RH KING ACADEMY – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

2023 - 2024 School Year: Meeting #8 Date: Tuesday September 10, 2024

PARTICIPANTS

Executive Committee:

Co-Chair: Angelina Meighlal Treasurer: Eric Cardenas Poire Principal: Catherine Chang Co-Chair: Jason Irving

Secretary: Carolyn Glasgow (acting)
Teacher Representative: Brian Wilkinson
Teacher Representative: Jordyn Booth

Voting Members Present: Angelina Meighlal, Jason Irving, Erick Cardenas, Carolyn Glasgow, Melissa Taylor, Alice Vennema, Thomas Anastasios, Mahira (Regina) Khan, Mariam Mwenye, Ibtisam Munir, Cliff Gordon, Rayford Glasgow, Robyn Mulcaster, Vera Handmann, Suzie Sharma.

Others Present: Kamrol Hassan Chowdhury, Luthfun Rahman Chowdhury, Jazmin Tapia, Shelley Xie, Kazi Anwar, Chandra Mouli Srirangadhamu, Leigh-Anne Israel, Ichraq Ayad, Tabassum Mahmud, Kaniz Sadik Kweshi, Mawordi Ahmed, Kavitha Rames, Sazal Roy, Rupa Dey, Mohammed Ana Miuh, Kazi Bitul Mamoor, Fahamida Hassanchy, Denise Loveys, Alejandra Cabezas, Wahida Hasin, Alex Kolokotronis, Sukta Barua, Sheila Encarnacion Liggayu, Diana Somera, Hongxu Zhao, Chesola Munrat.

Time: 7:00 Agenda Item and Notes: (this is technically the last mtg of last year's council.)

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement: Jason Irving

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes

Accepted by: Tom
Seconded by: Rayford

Student Councils Report: No report

Presented by: None

Council: Event or Notes:

Time: Agenda Item and Notes:

Principal's Report: Catherine Chang

Notes: Welcome to all! A privilege to work with you, and to welcome so many new people tonight. Thanks to those who are from last year and those who are new.

We were thankfully able to pull back some teachers we had to surplus last year. We have registered over 70 new families, exceeded our projected enrolment, and requested additional staff from the Board – we will know soon if that is granted.

We received funding to help at a pre-meet & greet for kids with IEPs and exceptionalities. The purpose was to alleviate anxiety about the transition to high school and meet some friendly faces. Ms. Booth and others had a welcome get-to-know-you day hosted by senior students. One new admin – Ms. McLean, and now Mr. Timothy James – who will be here next meeting.

VPs and Catherine led an assembly about Caring and Safe assembly – what is permitted and what is not. Phones – a minimum we have to do – are turned off/out of sight unless permitted for educational purposes. Students will be reminded to put them away. So far students seem to understand why and there haven't been any referrals to the principal.

Tomorrow there's a transition assembly – *How Grade 9s can get involved at the school* – led by the students – very exciting.

If you have a concern, please let us know – feel free to contact her directly or her admin. She will direct your email

Question about IEPs (Individual Education Plan): Yes, they continue from year to year unless a discussion has taken place to discontinue it for an exceptional reason.

Chair's Report:	
Notes: No report	

Time: Agenda Item and Notes:

Treasurer's Report:

Current Balance: 5891.08\$

Budget is about \$2000 - spent \$814.53 in 2023-24.

Debits since last meeting: \$9.00 Credits since last meeting: \$0.20

Expected upcoming expenses: unknown

Allocated expenses: None

Notes:

There is a Budget Sub-Committee we can join.

Question: When can we allocate funds? A: Clubs in need of funding will request funds once their council and our council is set up. In a couple of meetings from now after their deadline we'll see them, but we may receive ad hoc requests throughout the year.

Question: How many positions are available on our Council?

Council is for the betterment of the students, to improve and contribute to student achievement. It does make a big difference.

A: We have bylaws on the RH King Parent Council website. There is no cap on our council membership, and we are very fortunate that the number of parents attending is high. We meet approximately monthly until June. To vote you have to be nominated – and have one vote for you at the next Council meeting.

Every parent is welcome at each meeting (online/in-person) to listen and contribute ideas and questions. We need 50% of voting members so quorum plus 1 at each meeting. **Note** that if you miss 2 consecutive meetings, you will be removed from the *voting* list but you have the right to still attend and contribute to meetings.

Voting members will elect the **Secretary, Treasurer, Chair, and Co-Chair** at the next meeting. These positions will need signing authority at Scotiabank. Treasurer and Secretary submit a report near the end of the year. The secretary handles admin of the meetings and can be split between two people.

Admin: Ms. Chang, Principal, and Teacher Rep

On the Council we have sub-committees such as the Budget Sub-Committee, Caring and Safe Schools Sub-Committee, Staffing Sub-Committee, Fundraising sub-committee.

Question: How do we raise \$\$ as a council now that there are no uniforms?

- 1. Flipgive where a percentage of what you purchase goes right back to us.
- 2. And...Everything is on the table the Committee can talk about it -and get voted on by Council.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Sept 24. We will vote at the start of the meeting. We'll send out the descriptions of the positions prior.

Safe Schools Sub-Committee Report:

Presented by:
Notes: No report
Fundraising Sub-Committee Report:
Presented by:
Notes: No report

Time: Agenda Item and Notes:

New Business:

1. **Question** about the difference between the school's councils, associations, and clubs:

Mr. Williamson:

Student councils serve the WHOLE school, 20+ (eg. LBGTQ, Yearbook, library council, have access to a certain amount of money to support it. (tomorrow is co-curricular council fair). Generally led by students in Leadership Program. Every council needs to take grade nines. Please encourage this and follow up with your teen. Encourage them to talk to their mentor teacher and guidance council. They'd only fade if we lose that teacher so that's rare.

Tomorrow is the Co-curricular Council fair. Applications are due Friday. Takes 2 weeks approx., some are 10 days.

Associations serve more cultural groups that put-on events (eg. black student alliance), need a staff supervisor, enough numbers, and receive permission (need to have a need for it)

Clubs: 20-30 clubs serve student interests (chess club, 3D printing club, etc.), approval is much easier, can raise \$ for a charity.

- 2. **Question**: Applying to Councils was Social Media based? A: Yes, haven't taken anything away but cannot apply during the school day. Links will be centralized and sent through GoogleForms.
- 3. **School Council:** We're here to help address things not for venting about problems that should be addressed directly with the school. -Lifelong friendships are made through involvement in school council!
- 4. Angelina advised grade 12 students/parents to view their MyBlueprint (Supplementary Information) and two credits for e-learning have to be removed as they're still on there in error. Make sure your grade 12 students apply for an opt-out and the school will put the exception in. Or, students can take the credits if they need some flexibility.
- Jason noted that student executives will present at each meeting after today.
 Note that we received a certificate of appreciation from the <u>PIAC Toronto</u> (Parent Involvement Advisory Committee. Tom A. went last year.
- Ms. Chang sent out the council information and ballot we'll send it out again.
 Minutes of our meetings will be posted on the school's website and emailed to those on the list.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motioned by: Rayford

Seconded by: Tom

Next Meeting: The first meeting of the 2024-25 Council is Tuesday, September 24 at 7 PM.