

**Luther College Parent Association
Minutes for March 5, 2019**

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order** – David Gwilliam called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm and had everyone in attendance introduce themselves.

Attendees: David Gwilliam, Rosella Gwilliam, Leta Seiferling, Daren Anderson, Leanne Stone, Fariba Darbancki, Helen Engel, Nilgun Onder, Kristine Vallance, Anita Haba, Lynn Loutzenhiser, Qing Zhang, Jing Zhu, Ziping Shen, Rahel Chlahawi, Candice Eirich, Patti Sherk, Jerry Sherk, Hanyu Zhu, Margaret Anne Hodges, Maureen Harrison, Song Xvashuan, Nanjila Nanjappa, Francis Seaman

- 2. Review of minutes from last meeting – David Gwilliam**

- 3. Principal's report – Mark Anderson**

(A) OurSCHOOL is a Ministry supported survey of high school students that shows how Luther students are doing compared to the national norm. Mark took us through a review of the results indicating, among other data, how our students are doing socially, emotionally and academically. (Data is not available on a provincial level.)

- Summary of findings about Luther Students
- 85% response rate
- Participation in a sport at school beyond gym class – 56% vs Canadian Norm (CN) 43%
- Participation in school committees, clubs, etc. – 59% vs CN 32%
- Positive sense of self, etc – At or above national level in all areas
- Interested, engaged, motivated to do well – Grade 9-11 – above national level but Grade 12 was slightly below national level
- Students who believe they experience moderate or high levels of anxiety and/or depression - both genders in all grades noticeably above the CN.
- Students who believe they are subject to bullying – well below the CN
- Students who believe they are safe at Luther – 79% vs national average of 61%
- Students who use marijuana at least once a day and alcohol at least once per week – below national average: 5% marijuana (CN 15%), 15% alcohol (CN 30%), girls use marijuana twice as much as boys
- Language Arts (English) Marks – Luther average 79%, national is 79%
- Math Marks – Luther average 83%, national is 78%
- Science Marks – Luther average is 84%, national is 79%
- Reviewed reasons for attending Luther (the top four being university prep, small size, I.B. and the school's reputation for a strong educational experience) and reasons for heavy student workload (the top four being taking an overload of classes, homework, procrastination and too much time on social media)

(B) Security upgrades

- In conjunction with law enforcement continue to develop and practice at least twice a year the “best practice” protocols for lockdown and evaluate emergencies
- Updated digital system will be installed at Royal St entrance over Easter holidays

(C) CSTADS (Canadian Student Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey)

- Requires permission forms sent in

(D) Service day

- May 2
- Students have been brainstorming in TAGS during chapel

4. President’s Report – Bryan Hillis

- Handout provided at meeting
- Strategic Plan discussion
- What are we doing to make the school better?
- Theme areas:
 - i. IB
 - ii. Wellness
 - iii. Grades at Luther – impact on university admission
 - iv. Adequate supports
 - v. Christian context
 - vi. Physical infrastructure
 - vii. Enrollment (480 is goal)
 - viii. Development – complete financial goals
- Some ideas from the parents:
 - i. Expand service days to be more of an ongoing, yearlong focus
 - ii. Increased technology in day-to-day academics

5. Fundraising Committee – Margaret Hodges/Anita Bhatia

- Last 5 years have hosted a fundraising activity each year
- Opportunity for parents to have some impact on how funds spent
- Last 5 years over \$150,000 raised for school
- Last event raised approx. \$29,000 with funds towards arts and sports programs
- Surveyed parents afterward and are now trying a Sunday brunch – more of a family event (silent auction, holiday/winter theme)
- Will be in November 2019 – looking for participation of parents in the event
- To volunteer or for further information please contact:
- Angela Bethune (angela.bethune@luthercollege.edu) or Katherine (katcheah@accesscomm.ca)

6. Chair’s report – David Gwilliam

(A)New chair needed

- My son is in Grade 12 so this is my last year as Chair. Looking for someone or even co-chairs to volunteer to take over the role.
- If interested please reach out to Mark Anderson

(B)Parent information night

- Plan to do a parent information night (likely in May).
- What topic should we cover?
 - i. Mental health with a focus on anxiety/depression was requested from the group

7. Questions from the Floor

- No questions from the floor at this time

8. Adjournment – David adjourned the meeting at 8:42 pm.