

PHS School Council

November 26, 2025

6:00 - 7:00pm

Library

1. Welcome

J. Kimpson

2. Staff Report

L. Brennan

Guidance Update: University and College applications due in Jan 15 and Feb 1 2026 respectively – checking in with all GR12 students – College Portal just was redesigned; the same information is present but students will have to navigate the change

Apprenticeship Lunch Session - by Abby Brandes – Conestoga College coming to speak about apprenticeships Dec 4th, 2025 – open to all students

OSSLT – test happened today for previously ineligible writers – completed booklet 1-2 in one sitting – Grade 10 takes this test in Apr 2026 – resources available on WRDSB site on this test – write test once if you fail, then you can write again or decide to do the literacy course for the high school graduation requirement

Scholarship Report - has been posted on School Day to parents and it is posted in all Grade Google Classrooms “PHS Class of 20--”. PHS subscribes to this scholarship report which now has turned into a portal where parents and students can go to search scholarships; it is an annual web-based subscription service and a new password will be given out yearly in Sept. (Note a new password will be shared for January 2026 this year only) Note that Scholarships happen on a regular and repeatable schedule, and all grades are encouraged to start to look at Scholarship opportunities.

Here is the way to get into the Scholarship Report:

The Scholarship Report Library provides information on postsecondary events and opportunities, scholarship application tips, advice from experts, university & college Open House Schedules, career resources, and lists of curated scholarship and bursaries, and other ways to pay for school. Don't miss out on this relevant information!

Please note that the link and password to The Scholarship Report Library, and any documents from The Scholarship Report Library, are not to be shared with others due to copyright issues. PHS will get a NEW password in January 2026. Typically we will have 1 password that will last the entire school year.

Accessing The Scholarship Report Library:

1. To access The Scholarship Report Library, click [here](#).

2. The password you will need for access: You must look on School Day to get the password or ask your student to look in their grade google classroom as, in these minutes, we cannot post the password due to copyright issues.

Password hints:

- The password is UPPERCASE EXCEPT FOR THE NUMBERS.
 - Try copy and pasting but be sure that you don't add any extra spaces at the beginning or end of the password.
3. Keep track of scholarship applications using the Scholarship Tracker [HERE](#).

3. Principal's Report:

S. Weatherdon

Donations - Charities supported by PHS students - In Sept at Harvest Bowl, an annual football game against Galt CI juniors and seniors, food bank donations were collected and donated around Thanksgiving. Money collected from that event will be donated to the Nutrition for Learning program which directly helps us to have snacks for PHS students during the school day. This charity was chosen because Nutrition for Learning recently lost major donor, which is why PHS is supporting them

Facility update – Met with Area Supervisor and determined top 5 priorities; PHS is approved for an update to Family Studies Facilities. The renovation will start in the summer. Other types of requests are: School Beautification project, AODA compliance

Assessment and Evaluation

NEW: GR 9 & 10 will have assessments during exam period; it could be an exam- it could be another testing method – The percentage of the assessment can vary based on grade the student is in (9 10 11 12) – there will be no single test or exam worth 30% of mark in any grade; there may be 2 components to make up 30% of a student's final mark. For example a student may do a project worth 20% outside of the exam time AND a 10% exam during the final exam period. Reviewing possible review of AI and how it can be used and/or abused for research purposes.

GR 11 & 12 students will have assessments during the exam period with a *maximum* % given for one assessment being 20% of the final mark. The total of the two assessments will also equal 30% of the total mark. For example a course may have had a 10% midterm exam AND a 20% final exam / or a 20% written reflection done outside of the exam schedule and a 10% written assessment inside the exam schedule

We have been communicating this NEW policy out to the community. The exam schedule Jan 23-26 will follow the students' timetable in order, with period 1 exams being on the 1st day; period 2 exams will be on the 2nd day etc. Therefore students will only have 1 exam on any given day. And if students are behind in their work, they can stay that day for that class and complete 'credit resume' work. 5 days prior to Assessment will be quiet days, where WRDSB sports teams will be inactive (no games or field trips)

Snow Days – If buses are cancelled on an exam day all exams that day would be cancelled as well; all assessment days would be bumped to the next day. The only exception is that the PD Day on Jan 29 will remain on that day and if exams get bumped they may be bumped into the following week.

A definition of 'Term 1' to 'Term 2' was discussed and clarified for the parents at the meeting – this is most evident in the Gr 10 careers/civic course where some schools teach the half credit of careers in Term 1 and students get a final mark for that course and then they move to Term 2 to do the credit of civic. At PHS we have the same teacher teaching both of these credits so the marker is less defined. In a senior course Term 1 could be defined with a midterm exam/ report card. April midterm marks for grade 12's are used towards their admission to college or university.

Parents Reaching out Program – Due on Nov 28, 2025 – looked at possibly doing something on AI – Discussions about potential job opportunities and losses that would be affected by this emerging technology. KCI sent a message to all school councils asking if schools would be interested in pooling the \$500 grant to explore the effects of cell phones, social media, online threats, and human trafficking. WRDSB staff do a course on Human Trafficking – as this is a huge concern along the 401 – There is also a performance that would be shared via online link. This would be done by a professor at U of W. KCI needs 16 schools to team up to be able to do this. This was open to discussion – location has not been determined – PHS is already down the pathway of its own AI discussion/program and application however it was decided that PHS does like the idea brought forward by KCI however more time is needed to plan. We will continue the plan of an AI speaker.

4. SAC Update

SAC Student

House week this week – competition and school spirit is high, T shirt design content, scavenger hunt to earn house points, Colour Day, Jersey Day and Maroon and Grey Day on Friday.

WG Davis visit – some leadership students are heading to speak to WG Davis – PHS going to Gr 8 feeder schools to educate them about PHS, its culture and structure.

Dec 4 Art Market being held in library or small gym where students can sell and promote their art

Dec 5 Girl Volleyball tournament

Dec 5 Sounds of the season – musical concert

Drama drive for hygiene products

MSA Fundraising for UNICEF upcoming

Feb 2026 annual semi formal dance at Four Fathers Brewing banquet space

Noted that school culture and spirit is very high and that school promo videos are done very well Discussed succession planning and structure for school student leadership – 230 grade 8 students visited last week, and it was very well received and was a good way for senior leaders and students to meet new students.

Possible Students Council table at the Jan 13th Grade 8 Information night was discussed (Add on by L Brennan -can promote the AI speaker)

Grade 7 students also have a day at PHS in the spring to help them acclimatize to high school and get excited about going to PHS

5. Other Business

J.Kimpson

None -Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm

Next Meeting Dates:

- **Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 7pm in the Library (same night as Semester #2 - Meet the Teacher Night)**
- **Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6pm**