

# Minutes: Merivale High School Council Meeting, March 7, 2023

## Administrative

**Attendance:** Tim Embury, Suzy Wong, Mei Qiu, Ryan Jaeques, Premnath Chiruvella, Philip Mansfield, Jean Fulton-Hale, Bruce Levine, Karen Kong, Jasmine Albagli, Laura Newton Miller, Katherine Percival, S V Uma Maheswara Rao, Sandra Ross-Nguyen, Bo Xie

**Council & Administration Regrets:** Megan Fox, Cheryl Wang, Yaseera Kapadia

## Welcome – Tim Embury

Approval of agenda

Motioned by: Premnath Chiruvella

Seconded by: Mei Qiu

## Review & Approval of Minutes from February 2023

Motioned by: Tim Embury

Seconded by: Ryan Jaeques

## Reports

Student Council Report – Kosar Hemmati / Lauren Mortimer

- No Report

Intermediate Report – Bruce Levine

- Badminton Intramural tournament to begin after March Break includes both gr 7 & 8s (Ms. Jefferson)
- Chess Club and tournament have been going on for a few weeks now and are nearing the end with a champion soon to be declared. (Mr. Cheung)
- Basketball teams continue to practice and prepare for their respective tournaments. Boys will have their Regionals right after the March Break, and the girls will have theirs near the end of March. (Mr. Johnston, Mr. Sharif, and Ms. McParland)
- Classes continue to get a chance to go skating at the arena. I think each class has gone at least three times.
- Black History Month Trivia Competition between classes has ended. Tabulations still need to be finalized to award the winning class which will be done upon Ms. Ghebretacle's return after March Break. (Ms. Ghebretacle)
- Gr. 7s have a Science field trip planned for MacSkimming. (Mr. Johnston)

Secondary Report – Megan Fox

LIBRARY	<p>Great interest in our Black History month displays and our Forest of Reading titles in the Red Maple (Intermediate), White Pine (Secondary) and Tamarac (French) have arrived and will be on display and ready for check out just in time for the March Break</p> <p><a href="https://forestofreading.com/nominated-lists/">https://forestofreading.com/nominated-lists/</a></p>
ATHLETICS	<p>Winter Sports are keeping our Athletes busy and the Spring season sports are starting up</p> <p>Check for information in the hallway near the new gym</p> <p>Intramurals have been very popular with great participation rates!</p>
Guidance	<p>Grade 8 Tech Day! Merivale Grade 8s had 4 workshops - Construction, Transportation, Computer Studies, Communication Technology.</p> <p>Course Selection for next year (2023-2024) are submitted on Xello. Summer school registration will begin at the beginning of April - email communication will be sent. A Google form will be available on the Student Services website.</p> <p>Grade 11 &amp; 12 Families - MANY University and College Open Houses scheduled over March Break and the end of March (Post Secondary Presentation Calendar) .</p> <p>Merivale - Pre-IB grade 9 offers are out.</p> <p>MADD is coming to speak with our Grade 10, 11, 12 classes on April 12th</p>
ENGLISH	<p>Snowy weather interfered with the planned NAC “Reggae Roots” and National Gallery field trip</p> <p>An in-school field trip for Gr 11 students in the NBE course is planned for Mon Apr 3rd for a presentation by Mark Seabrook an Anishinaabe artist &amp; writer from Manitoulin Island</p>

ART /  
TECH



**The senior drama one-act festival went really well last Thursday. Featured senior drama students one act plays - directed and performed by students. Students performed the technical theater roles - AV (lighting and sound) as well as stagemanager, props and costumes. It was a wonderful experience for all learning all the pieces that make up live theater productions.**



**Grade 8 tech day was held Feb 23/24. All grade 8 students at MHS took part in activities in the secondary tech wing, rotating through the auto shop, construction workshop, communications technology, and computer science.**

**All (300+) computer science students went on field trips to the VR Adventure Zone in February. Students completed a Virtual Reality experience and then learned about the state of VR today, what we can expect in the future, and what is involved in running a VR-related company.**





