



## WESTGATE SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, March 29, 2021

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting, 5:00 p.m.

<b>Present:</b>	Coral Klein (P), Laura Bortolin, Carlos Santander-Maturana, Giselle Little, Delfina Trevisan, Rodi-Lynn Kinisky, Dave Coates, Melinda Coates, Bonnie Johnsen, Samantha Vance, Robert Eady, Coral McCaul, Melanie Gottfred, Ruth Vannieuwenhuizen, Diana Petrunak
<b>Review of Minutes</b>	Nothing arising from December meeting
<b>Correspondence:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>N/A</li></ul>
<b>Reports</b>	<p><u>Staff Report (non-teaching)</u>– Carlos Santander-Maturana and Giselle Little</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Covid hit our custodial team. Some back at work. Some still recovering.</li><li>SSPs in good spirits. Working well. Engaging with live lessons and supporting kids with asynchronous work. Using Teams and EDSBY.</li><li>One secretary per day is working from the school. Rest work from home daily. End of quad procedures being met. Report cards to be distributed the week of April 26<sup>th</sup>.</li></ul> <p><u>Staff Report (teaching)</u>– Laura Bortolin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Teachers are continuing to forge ahead. Mental health concerns are on the radar. Student Success Plans are being developed for those requiring additional support. Grad planning has also started.</li></ul> <p><u>Principal’s Report</u>–Coral Klein (P)</p> <p><u>COVID UPDATE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HAD A GOOD 5½ MONTH RUN BEFORE LUCK RAN OUT IN MID-FEBRUARY</li><li>IN MID-FEBRUARY, 6 WESTGATE STUDENTS (FROM 5 DIFFERENT IN-PERSON COHORTS) TESTED POSITIVE</li><li>FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> – WESTGATE TAGGED WITH “OUTBREAK” STATUS AFTER SCHOOL TRANSMISSION WAS CONFIRMED</li><li>FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> – WESTGATE MOVED TO FULLY VIRTUAL LEARNING (ONE WEEK BEFORE THE ENTIRE SYSTEM MADE THE SAME MOVE DUE TO RISING COMMUNITY NUMBERS)</li><li>IN EARLY MARCH, COVID HIT WESTGATE’S CUSTODIAL STAFF VERY HARD</li><li>7 CUSTODIANS TESTED POSITIVE IN OUR BUILDING DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH</li><li>WESTGATE TAGGED A SECOND TIME WITH “OUTBREAK” STATUS</li><li>OUR ENTIRE CUSTODIAL TEAM WAS OFF WORK MUCH OF THE MONTH</li><li>HAVE BEGUN TO TRICKLE BACK TO US LAST WEEK (WEEK OF MARCH 22)</li><li>HAPPY TO REPORT THAT ALL WESTGATE COVID CASES HAVE BEEN RESOLVED AND NO HOSPITALIZATIONS OCCURRED WITH ANY STAFF OR STUDENTS</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MINISTRY OF LABOUR CONDUCTED AN INVESTIGATION AND MADE A COUPLE MNOR SUGGESTIONS WHICH HAVE ALREADY IMPLEMENTED</li> <li>• THERE IS TALK OF DOING “ASYMPTOMATIC TESTING” IN SCHOOLS WHEN WE RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING AGAIN.</li> </ul> <p><u>Student Report</u> – N/A</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<p><u>COMPASS SURVEY RESULTS:</u></p> <p>Unfortunately, our tigers have regressed in the areas noted below (*likely the result of covid):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of kids meeting the national guidelines for <b>physical activity</b> has <u>dropped by 9%</u> (from 74% to 65%).</li> <li>• The number of kids meeting the national guidelines for <b>screen time</b> has <u>dropped by 2%</u> (to 3%). That means, 97% of our students spend an unhealthy amount of time on their phones and computers. I'm sure that is a shock to no one.</li> <li>• The number of kids who <b>feel a part of their school</b> has <u>dropped by 9%</u> (to 60%).</li> <li>• The number of kids who rate their <b>mental health</b> as good or excellent has <u>dropped by 9%</u> ( to 55%). 57% of our tigers reported that their <b>loneliness</b> has increased as a result of covid. 47% reported that their <b>anxiety</b> has increased as a result of covid. And, a whopping 35% of our student population report <b>feeling depressed</b> most days.</li> <li>• The number of kids who have been <b>bullied</b> <u>increased by 6%</u> (to 21%). 13% of the bullying was in-person verbally; 10% was online; and, 4% was physical.</li> </ul> <p>And here are some small victories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although 17% of our kids report their <b>alcohol use</b> has increased because of covid, binge-drinking overall has gone down by 5% (to 18%).</li> <li>• Although 14% of our kids report their <b>cannabis use</b> has increased because of covid, cannabis use overall has gone down by 5% (to 21%).</li> <li>• <b>Vaping</b> use has dropped by 14% (to 28%).</li> <li>• 98% of our kids reported that they take <b>government rules about covid</b> somewhat or very seriously.</li> <li>• The number of kids who are <b>eating breakfast daily</b> increased by 5% (to 36%).</li> </ul> <p><b>When the dust all settles on this situation, Westgate will have a lot of work to do to fully recover.</b></p>
<p><b>General Information, Updates and Inquiries</b></p>	<p><u>TENTATIVE GRADUATION PLANS FOR 2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximately 221 graduates (36 fully virtual, 14 early graduates and 171 conventional)</li> <li>• Goal is to have a “pop-in style ceremony” for graduates at the school the week of June 14<sup>th</sup>. Cafetorium. Will be highly controlled but logistics still need to be worked out. Will likely span a few days between the hours of 1:00 and 5:00 pm. Lifetouch photography may be on-site to take a photo of the graduate with their family after the ceremony portion.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For fully virtual graduates who are uncomfortable coming into the school, we will do front lawn grad visits like last year. Cohort C kids will be contacted for their preference.</li> <li>• All students will be given single-use grad gowns and caps the first week of June. This will enable them to get photos around the city in advance of the ceremony day.</li> <li>• All students will also receive lawn signs this year.</li> <li>• All plans are subject to Health Unit approval</li> <li>• Valedictory address will be released in video form</li> </ul> <p><u>SWITCHING EDUCATIONAL FORMATS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deadline for switching between Cohort C (fully virtual) and conventional is April 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul> <p><u>EXAMS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal exams have been canceled for Quad 3. Kids will be assigned culminating activities only.</li> </ul> <p><u>APRIL BREAK</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week of April 12<sup>th</sup>. Quad 4 begins Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Hope to be back to in-person learning.</li> </ul> <p><u>STAFFING CHANGE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Westgate’s new GRAD COACH is Linden Waboose. Began at the end of January.</li> </ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<p>6:15 p.m.</p> <p><u>Next meeting?</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TO BE DETERMINED</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>An online link will be emailed to council members closer to this date.</b></p>