

## Valley Way School Advisory Council

May 11, 2021 Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. in attendance: Kristina Worth (Principal), Nuala Fitzgerald (LRT, Teacher Representative), Mary Blake (parent, co-chair)
2. Virtual Meeting Norms
  - a. mic may stay on as it is a small group
3. Approval of Minutes from March 2, 2021
  - a. Minutes approved
4. Health and Well-Being Updates
  - a. Niagara Falls Community Health Centre offerings
    - i. Variety of offering available (Same-Day counselling, birth certificate clinic, cooking workshops for youth and adults, stress and anxiety support)
    - ii. Information and flyers being sent to all families and teachers
  - b. Contact Niagara Information Webinars
    - i. Information in newsletter and being sent to all families as well
    - ii. Visit Contact Niagara website for more information
5. Let's Celebrate! School Updates
  - a. Return of Students from Virtual Learning
    - i. Since September, over 40 students have returned to in-person learning
    - ii. Reorganization in April (added a class) to ensure safe entry for all interested students
  - b. Return to Remote Learning
    - i. Mental health supports continue with both youth counsellor and social worker meeting virtually with classes/students
    - ii. Over 75 devices distributed to families
    - iii. Keeping consistency for students with spirit days continuing, morning announcements, student recognition
  - c. Special Days Coming Up
    - i. Jordan's Principle May 10
    - ii. DSBN Support Staff Day May 12
    - iii. Hats for Heroes May 14
    - iv. Victoria Day May 24
    - v. Twin Day May 28
    - vi. PA Day June 11
  - d. DSBN PIC Speaker Series
    - i. On-demand learning opportunities available on DSBN YouTube Channel with topics including: New Math Curriculum, Instilling a Love of Reading, Kindergarten, Makerspace, and Grade 8 to 9 transition
    - ii. May 26 topic: How to Make our Kids More Resilient
6. New Business
  - a. De-streaming Grade 9
    - i. All students entering Grade 9 as of September 2021 will be in academic English, geography, science, French, and de-streamed math
    - ii. Exceptions for students in SSTW and SSTC
    - iii. Research supports this move for equity and post-secondary success

- b. New Windows at Valley Way
    - i. all windows are being replaced and we will also get new window coverings
    - ii. allows for more natural lighting and updated windows allow for more energy efficiency
- 7. Around the Table
  - a. Nothing added
- 8. Meeting adjourned
  - a. Minutes will be sent out and approved at meeting in new school year