**Music students participated in the annual Music Fest this past month. All bands performed well taking home awards in all categories.**

**Junior Band winning Silver +  
Intermedia Band winning Gold  
Senior Band winning Silver  
Jazz Band winning Silver**

**77 Students wrote the Canadian Computing Competition (run through Waterloo University) in February. 23 students achieved a level of distinction in the junior category, and 18 in the senior category! 82% of our students scored above the national average.**

**ASD Class**

**Our class will be participating in a Special Olympics Event for Bocce Ball March 10, 2023. Students will be traveling to Ridgemont High School for the tournament. This is the first Special Olympics Event that Merivale ASD class will attend.**

<p>IB</p>	<p><b>IB Art students examining this year are preparing for their ART EXHIBITION. Work will be on display in the school cafeteria Wednesday March 29th - Thursday March 30th.</b></p>
<p>Extracurricular</p>	<p>Merivale's 2 improv teams are competing in their regional tournament March 25. Everyone is excited.          Merivale is planning to host Relay for Life in person again this year on June 2nd. Students who are part of the organizing committee attended Relay U, which is a training event, to learn more about what it entails.</p> <div data-bbox="386 562 1302 1192" data-label="Image"> <p>The logo for the play 'Play On!' features the title in a black, cursive font. The word 'Play' is on the top line, and 'On!' is on the bottom line. The letter 'O' in 'On!' is a large circle containing a white star. On either side of the 'O' are two orange theater masks, one facing left and one facing right.</p> </div> <p>The rehearsals for the spring production of the comedy <b>Play On!</b> is going very well. Ticket sales start at the end of March through Cash Online. Show opens April 27th and runs until April 28th. - 7pm          Students, staff and parents can purchase a collectors item t-shirt. Sales will be made available on Cash Online.</p>



Principal's Report – Jean Fulton-Hale

**School Climate Survey:** Parent/Caregiver PPT for [School Climate Survey](#)

**Update:** flood repairs continue and we look forward to having that completed by the break.

**688 Update:** OC Transpo had a supervisor out to assess the morning pick up. They will do their best to prioritize 60' buses on the route. OC requests that students do their best to balance the load between the two buses assigned.

**School Renewal:** A new hoist will be installed in the Auto Shop before June. We are very excited to have this new equipment for our students!

**MusicFest:** all four bands participated in National Capital Region MusicFest. Two bands (Jr/Intermediate) were invited to Nationals. We will participate virtually and a recorded performance will be sent for adjudication.

**Student Experiences:** Grade 8 Tech Day was a big success! We also had a Skills Canada workshop for all grade 8s as part of our Course Information Sessions. Watch for us on High School Happenings (Rogers TV) as this initiative will be featured!

**Parent Information Evenings:** we held very successful Course Information Sessions virtually this year due to weather. Thanks to all families that joined our sessions!

**Parent-Teacher Interviews:** for secondary students were held on 23 February. It was great to see so many families in the school.

**OSSLT:** for grade 10 students and any student in grade 11 or 12 that needs this as a graduation requirement will write on 19 April. Information will be sent home to all families.

**Commencement:** Save the Date for 28 June @ Algonquin College Student Theatre. Students are reminded to fill out the Cap & Gown form.

Chair / Vice-Chair – Tim Embury

- No Report

Treasurers Report – Mei Qiu

- Current balance \$3,859.34

Question and Answer

- Why are intermediate students no longer able to play with balls/sports equipment at recess? Will they be allowed to again at some point?
  - Was removed for safety reasons (a ball went into the road and a safety incident occurred) and field conditions were not acceptable for the equipment
  - Erring on the side of safety, and making sure a duty teacher is notified
- Students going off campus and not being good neighbors – was there any improvement after the email went out?
  - Yes, as is usually the case, we have seen an improvement

Adjournment – 7:05pm

**Next Meeting:** April 4, 2023 – In Person at MHS