**LN21 Sir Alexander Mackenzie Sr. P.S.**

**Parent Council Meeting**

# December 7, 2017

# M I N U T E S

**Next Meeting: TBD ~ in the Library at 7:00 p.m.**

**In attendance: Alison Gassi, Jack Levy, Dwayne Khan, Janette Su, Fang Ruan, Min Tang, Gibran Ally, Jessie Huang, Moaz Jivraj, Xixi Wang, Justin Ding, Melanie Clarke, Cherry Chen, Olya Tymchen, Alen Noor, Arian Campbell, Cassandra Cheng, various students accompanied their parents to the meeting, Gail Miller**

Meeting start time = 7:05pm

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| **AGENDA ITEM** | DISCUSSION | **ACTION** |
| Principal’s Items | | |
| Welcome and Introductions | -Alison began with welcome and introductions of Constable Claudia Bednarczyk from the Toronto Police, and Ms. Gail Miller the French as a Second Language – Ward 21 Rep | Attendance sheet was passed around. |
| Gail Miller, French as a Second Language – Ward 21 Rep | -Ms. Miller informed parents of a number of advisory groups made up of volunteers that help to advise administrators; French as a Second Language Advisory Council (FSLAC) is one of the advisory groups  -Gail’s role is to collect any issues parents may have, and then brings concerns before the TDSB Board  -Gail has been the rep since last January; reps are determined by the Trustee  -meetings take place every month and are open to the Public  -meetings are held at 5050 Yonge St. (TDSB’s head office)  -the next meeting will be held on January 9th, 2017 @ 7pm; various issues discussed include: Occasional Teachers that do not speak French, curriculum delivery, opportunities for parents and students to get involved  -feel free to contact Gail Miller if you have any concerns | Parents are welcome to contact Ms. Miller and/or attend meetings at the Board office. |
| Constable Claudia Bednarczyk  “Dangers of the Internet, What Every Parent Should Know!!” | -Constable Bednarczyk introduced herself as the school liaison officer for 42 division  -Constable Bednarczyk serves 85 schools in Scarborough  -her goals are to help kids stay out of trouble and stay safe  - Constable Bednarczyk proceeded with her presentation on internet safety  **Key points from the presentation include:**  -risks of internet use include addiction, misinformation, gambling, online strangers  -internet addiction is a serious problem; signs include overuse, preoccupation with getting back online, moodiness linked to internet use, lying and sneakiness  -there are parental controls that can be used to limit use and increase safety  -cyberbullying is using the internet to bully; cyberbullying includes public humiliation, can happen over social media sites and is very damaging to kids social emotional well-being  -online strangers and predators often disguise themselves on kid’s games and chat sites; they lure victims by using attention and affection to gain trust  -kids games are the most common place for strangers to prey on kids  -tips for parents to keep kids safe include staying informed, teach kids about safety, check out the sites they are on, establish rules for use, and keep the computers and/or devices in a place where they are easily supervised  **Questions:**  Q: If you are under 13 and have a social media account with your parents’ permission is that ok?  A: It is up to your parents in this case, but it is important to let your parents know what is happening when you are on the site  Q: What do we do when our kids want privacy online?  A: Set some rules, and make sure expectations are clear, and implement consequences when rules are not followed  -Constable Bednarczyk will be coming in to present to the students on the following dates:  January 29, 2018 – Grade 7 presentation  April 13, 2018 - Grade 8 presentation |  |
| Principal’s Report/SAM Student Leadership Council – *What’s Happening at SAM?* | -volleyball season is almost over; grade 8 boys are going to the conference finals  -SAM music night will be held at ACI on December 13 at 7pm; refreshments are provided by students and their families and can be home baked or store bought (no peanuts please)  -ACI music night is on December 12 at 7pm (Mr. Pattison has some complementary tickets)  -French trip to Quebec city from May 4 – 8, 2018 is at capacity; there are two full buses with 103 students going  -two SAM Lego Robotics Teams competed at Woburn on Saturday, December 2 and they received two awards; Grade 7s received an award for innovation and strategy, and the Grade 8s received an award for gracious professionalism  -STEAM Learning Lab is up and running; kids have been learning about coding and will continue to learn through regular classes and in conjunction with library time  -school dance is on the last day before the winter break; Mr. Szentes will be building a Winter Candy Land that kids can visit; funds raised will go to the school fundraising account |  |
| Heather Road Crosswalk Update | -Mr. Khan indicated that the he has spoken with Chin Lee (Councillor for Agincourt); he will be attending a city meeting to express that the community members would like a crosswalk  -Mr. Khan shared that nothing has happened thus far and this is not a satisfactory outcome  -Mrs. Gassi shared that Al Burrows came to observe what is happening in front of the school; he expressed to Mrs. Gassi that the city cannot put in a crosswalk just to serve 30 – 40 students who cross the road in front of the school  -the cost of a crosswalk is $30,000; this is not feasible  -Mrs. Gassi requested that perhaps some crosswalk lines could be painted on the road with signage; Mr. Burrows thought that was a good idea  -the school has been placing cones out in front of the school to deter traffic in the areas that are most used for pick-up and drop-off | Mr. Khan will continue to follow up and update. |
| Cafeteria Food Menu Concerns | -a parent at the meeting informed the council about a letter that she has written regarding the food being served in the cafeteria  -she would like the letter to serve as a petition and asked parents to sign the letter  -she will send the letter to the Board, government, and media  -Ms. Gassi shared that she has concerns about the food in the cafeteria as well, and has informed the catering company and the Board numerous times; usually this results in a change for a week or two and then it goes back to the way it was  -it is difficult to control the food that is being served  -there are options for healthier meals such as the combo meal that has mostly carbohydrates and protein, and very few vegetables  -TDSB does spot checks and audits when concerns are reported | Petition to be signed by parents if they choose. |
| Guest Speaker Topics for Interest | -there are two more meetings this year; please email Mrs. Gassi if you have an idea for a presenter or topic  **Suggestions from council:**  -it was shared that Albert Campbell High School has an presentation upcoming presentation on December 9th from 9am – 12pm about connecting with children; Mrs. Gassi will connect with Ms. Kelson (principal at Albert Campbell) to find out who provided the presentation  -it was suggested we could have a presentation about mental health | Mrs. Gassi to connect with Ms. Kelson |
| Mail | -the mail will be given to Mr. Khan |  |
| Other business | -there was no other business |  |

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30pm