

Minutes

meeting date : Sept. 30, 2013

Harbord Parent Council (HPC)

6:30- 8:30 Harbord Staff Lounge , Harbord Collegiate Institute (HCI)

Present:

Arnie Amaral <arnie.amaral@ttrly.com>
Paula Bowley <pbowley@bowleyarchitects.ca>
Michela Ciavarella <mcia@yorku.ca>
Maxima Da Rocha <maxima.rocha@hotmail.com>
Nicholas De Carlo <nick.decarlo@rogers.com>
Sandra Vilaca <sabdra.s.f.v@hotmail.com>
Ana Paula Galle <ellage@rogers.com>
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Ben Lee <blee4@toronto.ca>
Richard Wong <rickwong@bell.net>
Ana Neves <ana.neves12@tdsb.on.ca>
Christina Yurchuk <cyurchuk@sympatico.ca>
Ann Rauhala <arauhala@sympatico.ca>
Paul Tackaberry <paultackaberry@rogers.com>

"Gladstone, Janice" <Janice.Gladstone@tdsb.on.ca>

"Meade, Vince" <Vince.Meade@tdsb.on.ca>

I/ Work of previous Council discussed

Kowser Omar, past Co-Chair stressed work on Antibullying (zero tolerance)- cyber bullying workshops financed by grants

- Extra-curricular (esp. w/ last year's teacher's pause)
- Workshops: children's mental health - efforts to reduce student stress
- \$\$ available: Parent Reaching Out Grant- Last year used for mental health workshops

Arnie Amaral

- Last year tried fundraising during a parents' night. Did 50-50 draw and made \$900.
- Historically fundraising has not been a big priority. It takes a lot of work/commitment.
- question of the goals for fundraising

Nick DeCarlo

- Informality last year ; the council's soft direction. Suggest executive to help establish direction.

Communications

- the Week at a Glance works well
- Admin. support staff updating school website, twitter account, Facebook account
- school has TV's in the hallways-useful to communicate w/ students
- Rick suggests parent communications could be improved w/ a Parent Council Google Group or Face Book account

2/ Elections of Council Positions

- Chair- Kowser Omar
- Co-Chair- still open
- Treasurer- Maxima Da Rocha
- Secretary - Rick Wong
- Ward 10 Meeting Rep.- Arnie Amaral
- Fundraising Rep.- still open
- Canadian Parents for French Report - Nick De Carlo

3/ Principal's Report: Vince Meade

Vince introduced himself - seven previous schools - last was at North Albion Collegiate- very different school from HCI

- stressed safety of HCI
- have had SAC BBQ to introduce new students to school & clubs
- Guidance has visited Grade 12's re: higher learning opportunities
- Student Life Expo- Oct. 4-6 at Metro Convention Centre
- YMCA – developing parenting program- 9 week course- Vince will see if parents are interested & follow up to promote
- reference also alysonschafer.com parenting courses & workshops
- EQAO Math HSS above province averages- 89% in levels 3&4- see full report
- HCI is fully staffed but enrolment declined slightly- have 1100 students & about 30% over vs. space
- March Break 2014 French Trip - \$3400 – will proceed depending on interest- expect 30 students out of 1100
- discussion about equity issue of this trip expense and private enterprise being endorsed within school-
- PIAC and SEAC holding a Special Ed. conference Oct. 19 - HCI will put into Week at a Glance for parents to attend

4/ Vice-Principal's Report: Janice Gladstone

- Safe Schools policy requires fire and lock down drills/4months - HCI has had 3 fire drills & 1 lockdown drills in Sept. clearing school in 3 min. 12 seconds
- school is not allergen free- has Epi-Pens- nut free is voluntary recommended policy
- students doing videos about safe school initiatives
- school has video club- doing video for assemblies
- HCI takes efforts to reduce student stress for mental health - eliminate test and hand in conflicts, Spec. Ed students more flex n deadlines, some negotiation w/ teachers
- Staff version of School Calendar issued to attendees

5/ Clubs

- clubs are open to new members at all times
- teachers help coord. clubs
- clubs are listed on school website

6/ Parent Support Group

Parents need to know how to navigate high school – which is so different from elementary.
Nick coordinating Parent Support Group- meeting October 16

7/ Possible Civil Liberties workshop for students and parents proposed by parent not at meeting. Apparently some HCI students were arrested during G20 protests. All agreed the proposing parent should develop the idea further

8/ Dates:

Special Education Conference for parents – October 19th at Earl Haig

Parent Support Group- Oct. 16

Executive - meeting to discuss directions & ideas- Oct. 15, 7pm (Rick has a conflict w/ date, sorry, would Oct. 17 work?)

Next HPC meeting date to be set

Minutes by Rick Wong (w/ help from Janice Gladstone's notes; thank you Janice!)

Please email to Rick Wong at rickwong@bell.net for any corrections, additions or deletions