Meeting Minutes: February 1, 2022

Prepared by Lisa Abbott Moore, Secretary

Attendance

Lisa Abbott Moore, Jasmine Albagli, John Corpus, Karen Kong, Carolyn Berezowsky, Mei Qiu, Ryan Jaecques, Isabelle Mercier, Pam Woolridge, Mackenzie Alexander, Tim Embury, Rohan Hollingsworth, Robert Fletcher, Asha Ali, Sandra Ross-Nguyen, Yanling Wang, Dinaben Desai, Cara Baas, Megan Fox, Laura Newton Miller, Jennifer Kirney, elizabeth mckay, Laura Storrie

Approval of Minutes from November 2, 2021

Motion to accept made by Tim Embury (Chair) and approved by Asha Ali (Voting Member)

Approval of Agenda for February 1, 2021

Motion to accept made by Tim Embury (Chair) and approved by Asha Ali (Voting Member)

Student Council Report – Mackenzie Alexander

Black History Month

This Thursday (January 3) we are encouraging students to wear black.

We are partnering with the MHS Black Excellence Club to help promote some further Black History month events.

Date TBD - A Spirit Day which will celebrate the culture and heritage of African and Black students at Merivale High School.

Toonie Tuesday (2/22/22)

Coming up with a plan for accepting donations, school cash online is open...

Menstrual Equity Project

Providing free menstrual products in schools across the province

- 3-vear initiative
- Providing pads supplied by shoppers drug mart
- Products will be in one gender-neutral washroom in the school
 Hopefully coming in the 'spring'

Valentines Day

Poem Competition in the works... prize would be a second cup gift card

Principal's Report – Jean Fulton-Hale

Welcome to our new VP, Rohan Hollingsworth, who enjoyed his first day with us today!

Thank you & best wishes to Toni Agraniotis-House, now at AYJ.

Toonie Tuesday Fundraiser – families are invited to donate \$2 via SchoolCash online.

RAT Kits: All students grades 7-12 have now received one kit with 2 Rapid-Antigen tests.

<u>3 February</u>: OCDSB students and staff will be participating in Black Excellence Day. On February 3, 2021 the province of Nova Scotia repaid the fine and court costs associated with Viola Desmond's 1946 court case to Viola's sister, Wanda Robson. Viola had been found guilty of tax evasion in 1946, after challenging racial segregation at the Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow.

Black Excellence Day reminds us that despite these intentional inequities, People of Black African descent continue to excel in all areas of life. Black Excellence Day is a new opportunity for us to come together to repair the harm and damage caused by racism's past and present oppressive practices. Students and staff members are welcome to wear black on this day, and to post on social media using the hashtags #BlackExcellenceDay and #OCDSBBlackExcellenceDay.

Intermediate:

Welcome to new permanent teachers Ms. DeCaire (R8C) and Mr. Johnston (R7A). We have a few new LTOs, as well as sharing that Mme Cote (EMF7C) has started her leave. Our wonderful team is supporting our new colleagues and our students are focused on their learning.

<u>Recess</u>: weather permitting is outdoors on the East Field. Classes walk to/from the field on the sidewalk to use the marked crosswalk. It is essential that students remain with their class as the driveway has active traffic during the day. Thank you in advance for reinforcing our safety focus.

<u>Prior Events</u>: Chill Week – Grade 7s showcased their learning about stress with a Hallway Gallery Walk. Thanks to Ms. Sammon for her 7 weeks of StressLess lessons.

<u>Our Virtual Welcome to High School Session</u> was well-attended by our future Grade 9 families on 25 January. The recording is available on the website for those who were unable to attend the livestream. There's a lot to learn about high school, and in particular, about our focus on the destreamed curriculum in Math, Science, Geography, English and French!

- 2 February MHS grade 8s have course selection classroom sessions from MHS Guidance Counsellors.
- 3 February SMPS grade 8s have course selection classroom sessions from MHS Guidance Counsellors.

9 February – MHS Grade 8s Skills Ontario Sessions (2), rescheduled from January.

10 February –our BHM guest speaker will share 2 sessions (grade 7 & 8) Roen 'Blu Riva' Higgins is a Spoken Word poet who paints vivid pictures with her words. She flips the script with current social issues especially mental health and racial injustice in a bold, playful, and unconventional way. Thank you to Ms. Lutz for organizing!

16 February – Term 1 Report cards sent via secure email to parents/quardians

Secondary:

<u>7 February</u> – return to four period day, new calendar on website. Guidance and Mr. Donato are currently working on a plan to distribute students' current timetables as a part of this return to a multi-period day. The 2A teachers will share important information with their classes to support our move to the four period day.

<u>7 February</u> – lockers have been assigned to each secondary student. Students will receive a school-issued lock and their locker location from their 2B teacher. A more detailed message along with how to confirm locker locations will be shared ahead of 7 February.

<u>Covid Lunch</u> zones and other parameters in place for students' safety remain in place. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

<u>Spares</u>: Senior students with a spare block will be assigned to the Cafeteria for Study Hall during their spare. They are also encouraged to work from home if their spare falls at the start/end of the school day. Students must have their work and any necessary items (pencil case/calculator) with them in Study Hall.

