

<http://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/richview>

Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Student Council Report –William Westaway and Paloma Lopez-Bondi

1. Braeburn Christmas party – The date has changed to December 14th. They are looking for gifts (new) or money to be used towards buying gifts or pizza/food for the meal. Traditional toys (eg. Barbie's and Action figures) are still popular. Any remaining toys are donated. Student volunteers are needed – there is a meeting this week.
2. School clothing – The last day to bring in forms is today. The clothing will be ready the week of December 16th.

Breakaway Addiction Services – Gayla Forer – Family therapist – Youth 12- 25

Gayla gave a very informative, eye-opening presentation of drugs (alcohol and pot) and youth (especially high school age). Breakaway is a unique organization in that it offers counsel and support to parents of youth, as well as youth services. There is a parent info meeting once a month. Breakaway works completely from a “Harm Reduction” perspective. They do not condone /encourage drug use but realistically work with youth to strategize how to cut back and hopefully eventually, quit. Breakaway has found that youth do not respond well to the popular “Medical Model” of treatment such as AA, or Narcotics Anonymous, as youth are often in denial and will not agree to not do drugs ever again.

Some surprising tidbits of information gleaned from the presentation were:

- alcohol is the #1 drug of choice for youth in Ontario but weed is the #1 drug of choice for the GTA
- youth would rather toké than smoke
- weed doesn't lead to hard drugs
- weed is called “the sneaky drug” with consequences of short-term memory loss, decrease in level of motivation and addiction
- 41% of all Canadians have used weed at least once in their life, we are second to Australia
- gender representation is 50% males vs 50% females
- parents can notice signs of using (sluggishness, irritability, being secretive as opposed to wanting privacy). These signs are difficult though as they can be signs of normal adolescent behaviour.

If you would like further information, you can contact Breakaway at breakawayaddictions.ca and their phone number is 416-234-1942, toll free: 1-800-836-6209.

The Richview Herald – Lily Perreira

<http://richviewherald.com/>

The Richview Herald is Richview's online newspaper that was started last year. The newspaper is written by Richview students for Richview students. There is a wealth of information from recent news posts, reviews, community, sports, and French page/newspaper etc. There is so much information you should check it out yourself! You can receive e-mail blasts and you can access the page via the link <http://richviewherald.com/> and by accessing the Richview webpage and clicking on the Richview Herald.

The Richview Herald is under the direction of English teacher Lily Pereira and she has a staff of approximately 25 students (writing, editing, photography, social media etc.). They have a social media presence on twitter, instagram, flickr and facebook.

Latest endeavour – A video component. There has been series of videos called “Richview Talks” dealing with various topics. Recent topics included “stress” and “growing up”. They would like to be able to stream the “Richview Talks” videos on the online newspaper. In order to do this they would need a new, more powerful computer. Their dream computer is the **Macbook Pro (13 inch: 2.6GHZ with Retina display)**. Can Ms. Pereira have this for Christmas?

**News – In April 2014 – Richview will have its 1st International Film Festival. It is a festival of student films that are produced in the grade 11 and grade 12 Media classes. There will be a reception and a Zine Fair. Ms. Pereira and Mr. Johnstone are collaborating on it. The Festival posters will be designed by the Photography classes. Keep tuned for more information closer to the date!

Principal's Report – Sam Miceli

1. Athletics

Sr. Girls Basketball – Going to OFFSSAA in London, ON.

Jr. Boys Football– Won their second consecutive TDSSAA City of Toronto finals championship.–

Sr. Boys Football TDSSAA city championship game vs. Central Tech – 2 pm kick off. Students can buyout \$7 (\$3 for game and \$4 for transportation). Funds to be used for athletics.

2. Wireless access points – 9 new access points have been installed in French Immersion, English, History, and Science classrooms. 4/ 5 more have been ordered for Business and Math.

3. Talk of Denmark – 35 delegates (teachers, principals, superintendents) from Denmark toured our classrooms to learn about why, and how, Ontario schools rank in the top 5

internationally. Unlike the other top 5 countries (Finland, Singapore, Korea, China) we are a lovely blend of backgrounds, not a homogeneous population.

4. Budget – The school budget and financial plan was reviewed. Copies of Public and Non-Public funds and their allocation were distributed. The teacher Heads of Departments submitted wish lists to aid in allocation of carryover funds.

5. Announcements – There is a new flat-screen T.V. in front of the office that repeats announcements students may have missed over the P.A. system.

Staff Report – Olga Calabria

1. Teachers - We have teachers that are dynamic leaders who are willing to come out to the school council meetings. Recent examples are Lily Pereira (Curriculum Leader of English) and Usha Kelleymaharaj (Assisant Curriculum Leader of Science).

2. Principal Advisory Group

They are still looking for senior neighbours/relatives that need assistance. S.A.I.N.T.S. (Students Assisting Independent Neighbourhood Toronto Seniors) are willing to help where needed. Olga relayed a story of senior students helping out by raking leaves and the fun dialogue that came about with the interaction between the senior students and the seniors.

If you know of any neighbourhood seniors that could use some assistance you can contact Olga at olga.calabria@tdsb.on.ca or Sam at sam.miceli@tdsb.on.ca via e-mail or call the Richview office at 414-394-7980.

Canadian Parents for French – Deb Pope

1. Ontario AGM was held recently but didn't attend.

2. Adult French classes. There were not enough participants so it was cancelled but will be re-scheduled.

Treasure's Report – Tina Majthenyi

Opening balance is \$1,290.54. The one expense was one year Canadian Parents for French membership, which cost \$60.00.

Bev Firchuk & Charlene Sam

1. Fundraising a) A letter was drafted to solicit funds from parents/guardians of Richview students to make up \$50,000 short fall from the budget . A draft of the letter was read out loud and a consensus was achieved by the attendees of the meeting to send out the letter as a hard copy with each student.

b) Poinsettia orders are being accepted for delivery on December 6th.

2. Regulation 274

This is the teacher hiring regulation that forces principals to interview among the 5 most senior candidates for long-term contracts and permanent positions. This prevents principals from hiring the best-suited person for their school. Charlene was informing the meeting that we are signing a petition to have this rescinded.

3. The Navigating Post Secondary presentation by the Guidance department will be next Thursday November 21st, 7 – 8 pm.

Upcoming speaker - The next guest speaker will be Edie Cade who is our Public Health nurse who will speak about the TDSB's participation in the Toronto Public Health Student Survey that will measure the overall health and wellbeing of Toronto students from grades 7 to 12.

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY JANUARY 21ST – 7:00 P.M. – LIBRARY