**AY Jackson Secondary School Council Meeting**

**Thursday, January 11, 2017**

Meeting convened at 6:00 pm

Action Items:

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| Item | Action | Who | When | Status |
| Drinking water quality | Contact TDSB to find out the possibility of having the water tested. | Jack Wang | ASAP | Complete. See info provided by TDSB below:  The (inspection) results are being distributed beginning the end of this month to all school. There was no exceedance at your site and the school is on a weekly flushing schedule.  The report is also available for interested parents to review. |
| Volunteer hour recording, i.e. if volunteer hours beyond 40 will be recorded into the TDSB system | Check with school’s student guidance | Mr. Paputsis | Before the next meeting April 24 | Complete. Please see process below:  Students will continue to track and submit volunteer hours to our Guidance as per previous practice. These sheets/hours will be inputted into our system.  Once a student has reached their minimum 40 hours we will ask them to hold all future tracking pages for submission and input at two distinct times (one each semester). We are eyeballing a week in early December and in early May which will be identified on our calendar as our **“40+ Volunteer Hour Submission Week”.** |

1. **Welcome & Introductions** (Principal Paputsis)
2. **Call for new business:**

2 items were brought up:

-mental health lecture (see school council business)

-walking safety: the school has received complaint from some neighbors who live near the school. Some parents park their cars in front of their drive way and leave the car to pick up their children. This not only creates inconvenience but may pose safety issues for the neighbor, e.g. if there is a fire and the neighbor needs to evacuate. Some neighbors also want the students watch their way when they walk to school, e.g. cars may back out from a drive way and knock on a student.

According to Mr. Paputsis, the school had a traffic accident awareness assembly with a guest speaker in October. They will be returning in the spring prior to the annual Prom to speak with the senior students.

1. **Student Council Report** (Barton and Cathy)

2.1 Cathy (SAC Treasurer) and Barton (Grade 10 rep) introduced themselves.

2.2 SAC members act as a liaison between students and staff. They also help organize fund raising such as the Terry Fox Run in which students raised $1141 for cancer research. They report recent and upcoming events at school council meetings.

2.3 Recent and upcoming events:

* Oct. 31 costume contest and pumpkin carving contest
* Nov. 28 Semi Formal (social event for interested students. There was a small fee to attend)
* Dec. 14 Student-teacher show down
* Dec. 18-22 Winter Spirit Week

Some of the events engaged community beyond the school and showed great support from the school to the community.

1. **School Report** (Principal Paputsis)

3.1 Staffing update:

Enrollment projection in Sept. 2017 is 1060

Request for 2 more teachers had been approved

6 new classes were created (science, math and ESL)

Some students’ timetable’s may need to be adjusted if they got moved to one of the new classes

Next year’s projection is 1081 (school capacity is 1088)

Which staff will stay will depend on the courses the students’ have selected.

Feb. is course selection month.

3.2 PA system/class phones

The old system is replaced by class phones and students’ privacy can be better protected. Clocks in the classrooms will be synchronized with the bell as well.

3.3 Monthly audit

There is a safety inspection every month on the school premises. AYJ is in good shape based on the result.

Questions/concerns raised by parents:

Volunteer form: there was discussion on how many hours a school will record a student’s volunteer activities. Some say after 40 hours, the school doesn’t take any more. Mr. Paputsis encourages students to continue volunteering even if they’ve had enough hours for graduation. Some scholarships are based on volunteer hours.

International students: AYJ currently has 125 international students, 13 ESL classes. The school is designated for 110 such students. Some parents had concerns on if over enrolling international students will take up the school resources and affect other students. Mr. Paputsis said that when the school can’t offer courses to students, it will stop taking in more international students.

Math tutoring/parents volunteering: some parents asked about if parents can volunteer at the school, e.g. coaching math if there is a need. Mr. Paputsis advised that the school currently has a numeracy program that offers one hour assistance once a week after school. There is online support as well. Parents who are interested in volunteering should work with the subject’s department and the teacher, e.g. math.

Drinking water safety: there was concern and discussion on the quality of the drinking water at school. Some parents wanted the water to be tested. Parent council will follow up with TDSB and find out how to have the water tested.

1. **School Council Business** (Principal Paputsis and Jack - Co-Chair)

5.1 Parents Reaching Out Grant

The parents council arranged 2 lectures last year.

The topics/theme for this year are:

-mental health/screen addiction

-legalization of marijuana and what it means to parents

5.2 Parent Engagement Evening

Mar 6th in the AYJ Library

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm

**Next Meeting: April 24, 6:30PM**