

Harbord Collegiate Institute
Minutes of Parent School Council Meeting
September 30th, 2024
6:30-8pm In person at the library at Harbord School

TDSB Land Acknowledgement – Debbie Childerhose

Welcome and Attendees:

Principal: Steve Yee
Debbie Childerhose
Ann Marie Murphy
Student Rep: Kenzie Patterson
Shammy Singh
Jacky Ogh
Chirag Joshi
Rogheih Pushai
Sarah Layton
Morwyn Brebuer
Mizuki Narisawa
Sadaf Heydorlou
Adiel Harin Dintwari
Eric Gasana
Mei Burgin
Maggie Kinner
Sarah Warden
Lau Melo
Effie Kastris
Catherine Williams

1. TDSB land acknowledgement by Debbie
2. Welcome and introductions.
3. Approval of the agenda and minutes from September 30th 2024
4. **Student Report:** Kenzie reported that orientation day went very well as did Camp Robin Hood for the new grade 9 students. The volunteers helped and did training prior to the day. Spirit week occurred the second week with lots of fun. To date there has been a welcome back assembly which had African and Caribbean performers. A Club Fair occurred also with 38 to 40 clubs represented over an extended lunch. SAC elections started on September 30th. Big appeal for students to pay the SAC fee, which is important, used to support the clubs and trips and for helping publish the yearbook. A student price card is now available for a fee of \$10, the student council gets a portion of the money \$3.50 per card.

Questions: could a list of the clubs be published on the school website. Could a separate e-mail be sent out regarding the SAC fee which now stands at 56% paid and the goal is 80%. Donations can also be made and are always welcome. Is the money always used? Yes, much of it is used for the winter activity day for skiing, rock climbing, and year end fun day etc. The Golf Club is new to the school this

year, each club does its own fundraisers. A suggestion was made to highlight five clubs a month. Kenzie is planning on writing a letter to appeal to students to pay their SAC fee.

5. **Staff Report:** Catherine Williams spoke about the new policy in the school regarding cell phones; she observed as have other teachers that there's more communication and the children are more present. October 29th parent teacher interviews will occur in person and report cards will go out around November 11th. Grade 10 literature test will occur soon, this is a requirement to graduate. The library is now open at lunch time, 80 to 90 students are taking advantage of it and the students are very appreciative. Students also volunteer at the library.
6. **Principal's Report:** Steve spoke about the cell phone policy, which is a Ministry approved policy. Harbord Collegiate policy is that the phones are off during instructional time, and the collective school focus is to help students to use their devices appropriately. The message to the students is that it's your future, your well-being and you matter too much for us not to help you. Steve also says there have been fewer bullying issues because of the policy. Newsletters go out once a month. If parents have questions, they can connect with teachers, later guidance can help, and later again VPs, and the principal. Questions regarding the cafeteria- wondering if the menu could be posted on the website, there is a new chef, and they offer nutritious food. Questions also about late arrivals and absences and the system that is used in the school. The tutoring centre is up and running and the students are encouraged to check it out.
7. **Caring and Safe Schools:** Steve read Janelle Bylykbashi's report. Safety in the washrooms is a priority in the school, washrooms are all gender. The school endeavors to create a welcome environment hoping to establish a Wellness room and Wellness Wednesdays. By 9:15am three of the four doors are locked, gaining access to the school quickly is more of a priority than unwelcome guests in the school being asked to leave.
8. Positions on the school council this year 2024 to 2025

Co chairs: Shammy Singh and Chirag Joshi

Secretary: Ann Marie Murphy and Sarah Warden

Ward 10 Rep: Leah Puntanen

Grade 9 Rep: Mei Burgin

Caring and Safe Schools Committee Parent Rep: Sarah Layton

Teacher Rep: Catherine Williams

Adjournment

Steve Yee adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.

Next School Council Meeting: – Monday, October 28th at 6:30-8pm online.

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/owa-tmev-sbt>

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 518-405-5783 and enter this PIN: 954 053 005#