solutions: Four steps to problem solving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teen shares his issues and goals • Parent shares her issues and goals • If the two are apart, they brainstorm to find options • Teen and parent picks an option they can both live with and try it out for a short time <p>9. Outline the issue clearly: Concept of HEAT (<u>H</u>ear me. <u>E</u>mpathize with me. <u>A</u>pologize. <u>T</u>ake action</p> <p>10. Practice follow-through: Must follow through on agreement by kindly but firmly holding your teen accountable to his/ her part of the bargain.</p>
6.	Next Meeting Date: Tuesday May 9 th , 7:30pm

The actions and activities of the EHSS School Council are authorized by the Principal.