

EYCI School Advisory Council
Monday, Sept. 29th, 2025

Present: Stephen Morris, Amber Taylor, Mark Peacock, Susie Tsianos, Popi Caravasilis, Larissa Bathgate, Eleni Grassi, Raieda Almukarkad, Kate Arcus Cogan, Nesrine Zahreddine, Katie Harding, Deanna Morrison, Haroula Parise, Voula Themeliopoulos, Deana Ho-Yan, Emily Clair, Jonathan Jones, Jordan Roberts, Samantha Sadat, Anna Themeliopoulos, Pascal Boisvert, Sabbir Mahmud, Farjana Faruk,Julienne Smiley, Hariet Spanghi, Sarah Sizemore

1. Call to order: 6:30pm

2. Approval of agenda: the agenda was approved unanimously.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Elections to School Council

The following were approved as voting members of the Council for 2025-26:

Amber Taylor, Mark Peacock, Karen Thomson, Popi Caravasilis, Hariet Spanghi, Voula Themeliopoulos, Larissa Bathgate, Sharon Connolly, Kate Arcus Cogan, Haroula Parise.

From these, Amber Taylor and Mark Peacock are to serve as co-chairs, Sharon Connolly as treasurer and Karen Thomson as secretary. A three-person fundraising committee to consist of Popi Caravasilis, Susie Tsianos and Voula Themeliopoulos was acclaimed.

A suggestion for a community member of Council was floated about which Mr. Morris expressed interest and a desire for further information. The position of community member was not filled *pro tempore*.

REPORTS

4.1. Student Governance (Samantha Sadat)

Truth & reconciliation: the Student Council has various activities planned for this day (Sept. 30th), including a display case featuring a wampum belt near the entrance to the school. Students are encouraged to wear orange shirts.

Clubs fair (7th Oct.): the various students' clubs and associations will be making themselves known and attracting new members at the fair.

Hallowe'en: activities for Hallowe'en are still in the planning and will be announced in October.

4.2. Principal (Steven Morris)

At Mr. Morris' request, the school's 3 vice-principals – Emily Clair, Deana Ho-Yan and Jonathan Jones – introduced themselves and their respective portfolios. Each VP is “paired” with one of the school's three guidance counsellors.

Student Activity (SAC) Fee: Anna Themeliopoulos, a student of the school, was invited to explain the importance of the SAC for student clubs. She elucidated a new option for making a donation in addition to paying the \$60 fee. Mr. Morris added that participating in school sports was in no way contingent on paying the fee, and, for families facing difficulty paying, various solutions can be offered, e.g., delaying payment, making a reduced payment. Mr. Morris stressed the importance that

families who are unable to pay the full fee at the start of term should contact him.

Student numbers: Mr. Morris reported an excess of approximately 90 students above expectation and last year's numbers. This has given rise to a number of oversized classes. The Board has agreed to grant the school 2.5 extra teaching positions, and the new teachers will commence their work either this or next week, whereupon class sizes will fall.

Security: Mr. Morris was pleased to announce that EYCI would have a complete overhaul of its current security cameras, installation probably starting in October. There will also be noise and vape detectors in washrooms. This will hopefully prevent the occupation of washrooms by vapers and acts of vandalism in washrooms.

Mr. Morris is hoping to restore the number of “hallway” safety monitors from the current two to the previous status quo of three. He reports that “violent” incidents at EYCI decreased by 80% during the previous school year.

Caring and safe school committee: the committee will resume its work this year and a parent/guardian member thereof is sought. Those interested should report to Mr. Morris.

Auditorium: the air-conditioning in the auditorium will be in place next week.

Outdoor classroom: the much vaunted outdoor classroom is ready for use. The fence around the area is a temporary measure to protect the new grass.

Computer renewal: all of the school's computers will need to be replaced in one year's time. Mr. Morris will prioritise laboratories in which computers are needed for school courses; the library's computers, too, are a priority.

Commencement: will take place at the Danforth Music Hall on June 25th, 2026.

Spirit wear: to go on sale next week.

School musical: the arts programme is hoping to perform the musical Into the Woods this year. Copyright issues must still be approved by the Board.

Parent-teacher interviews: to take place at the end of October. Those seeking an interview are asked to look out for a community email in October in which a link to the booking system will be included.

4.3. Teachers' representative: no report

4.4. Guidance

See the regular guidance updates circulated by email, the most recent of which was sent on 3rd March.

4.5. Student Success: no report.

4.6. Co-Chair (Amber Taylor)

The computer situation is pressing, and if the school is to pay for replacing its stock, this will be a significant cost. Various strategies for addressing this were sketched, and the matter will remain n Council's agenda this year.

In the hope of attracting more parents/guardians to Council meetings, there will be a Council booth on

curriculum night at which representatives of Council will familiarise those interested with its affairs.

4.7. Treasurer: no report

4.8. Other business: none

The meeting ended at 8:20pm

The next meeting of the Council is to take place on October 27th.