<u>OC Transpo</u>: a reminder to all students to treat our drivers with kindness and to respect the rules on the bus. We have had a few incidents that reflect poorly on students, their families, and the school. Today we spoke to students on the buses to reinforce the expectations set by OC Transpo, OSTA, and the school for good citizenship and cooperation.

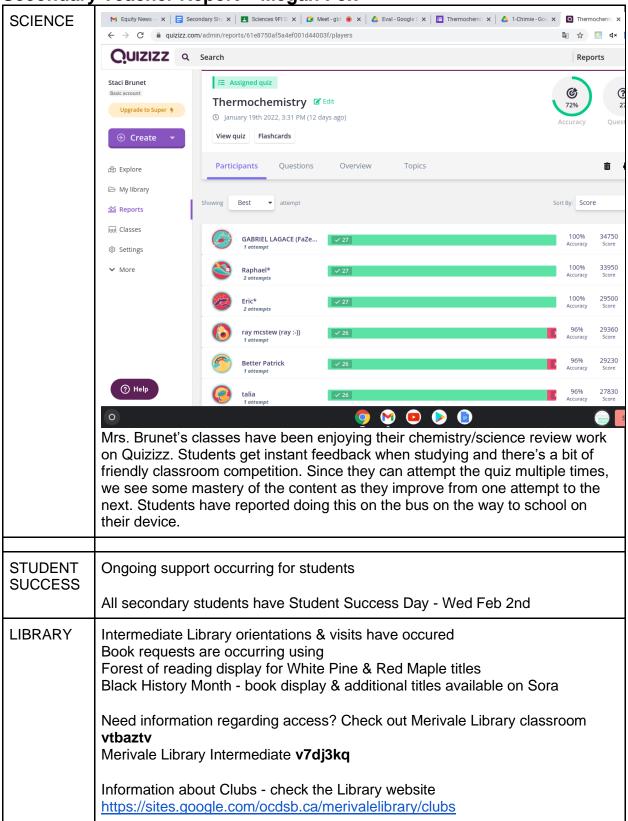
<u>Virtual Course Information Evening Sessions, 9 February</u> – (6:00 Ontario / 7:00 IB) Join our Guidance and Admin team for our information sessions for Course Selection for the 22-23 school year.

<u>10 February</u> – report cards via secure email

<u>24 February</u> – scheduled date for Parent-Teacher interviews for Secondary only – Virtual – 3:30 – 7:30 PM. More information will be shared closer to the date.

<u>25 February</u>: MHS Black Excellence Club has planned a month of awareness for Black Excellence, culminating with our Virtual BHM Guest Speaker Mr. Adrian Harewood.

Secondary Teacher Report – Megan Fox



ATHLETIC S



CWS Black History Month presentation Feb 25th

Organized by Black Excellence club student leaders

Guidance

OPTION SHEET PRESENTATIONS:

Wednesday, 2 February - Merivale Grade 8 Classrooms Thursday, 3 February - Steve MacLean Grade 8 Classrooms

Wednesday, 9 February - PARENT PRESENTATIONS

- 6-7 Ontario Program
- 7-8:30 IB Program

Thursday, 10 February - Tuesday, 15 February - Merivale Grades 9-11 Classrooms

Google Drop In Sessions:

CHECK OUT the Merivale High School Student Services Website.

MORE QUESTIONS? Drop in to a Google Meet:

Google Meet Nickname:

Course Selection Ontario

- Tuesdays, 22 February 5:00-6:00 pm
- Thursday, 24 February 3:00-4:00 pm
- Tuesday, 1 March 3:00-4:00 pm
- Thursday, 3 March 5:00-6:00 pm

Google Meet Nickname:

Course Selection IB

- Tuesdays, 22 February 5:00-6:00 pm
- Thursday, 24 February 3:00-4:00 pm
- Tuesday, 1 March 3:00-4:00 pm
- Thursday, 3 March 5:00-6:00 pm

14 February - Students can submit their selections.

4 March - Deadline.

Parental consent...TBD.

ENGLISH

Debate Club

On Sunday, January, 30th our students competed in the Ontario Student Debate Union Senior Regional virtual tournament.

Merivale competed against six different schools within Ottawa. Overall Merivale teams took 1st and 3rd place. These two teams will have the opportunity to compete in the upcoming OSDU provincials virtual tournament in February.

Overall:

- 3rd place was taken by Aubrey (Gr 11) and Max (Gr 11).

- 1st place was taken by Jacqueline (Gr 10) and Ethan (Gr 10).

Overall Jackie and Ethan ranked 5 1st and 2nd for speaker scores for the entire tournament!

ART / TECH	Students in grade 11 Computer Science have been coding songs that carry a message of equity and entrepreneurship using Python. We explored Pharrell Williams' song Entrepreneur as an example to work off of. Students used the programming skills they've been learning to slice in sections of songs across different tracks, combining bass lines, vocals, percussion, etc. and create something beautiful! Students explored examples of racism at interpersonal, institutional, and structural levels and also investigated examples of entrepreneurship. They then used what they learned to craft a message that would promote equity. Here are some examples: Clip 1 Clip 2 Clip 3
IB	Application evaluation process underway. Specialized course selection presentation
Extracurricu lar	The Writer's Club has written a One-Act play for the Drama Club who will be putting it on, hopefully for the Virtual NTS Festival (National Theatre School - Formally Sears Festival) Over 50 students have signed up for the Canadian Computing Competition, taking place in February.