

Courtland Ave. Public School School Council
Wednesday, April 13th, 2022

Attendance: Mike Coates, Desiree Hinsperger, Sandy Falco, Teresa Cornwell

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. There have been lots of staff shortages due to the ongoing COVID situation. There are protocols in place if there is a severe shortage of staff. However, this creates a lot of challenges.
3. It's been nice to get back to normal in terms of locker use and nutrition breaks being more
4. Grade 8s are in the process of transitioning for Grade 9 (choosing courses and notifying the receiving schools). The Grade 8s will actually get to visit their future highschools this year (June 2nd).
5. There are early talks about what the Grade 8 celebration will look like this year. More clarity is needed from the School Board in terms of what is inclusive and equitable for all schools and students. We are looking forward to some kind of live event but unsure what that will look like at this point. There may also be a virtual component for those family members who live further away or who cannot attend for other reasons. Another consideration is that there won't be as many awards so that things are also equitable and no students should be left out. The idea of an Open House is also being considered.
6. A Student Activities Council has been started at Courtland. 65 students filled out a form to join. There are many clubs going on including art, coding, environment club and more. There is talk of a yearbook possibly coming together as well. Students are doing announcements again now and there is hope that the Grade 8s will mentor the Grade 7s to do this next year. There is also a basketball club (boys on 2 days, girls on 2 days as well) running after school with many students participating.
7. Mr. Coates shared that he will be retiring at the end of April and a new principal will be joining Courtland. Her name is Siobhan Shonk and she is excited to be joining this school community.