

**Bloor Collegiate Institute
Parent Council Meeting
October 24, 2017**

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Andrew Dick, Suping Chang, Christy, Merlot Foo, Hiang Hong, Janet Webster, Helen Tran, Luise Filipe, Muhammad Nisar, Karina Martins, Margaret Wai, Mandy Tidy, Nora Rivaud, Margie Peskin, Hal Dremmin, Beth Stockton, Blanca Perez-Marin, Karen Kane, Alison Warner

1. Introductions

Minutes from September meeting reviewed and approved

2. Council Elections:

Positions explained.

Interest in electing a Treasurer as Council has been awarded a PRO Grant. While council does not do fundraising at this time, we will be spending money on outreach and communications activities as well.

Secretary – Karen Kane and Janet Webster

Treasurer – Suping Chang and Merlot Foo

Co-chairs – Catherine Ford and Muhammad Nisar

3. School Profile

Deferred to November meeting as Nicole Aloise, who will be doing the presentation, was unable to attend today

4. Outreach activities

- Parent-Teacher Interviews – Catherine to send around sign up sheet so parents can help staff a Parent Council table to answer questions and encourage parents to attend meetings. Also mental health resource books will be on hand.
- Grade 8 Open House – recommendation that Parent Council not attend this event – determined that parents are still in the decision process and not ready for Parent Council information
- Parent Council Communications Plan - Catherine distributed the plan. Discussion of using Google Forms (online and paper versions) to conduct a parent survey. Plan to use MailChimp to manage parent email list to encourage parents to come to council meetings and volunteer during the year. Catherine to send around the plan for parent review and comment.

5. School Statement of Needs (SSON)

Catherine discussed its purpose (in case the TDSB needs to hire a new Principal for the school), stressing that while leadership capacity is important to every school, what needs to be on the BCI SSON is the characteristics that are particularly important to Bloor Collegiate.

6. Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

- BCI received a PRO grant for 2017-18 for up to \$1000. Focus is on equitable accesses to post-secondary, with a secondary focus on mental health and resiliency. Need parents to form subcommittee to come up with ideas and a plan for activities/events and other work.
- Volunteers include: Blanca Perez-Marin, Beth Stockton, Mandy Tidy and Helen Tran Catherine will also support the work of the subcommittee.
- There is a College and University Fair Café at the school, with a session where parents can join the students on Wed., Nov. 1 from 2-3 pm.

7. TDSB Enhancing Equity Task Force (EETF) discussion

The question was asked whether Parent Council should have a formal response to the Task Force letter. Earlier that day, the TDSB Director, John Malloy sent out an addendum to the EETF draft report, responding to parents that specialized programs and schools would not be closed. Discussion conclusions included:

- Parent Council will send a reminder to parents to respond by the Nov 20 deadline
- Parent Council will not have an official response – parents can respond individually
- Anyone interested in content can contact Catherine and she will share the verbiage of her response to form a template of sorts

8. Chair's Report

- The PIAC Conference (Parent Council) is free this year, at Earl Haig Institute (free busing provided). The conference is on Saturday November 25.
- There is a free School Council training symposium, hosted by Parents Engaged In Education on Sat., October 28 in Unionville
- There is a ResearchED conference on November 10-11 at University of Toronto – the cost is \$60

9. Ward Report

Blanca attended the last meeting and provided a summary

- The September meeting focused on planning. The preliminary design for the new Bloor school building was shared. The target date for opening is September 2021. There will be public consultations in the spring 2018.
- Future Ward Council meetings will cover Gardens, the Lunch program, Gender Equity
- The Ward and the Trustee are hosting a 21st Century Learning conference targeted for younger children. The conference is taking place at Bloor Collegiate on October 27.

10. Principal's Report

The report was provided by Alison Warner in Susanna's absence.

- The Grade 8 Open House is on November 9. 1000 parents and grade 8 students are expected.
- Enrollment at Bloor CI was higher than expected. The school has received approval for 4.5 new teachers based on the unexpectedly high enrollment numbers. Interviewing for the new permanent teacher positions is almost complete. Classes and schedules will need to be adjusted. The enrollment increase is largely in grade 9 so those classes are mostly the ones impacted by shifts in schedule and teacher assignment.
- Letters of Concern, an unofficial note to suggest a student having difficulty were sent out recently. This is an early warning system for parents, teachers and administration.
- Parent-Guardian-Teacher Interviews will take place on November 23. There will be an afternoon session and an evening session. There will be online scheduling in advance this year. Language translation and access to internet for those families that need it will be provided.
- Interviews for students of concern will be scheduled first, then the rest of the time slots will be released to the school community.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45pm.