

Bloor Collegiate Institute
Parent and Community Council Meeting
Monday, September 18, 2017

1. Introductions. Attendees included parents, teachers, the Principal, the two Vice Principals and two student reps. A significant number of new parents attended.

Catherine Ford (Acting Chair)	Susana Arnott (Principal)
Blanca Perez-Marin	Nicole Aloise (VP)
Karen Kane	Alison Warner (VP)
Beth Stockton	Nora Rivaud (teacher rep)
Joanne Muys	Danielle Buchner (teacher)
Mandy Tidy	Luis Filipe (teacher)
Muhammad Nisar	Megan McNally (teacher)
Merlot Foo	Mahmoud (student)
Stephanie Wong	Sylvia Prodhan (student)
Suping Chang	Michelle Chen
Melinda Lo	Huang Hong
Julie Chan	

2. Welcome to new VP Alison Warner. Susana introduced the new VP who had experience in the private sector prior to her career in education. She has experience in business and special education and has been a VP for 6 years.
3. Library. Ms. Buchner is the new librarian and she gave a presentation about the recent and ongoing upgrades including decluttering, a new book club corner, computer stations, mobile desks and chairs and small couches for studying. There is a collection revitalization in progress and a new twitter account @BloorClibray. Nevertheless, there are still some structural problems such as leaks. Ms. Buckner asked the School Council for help and support in getting this problem solved.
4. School Council space. There will be space near Guidance and a cabinet to keep school council material.
5. Election planning. Catherine explains the background of elections but why this has not been followed in the past. Catherine's proposal is to postpone the elections until the next meeting or even the spring for next year's council.
6. Curriculum night. Catherine and Susana explain the purpose of Curriculum night and the new parent welcome. The students propose to organize a pot luck as well as icebreakers to welcome the grade 9 students. Susana is concerned about the icebreakers as they might pose some safety issues. The students will prepare a proposal and it will be assessed.
7. Changes in the school. The school now has more than 780 students and not enough teachers. The school has requested 12 (?) more teachers. There will be a response by September 22. Once the teachers allocation is confirmed, there will be new hires. This will impact the students schedules. The school will try to minimize the impact on students schedules. Also, at that point, some students might be able to enroll in courses that were incompatible at the moment.
8. Principals report.

- There will be a new SCHISM, Business. The previous ones were Health and ICT.
 - This year is the first one with a school trip to Wanakita for the grade 10 main stream students.
 - Based on the new TDSB recommendations the level of supervision on school trips has been increased.
 - Grade 12 TOPS trip will no longer be to Washington, and this year it will be to the Huntsman Marine Science Institute in St. Andrews, New Brunswick.
 - The music program has expanded significantly this year. In addition to choir and band, there is also strings. The school also now has French all the way to grade 12.
9. Planning for 2017. Catherine presents activities including those related to the PRO grant that we have received this year again. A suggestion is to use it to help parents through the transition to post-secondary. There would be parent information sessions along the year.