

# Rockford School Council

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## Minutes for Tuesday, October 22, 2024

### Time: 6:30pm

Attendees: Delia Jarczyn, Sheri Fineberg, Ijulle Hausvater, Rita Medinsky, Sarita, Timor Shah Sekandary, Colin Lee, Krista Arsenault, Lynn Lee, Doim Heo, Jin Sung Park, Cynthia Gallegos, Beverly Fortune, Yalda Malekian, Hamed Safamansouri, Tracy Hutchinson, Talita Costa, Hanna Keerianova, Volodymyr Keerianov, Rachael Leduc

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Delia introduced self and council members present.

Delia – has children at Rockford in Gr. 6, Eng. Grade 2, FI

Ijulle – has children at Rockford in Grade 3, FI, Grade 1, FI

Sheri – Has a child in SK, FI

Mr. Wilson – principal, 2<sup>nd</sup> year at Rockford.

Ms. Sabharwal, vice principal, joined Rockford this school year. Was VP at Willowdale previously.

### 2. Review of the School Council Code of Ethics

Delia reviewed school council code of ethics with attendees.

Full document is available on the school council website.

### 3. Approval of Minutes from April 2, 2024 and May 28, 2024

Delia reviewed the purpose of meeting minutes.

April 2 2024

**Motioned by: Sheri Fineberg    Seconded by: Ijulle Hausvater**

**All in favour:** Y, Delia Jarczyn, Nusrat sent approval by proxy

Chairperson: Delia Jarczyn – Treasurer: Nigel Mohammed – Secretary: Sheri Fineberg  
Members Without Portfolio:  
Ijulle Hausvater – Nusrat Jahangir

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May 28 2024

**Motioned by: Sheri Fineberg    Seconded by: Ijulle Hausvater**

**All in favour:** Y, Delia Jarczyn, Nusrat sent approval by proxy

## **4. Elections for 2024-2025 School Council**

8 submissions received online

6 parent rep

-Katerina Stolpina – absent

-Nusrat Jahangir– absent

-Glenda P – absent

-Ijulle – present

-Sheri – present

-Delia – present

New council comes into effect at the end of this meeting.

## **5. Principal/Vice-Principal's Report – Mr. Wilson and Ms Sabharwal**

Mr. Wilson:

- We have several long-term occasional teachers:
  - Grade  $\frac{3}{4}$  - English, Ms. Romati
  - Grade 4/5 – FR.
  - Grade  $\frac{1}{2}$  - FR.
  - Self contained ESL – Ms. D
- New permanent staff:
  - ESL resource – Francine Glou Schwartz
  - Ms. Grillo – Kindergarten
  - Ms. McDonald – Grade 4
  - Ms. L. Frank – grade 6

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- 42 teachers. 18.5 support staff.
- Enrolment 711 students. New students continue to register.
- 30 classrooms. 2 self-contained ESL classrooms.
- Classroom reorganization:
  - 1 kindergarten class shifted, lost ECE.
  - A few kids were shifted in grade 1,2,3 classrooms.
- Ms. Sabharwal
- Emergency procedures – have had first fire drill. Lock down drill planned for next week.
- Oct 17 – welcome to Rockford night. Successful evening to learn about the classroom.
- Terry Fox Day – Oct 9, for grades 1-6. Oct 10 – Kindergarten due to rain. Goal of \$1500 reached. Website was available for donations. Many students brought cash (toonies). Website for donations is still open.
- Sports – grade 4/5/6 – Cross country at Earl Bales Park. 3 students went on to area championships. One student will be participating at Sunnybrook tomorrow. 1 student participated in a barrier-free meet and came in first.
- Trips – grade 1 (Eng) went to Around the Bend Farm in early Oct. Grade 2's (Eng) are going on Oct. 30. French teachers are planning a trip for later in the year.

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- Busing for field trips is very expensive and hard to coordinate as the buses for field trips are the same ones that are used for school routes.
- School council will cover the cost of bussing for 1 trip for each class.
- All trips are teacher dependent. Teachers are encouraged to plan a field trip each year however they are not required to plan one. Parent volunteers are always welcome to speak with the teacher.
- Grade 3 -CCAT testing online. Standardized test to see if they are gifted learners.
- Provincial reading screening – SK, grade 1, grade 2 English and French. Being completed now. Report cards will include an area to indicate that reading screening has been completed.
- Report cards will be sent home Nov 14<sup>th</sup>. Parent-teacher interviews will be Nov. 14, 15.
- Parent-teacher interviews – test piloting an online system to book a meeting time with the teacher. “Parent Interview”
- TDSB mobile device policy – huge difference noticed. Less use of cellphones at lunch and throughout the day by students. Student’s phone must be off during the school day.

