

Etobicoke Collegiate Institute School Council Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2016 - ECI Library

Present: Caroline Rath, Pradeep Pachai, Cassie Connolly, Lisa Jones, Heather Gordon, Cathy Phee, Andrea Morra, Julia Mercy, Susan Dubiel, Karen Novak, Rick Oppitz, Ian Young, Mina Watanabe, Janice Harvey, Bill Harvey, Maureen Boyce, Lara Kalins, Aferdita Musigi, Lisa Rossi, Miseon Seo, Jeong Min Lee, Kim Delonghi, Mary Kokoska, Kathy Greenwood, Paul Petherick, Amanda Matthews, Maria Terzaghi

1. Opening Remarks – Pradeep Pachai, Chair
 - Pradeep introduced the PIAC program – Parent Involvement Advisory Committee - aids in access to information and resources for parents, especially that of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and Ontario Ministry of Education, in support of more effective parent engagement in their child’s learning to improve student achievement and well-being, and enhance accountability of the education system. If anyone is interested in becoming involved with PIAC send an email to: info@torontopiac.com. They have interesting programs and meetings are held at Earl Haig Secondary School.

2. Principal’s Report and Update - Caroline Rath
 - Grade 8 Information Night was a success – it was a packed house and tours were provided by students. She is hoping to keep enrollment at ECI on the rise and the information night enthusiasm seems to indicate this is a reasonable expectation.
 - Culminating activities/projects will continue until moratorium - dates and deadlines are very important for students to manage since it’s a very busy time.
 - ECI football team won OFSA!
 - Grade 12 graduation photos have started and you can book on-line

3. Denise Edney – Guidance Department presentation for parents of Grade 12 students
 - Denise mentioned that they are working on starting an initiative that deals with anxiety for grade 12 students possibly called “Team Undrinkable” where guest speakers would be brought in and they are also hoping to include a mental wellness component.
 - The Guidance Department’s goal is to find a balance of keeping Grade 12 students applying to university and college calm but motivated in meeting application deadlines.
 - Parents were advised that students should return to school after the holidays with their applications completed so that they can focus on summatives and exams.
 - Denise advised for students not to apply to any more than 5 universities and to be aware that applications process is different out of province.
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- Universities check students social media accounts and send questions to schools verifying if its an accurate representation of the student
- Students are encouraged to maintain their marks since some lose their offers in July if they lessened their work and studying efforts.
- Handouts were provided outlining websites to conduct university and college research, gap year options, etc.
- Denise's entire presentation is available on the ECI website and if you would like to review the Power Point Slide Deck, please click on the following link [Post Secondary Planning 2016](#).