

Malvern Collegiate Institute School Council Meeting April 11, 2023 | 7 – 8:30PM

Attendees:

Voting Members: Nancy Mallins, Tia Wilson, Angie Law, Michelle Lavoie, Catherine Boyd, Rafael Escobar, Jan Frolic, Deborah McNorgan, Michelle Carlyle, Alison Dillabough

Staff and Non-Voting Members: Michelle Aarts, Sandy Kasken, Karen McMullen, Kristin Demuth, Kristin Rogers, Claire Roberts, Meredith Kay, Deirdre Molina, Sarah Walker, Aron McGrath, Lynn Bonhomme, Nadia Olmedo, Eleanor Balgopal

Regrets: Pam Anderson

MINUTES

Item	Speaker(s)
Welcome • Welcome and Territorial Acknowledgement • Declaration of Conflict of Interest • Vote approve prior Council Meeting minutes has been deferred to next meeting • Call for Other Business - gentleman with suggestions for school (*meeting adjourned before item was discussed)	Angie Law

Student Council Report

- Semi-formal went really well.
- Malvern Cup Flip cup event. Not many in attendance but surpassed goal of \$500
- M Factor (name is a play on "X Factor" show on TV) being put on by Music Council on April 27th at 7pm. Last year it was an outside event to showcase talent (dance, music etc). This year it will be a competition. Celebrity judges for first round and then audience votes to determine the winners
- April 21st Glen Ames and other middle school theater programs touring classrooms + assembly for theater.
- Council elections coming up! Sign-up May 12th. In school campaigning May 23-26th. Assembly and speeches May 26th.
- Eleanor (co-captain of peer leading club) speaks: Club consists of 80 students from grade 10-12. They host Leadership events such as grade 8 day. They are hosting a Pancake Breakfast April 19th. \$1 a pancake. Asking for Donations: maple syrup, griddles, pancake mix (just add water). All proceeds go to Malvern Cup (Cancer Society)

Tia Wilson (student council rep)

Special Guest: Ward 16 Trustee Michelle Aarts

- Budget season forcast not great. Tough place in TDSB, funded many things that ministry did not pay for such as PPE, cleaning products, better masks plus smaller class sizes. Spent \$70M asking province to reimburse full or part. Most school boards have reserves that they spend. Reserves are supposed to be reserved for tough budget items and reserves are now completely depleted.
- \$60M in debt
- Pandemic recovery funding is not being renewed Province indicates that "recovery" is over. This Learning Recovery Money (extra funding) covered math/reading strategy, support staff etc. TDSB says that recovery has only just begun.
- The TDSB recently conducted a parent and caregiver survey regarding the budget and education funding. The survey was completed by 17,892 parents/guardians/caregivers.
 - 69% of TDSB parents/guardians/caregivers believe the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are still being felt by their children.
 - 86% of TDSB parents/guardians/caregivers believe that provincial Learning Recovery funding provided by the Ministry of Education for the past two years for additional staff to support students should be continued.
 - 90% of TDSB parents/guardians/caregivers believe that the Ministry should fully or partially cover the \$70 million that the TDSB spent on pandemic-related costs.
- Michelle sits on the Ontario School Board Association. Some schools in rural Ontario do not have alternative support systems.
 Need this funding more than anyone. TDSB will keep prioritizing these support systems as long as they can.
- Most of the funding the ministry gives to school boards is restricted. Collective agreements dictate where funds go. Small amount of flexible funding where boards try to put it in the system for student needs (special education supports).
- Local flexibility suffers when funding is really tight. Many things we value (outdoor education, pools etc) are not funded by the ministry.
- Province spent 2% of federal pandemic relief in education and

Trustee Michelle Aarts

- healthcare.
- Michelle would like Ministry to see education as an investment rather than an expense.
- Working reserve = savings found in different areas such as paper, staffing, etc. During pandemic, fixed reserves were used for working reserves and now debt needs to be repaid. Much of money spent was borrowed from employee benefits and other investments.
- TDSB has not yet decided what it will cut in order to solve the current \$60M deficit. Centrally assigned principals and other support staff would be a likely cut.
- Budget needs to be submitted by June 30th (but the Ministry can move that date back).
- Concern with this government is they tend to turn to online learning to be able to cut funding to TDSB. Testing waters to defund and privatize certain aspects of education such as charter schools.
- Big piece for the public and parents: what priorities do you want to see funded?
- Recent funding letter sent by the TDSB to the Ministry of Education can be <u>found here</u>
- TO TAKE ACTION:
 - email <u>Stephen Lecce</u> and <u>Doug Ford</u>, cc <u>Michelle Aarts</u>.
 They are historically quite responsive. Use <u>this template</u> (please copy the text and paste it do not edit the template)
 - Shareable social media images can be found here
- Local Outcry for Education Cuts Coxwell parkette took place
 Saturday April 15 held by <u>East End Parents 4 Public Education</u>
- French Pathways: legacy pieces of various/messy pathways students go through for French study. Internal review covering all east end high school french programs. Review concluded that individual school capacity would even out much better if french pathways were changed. (i.e. Presently MCI is at 160% capacity. Danforth is under utilized. Changing pathways would level out all schools bringing them all closer to 100%).
- Malvern, Riverdale and East York Collegiate have a stand alone policy that limits who can attend. I.e. Someone can live next door to MCI but may not be able to attend because of current specialized pathways. Historically specialized programs were implemented to attract attendance. Maybe that should not be the case anymore for a school such as Malvern that can no longer service its own community (Sandy/Michelle).
- Michelle would like feedback on what is the best way to reach students and what they want in their programming. (i.e. a student who wants to pursue the arts should not necessarily be seeking out a specialized arts program. MCI has a great art program!). <u>Email her</u>

Principal's Report

- Malvern Red & Black Alumni Society working hard on 120th reunion on May 13th. Thank you to Trustee Aarts for being present at this special occasion.
- Next year staffing is status quo. Ten teachers have however been surplussed at this point (i.e. they have no schedule as of right now).
 This can change up until August 30th.
- Parent Teacher interview to be hosted on May 4th
- Credit recovery May 24th
- Literary test in grade 10 took place last week. Went fairly smoothly.

Sandy Kaskens (principal)

 Pink Day tomorrow April 12th Malvern Cup continues. All money raised toward Cancer Society. Washrooms continue to be an issue (as they are in all schools). Students don't want to use washrooms. 5% of students are ruining it for the 95% students who are not abusing washrooms. Today washrooms were locked on second and third floor. Sandy set up her office in front of washrooms and stood guard! 	
- Drama performance coming up! They're working really hard! Buy your tickets at School Cash Online ! - School spirit shop is up and running! Details in newsletter Everything going well in the school. Midterm marks (report cards) coming out April 24th Sandy is retiring! She is an active and revered member of the school community who will be missed dearly!	Rafael Escobar (teacher rep)
Council and Other Business Treasurer's Report: - Just over 15k in bank account. - Commitments of \$18300. Deficit of just under 3k - Red & Black Fundraiser \$2535 to date. We need more donations to meet our commitments going in to next year - Wine 'n Dine raised \$756.20.	Adrienne Scott Nancy Mallins

Meeting adjourned 8:54pm

Remaining 2022/23 School Council Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, May 9 hybrid
- Tuesday, June 13 in-person only