## **6. Treasurer Update (Delia; Nigel absent)**

TDSB made switch to CIBC banking for this school year.

**a.** CIBC account update

Sept 30 – account was zeroed.

\$29, 961.64 currently in the account

**b.** Outstanding bill due

Graduation sweatshirts from last year (~\$3000)

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## **7. Rockford Teacher Requests**

- a.** Teacher rep – Matt Gugula
- b.** List of budget requests
  - Jungle sport (~\$9000) will come and set up climbing equipment for each grade. This was approved 2 years ago but hasn't taken place yet.
  - Ms. Braunstein- Duffel Bag theatre – 2 performances (\$2,600) at the school.
  - Paul Davis – online safety. During the day he does a student assembly. In the evening, parent workshop.

## **8. School Council Update**

### **a. Pizza lunches - Dominoes**

- SchoolCashOnline error has now been corrected. Can now select cheese pizza, pepperoni pizza.
- Information and deadline reminder – deadline to place order for pizza is Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 1pm.
- \$5/pizza lunch. Rockford gets \$2 back for parent council.
- If a family cannot afford pizza lunch, please speak to principal or vice principal.
- If a child is away, the pizza gets bagged and placed in the freezer. On the Monday, the child gets called down to get their pizza.
- Pizza fundraiser is our main fundraiser at Rockford. We've purchased many supplies and equipment for the school (kindergarten book bags, recess toys, etc).
- A parent raised question re: pizza as junk food – our pizza lunch meets the TDSB's food requirements. We're only able to work with specific vendors that are approved by TDSB.

### **b. TDSB Information Sharing**

1. Student Safety Line – website form to submit if there are any safety related concerns.
2. Policy Consultation – Mobile Device Use
3. Mental Health and Well-Being
4. Let's Talk, Read, and Write
5. TVO Math and Literacy
6. Understanding the ILP/IEP
7. CEBSA Webinar Wednesday
8. More Joy of Reading

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## **c. Cold Weather Clothing Drive**

- Volunteers for sorting. Please let us know if you can help.
- We started collecting cold-weather clothing last school year. Will collect again this year. There are people in our school community who have need for cold-weather clothing.
- Drop off items in front of the office and then it will be moved to our storage space.
- Boots, hats, gloves, coats, snow pants etc. for kids and parents.

## **9. Questions & Answers**

- STEM/Robotics/Coding activities at the school? We can look into TDSB approved programs.
- Parents asked about other food lunch options. There are other vendors however base price is much higher and then the school needs to increase the price in order to raise funds.
  - A parent raised concern re: pizza as junk food.
  - The parents are ordering the food. You don't need to buy it for your child.
- Kids are shown videos during lunch – why is there screen-time at school. Kids should be connecting with each other. Zero screen time is ideal.

Some kids are refusing to eat food at home without having a screen on.

Mr. Wilson – It is not used in every classroom. It helps keep the kids quiet during the 15 minutes of food time.

TDSB provides devices to students from grade 5 onwards. Many activities (EQAO, etc) have moved online.

There are lunchtime supervisors and ECE's in the kindergarten classes. Lunchtime supervisors for older grades.
- At the moment, the outdoor space isn't divided per grade level. Now, all students can use each area as it was hard to manage.
- A few teachers provide individual student support for their own students before/after school.
- School cash online. Same account for the family, even if at more than one school. Need to add each student by name, DOB, OEN.

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- Idea of having a book/toy drive. Families to donate items they no longer need, parent council can sell them at a book/toy drive and the money would go to the school.
- Halloween – in the classroom. Kindergarten often has a parade. Many of the families at the school don't celebrate Halloween.
- Winter holidays. Last year there was a holiday sing-a-long. Can parents attend? Yes, we have more space now that the full gym is usable.
- Teachers are creating an “assembly” committee for larger school wide events.
- Diagnostic reading assessment to determine student's reading level. Students are then given reading materials at their level.
- Fundraising committee? Need people who are willing to participate. Bring ideas forward at the next meeting,
- Can students in grade 5/6 volunteer to help with some of the events? Students already do reading buddies, library helpers, door monitors.
- Volunteers at the school need to bring a police records check. Then need a TDSB form completed.

## **10. New Business**

## **11. Next Meeting Date**

Tuesday November 19<sup>th</sup>

## **12. Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned: 8:46pm**

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