



Meeting Highlights – February 5, 2025

Engaging Parents – Connecting to Classrooms – Enhancing School Culture

Below is an overview of the discussions from the HSS School Council meeting on February 5, 2025:

Parent Engagement: We are looking for creative ways to strengthen parent involvement across K-12. Please take the time to complete the upcoming Assurance and CESD surveys, as your input is invaluable.

Vice Chair Position Open: We are still seeking a Vice Chair for the council. If you are interested, please reach out.

Financials: The council has \$1,342.31 available. If you have ideas on how to best utilize these funds for student benefit, we'd love to hear them.

Playground Update: The current playground will be removed in summer 2025. HSSEF is actively fundraising for a replacement and needs parent volunteers to support this effort. If you have any great fundraising ideas and want to get involved, you can reach out to HSSEF (Enhancement Fund/Fundraising) – Jen Massop at hssefs@gmail.com

Parent Involvement Opportunities: Volunteers are needed for teacher lunch supervision on February 27 and daily lunch concession duties. If you can help, please get in touch!

Staff Updates: Several new staff members have joined HSS, and maternity leave positions have been filled.

Class & Teacher Selection (2025/26): Moving forward, parents with extenuating circumstances regarding class placement should call the administration rather than email. Students will complete selection forms in May 2024.

Concerns Raised: Administration asked for parent comments and input as they begin planning for the fall. Administration was primarily listening rather than addressing concerns directly at this meeting. Topics discussed included:

- Middle School Teachers & Options: How selections are made and structured.
- IPP Planning & Transitions: Access and follow-through, particularly from CES to HSS.
- Leniency in Classroom Deadlines & Expectations: A concern was raised that the real world does not typically function this way, and there may be meaningful ways to adjust within the framework set for educators.

Parent Perspective at HSS: Feedback the Principal can share directly with the CESD superintendent. Consensus included:

- Positive feedback about internships and dual credits.
- Acknowledgment that HSS is doing a great job of “making do” despite challenges.
- Recognition that this success is due to the hard work of staff and the school community.



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- Concerns about size, facilities, bus lanes, and the challenges of managing two large schools in one building.
- The immense role of the single athletic director, which is unlike any other in CESD.

HSS is still looking for dedicated parent volunteers to help with lunch hour supervision. By stepping in, you're not only supporting our students but also giving our hardworking staff a rare opportunity to connect and enjoy lunch together—something they don't often get the chance to do. Click here to sign up: [Volunteer Signup](#) – Thursday, February 27 from 11:50-12:50.

These highlights touch briefly upon the key information presented and decisions made at the meeting. Meeting minutes are available on the Hugh Sutherland School website: <https://www.hughsutherlandschool.ca/about/council>

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM.