



# BCPI Council Minutes Sept 18 2024

September 18, 2024 , 6:30 p.m.

## **In Attendance**

Lana Miller, Ying Ong, Anna Sidiropoulos, Meredith Morrisey, Mara Shaughnessy, Tonieka Thompson, Sima Hossaini, Zamshada Akter, Rabia Akter, Orthee Jahan, Arjan Bafa, Etleva Daka, Sonam, Elayne Miles, Mostafizur Rehman, Muhammad Shekh, Mohammad Tulus Shams Mahmud, Kermit Malcolm, Adele Walker, Nighat Yasmeen Shahid, Zazil Labchuk, Stacy Coutts, Jason Perreiva, Irene Theopoulos, Kristina Taggart, MD. Maksudey Ghani, Alison Watson

## **1. Welcome – Land Acknowledgements Mr. Kontos/Approval of Minutes All**

-The minutes from our last meeting June 2024 were not available for review

## **2. Introduction-Mr Kontos/Election procedure review**

-Mr. Kontos the new principal introduced himself. He previously worked with the Peel Board as a Teacher, Vice Principal and Principal. He lives in the community.

-The council elections procedures were reviewed, and all parents interested in becoming a member were asked to complete a nomination form by Monday September 23. As per the current school by laws there can be a maximum of 25 council members. If less than 25 are nominated, then everyone will be acclaimed to the position and if there are more there will be an election. During the next meeting on October 2 the council members will elect the executive council positions, including Chair or Co Chairs and Secretary. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend council meetings. However, only parent representative members will have voting privileges. It was also asked that those who join ensure they can attend most meetings as the council will need quorum to proceed with meetings which is 50% of members plus one.

- There was a decision to proceed with future meets as hybrid both virtual and in person as per parent request.

-The meeting dates for the year are to be set at the first meeting October 2; in addition to a decision on student, teacher and community reps.

## **3. Principals Update - Mr Kontos**

-This years Vice Principals are Dr. Renee Rawlins and Dave Ramnaraine.

-A new policy PPM128 [Policy/Program Memorandum 128 | Education in Ontario: policy and program direction | ontario.ca](#) . This covers social media and cell phone use in schools as well as prohibition of use of e cigarettes and other substances on school premises. There was a discussion around cell phone use in the classroom and staff will be working with students to enforce this new policy. Principal will provide future updates as needed and individual parents or guardians will be contacted if there is a related incident involving their children. If parents have questions as they feel due to a family emergency situation their children may need access to their phones in a one-off situation, they can contact the administration to discuss further and make arrangements.

-School enrollment appears to be up.

Once it is confirmed that enrollment is over expectation the situation will be reviewed to decide if there is a need to more teachers.

-The school is currently working to fill one vacant special needs teacher.

-Mr. Kontos has committed this year to better and more frequent communication with the parents and guardians. Many parents commented that they could see that happening already with timely email communication, an updated school website and up to date information being displayed on the outdoor electronic school sign.

-The gyms are scheduled to be repainted and there are hopes to be able to make other improvements to the building this year.

-Mr. Kontos has committed to making inquiries about bringing back some cafeteria services to the school and the great breakfast program already in place will continue.

-Student lockers to be assigned shortly as well as distribution of chromebooks to the grade 9 students.

-Mr. Harriot the new assistant curriculum leader of Voice/Choice/Co-curriculars is currently putting together a list of all the school clubs to be posted for students, and parents have asked to be given access to that list as well.

-It was also asked if the daily announcements could continue to be accessible on the school website and there is a possibility of having more televisions added in the school to post said announcements as well.

-New Camera system has now finally been installed and is up and running.

-There will be a semester one lockdown practice at the school on Friday Sept 20.

#### **4. For Discussion/Other Business**

-Parents asked about Student Council and it will be considered for next year.

-The request taken forward last year by Anna Sidiropoulos to have a crosswalk installed in front of the school on Danforth was denied after several traffic studies were completed. However, there is a process to appeal the city's decision. Anyone interested in taking this on has been asked to contact Anna.

-Parents expressed concern with work vehicles being in the school parking lot during pick up and drop off times.

-Principal was asked to explain the difference between to a lockdown and hold and secure. [Hold and Secure / Lockdown \(tdsb.on.ca\)](https://tdsb.on.ca/hold-and-secure/).

-We currently have a Parent Council Facebook page and it was asked for anyone interested in taking on administration of the page to contact Anna.

-A parent expressed concern with cars exiting via the Variety Village drive during pick up and drop off and the principal Mr. Kontos has committed to observing and talking to Variety Village to get their perspective.

-Anna will also be forwarding the council's list of school security recommendation from last year to Mr. Kontos for review.