

RICHVIEW COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE
School Council Meeting Minutes (Virtual on Zoom)
Wednesday, March 23, 2021, 7:00pm

ATTENDEES:

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|-------------------------|---|
| RCI Staff: | Lucie Kletke (Principal), Ms. Markakos (Teacher), Ms. Niehaus (Teacher) |
| Council Members: | Caroline Cho (co-chair, secretary), Maria Skinner (co-chair), Manisha Sharma (co-treasurer), Krista Vanderwal (voting member), Vanessa Keall-Vejar (Fundraising, PIAC Rep), Marie Cook (Graduation) |
| Others: | Jack Switzer (student rep), Ryan Van Poucke |

* **MISSING VOTING MEMBERS:** Nadia Frost (co-treasurer), Amy Ferguson (Voting Member), Lisa Tkachuk (voting member),

WELCOME

- Quorum met (occurred @ 8:00pm with arrival of Marie Cook)
- Meeting Minutes Pre-approved (Caroline sent out meeting minutes March 7th, 2022 to council for approval. All were in favour.

SAC UPDATE: Jack Switzer

- RCI Clothing line arrived and most picked up.
- Match-o-matic complete - lots of fun.
- Teacher vs student dodgeball happening April/May!
- SAC Interviews taking place and posted on Instagram page. Has been fun to do.
- With restrictions lifted, now planning bigger events (e.g. Coffee House, Scavenger Hunt, Relay for Life).

PRINCIPAL UPDATE:

Thank you for joining us at tonight's meeting and welcome to Ms. Markakos and Ms. Niehaus, our Assistant Curriculum Leaders, for attending the meeting.

1. FEBRUARY: School-wide approach to address racism/discrimination

- Duane Gibson presentations for students and parents/guardians
- Grade assemblies to review and emphasize expectations
- Classroom discussions regarding "Hate is a virus" (created by our Leadership Team).

2. Continued approach regarding our equity goals; intersection of achievement, equity and wellness.

3. MARCH: - pivot to changes post-March break (change in protocols). Thank you to our staff members and students who continue to pivot and be resilient to constant changes.

4. OSSLT (Grade 10 Literacy Test): April 26th to May 11th

5. EQAO (Grade 9 Math): to be completed by May 27th

6. Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place in April (date TBD)
7. Graduates: PROM: June 22nd, COMMENCEMENT: June 29th
8. FACILITIES: painting in various areas (washrooms/staff rooms/fitness area)
 - canopy at door #1 to be replaced
 - parking lot will be repaved in mid to late June
9. RBC Canadian Open: June 6th to 15th: two concerts will take place on the Richview field
10. PLANNING for 2022 – 2023
 - VS choice (March 21st) no option for Extended or Immersion French courses
 - Course selections and programs
 - Staffing Allocation

Questions:

- Maria: pot holes in the parking lot, Lucie: Already taken care of. We will have those filled.
- Maria: How many attended the Duane Gibson presentation? Lucie: 75-100 in the community

STAFF REPORT: Ms. Markakos, Ms. Niehaus (Business & Tech Department)

Ms. Niehaus:

- DECA couldn't run this year so RCI and other institutions have been creative to have enrichment opportunities for the kids.
 - University of Waterloo, School of Accounting Finance: Financial Literacy Competition (Dec. 2021) pivoted to compete remotely.
 - Grade 10 - 12 → 30 students participated in total (17 in gr. 10 alone)
 - Ada Wang (RCI virtual learner) → top prize winner cross Canada WOOT! Came in 1st place winning \$750 towards an RESP. AMAZING! Worked really hard to stay engaged.
 - Other RCI students also won 4 x bronze and a silver
 - Senior Coding Challenge w/ Mr. Foster (Feb 17). Results still pending. Stay tuned!
 - Investment Club: 72 kids signed up! Created their own stock market simulation. Meet bi-weekly. Both students AND staff are learning a lot.
 - University of Waterloo, School of Accounting and Finance: Financial Literacy Competition for Semester 2 students (April 11) - this time Gr 10 & Gr 12 students have signed up.
- Many students are craving extracurriculars as these were taken away because of the pandemic so we are supplementing students in the classroom. Something out of the norm. They can put these experiences on their resumes and university applications.
- Lucie: We also received a letter from UWO applauding staff and students.

Ms. Markakos:

- We also received participating prizes to display including copies of The Wealthy Barber. Students really stepped up.
- Accounting courses this semester Gr. 11 students will participate in virtual events:
 - 1) CPA: Accounting Designation Careers workshop for students
 - 2) CPA: Financial Literacy workshop
 - 3) Junior Achievement: Titan Challenge → Online business simulation. Students gets to be CEO to hopefully build a successful business. Will be able to make leadership and investment decisions. Something that will

require them to participate during class.

- **HELP IS NEEDED:**

- All these events require and to deliver 21st century curriculum and we need your help to replace and update aging equipment in computer labs.
- Department budget has been increased and provided for Rm 209 labs. Computers are arriving tomorrow morning. We are so excited and looking forward to it.
- However, this is only 1 out of 4 computer labs that will have the benefit of up-to-date technology. 3 out of 4 computer labs computers have expired warranties or warranties that will expire in the next year. The company that we deal with would not extend our warranty. Rm 204: Dec 2020, Rm 211: Aug 2021, Rm 213: April 2023.
- We would like to focus on replacing computers in 204 and 211 as warranties have expired. Machines will no longer be serviced when they break down.
- Rm 211 computers are used for tech courses and by technology students, yearbooks, etc.) Magic happened in Rm 211 where due to the efforts of RCI tech students, \$700 was raised towards the Daily Bread Food Bank and through the "Photos for Charity Club" initiative, RCI staff and students raised \$2,360 for Save the Children Ukraine AND by partnering up with R. Ferri Automotive - who matched dollar for dollar - raised a grand total of \$4,760.
- Computer Labs are used every day for every period including lunch. Rooms are in demand for both curricular AND extra curricular. For this reason, we need your financial assistance so that they remain in working condition and have up-to-date software for the courses. We need those computers to run to support our students.
- Maria: How many computers are we talking about? How much would it cost? Ms. Markakos: We purchased refurbished (so more affordable) computers for Rm. 209. Under a 5 year warranty, so repairs are taken care of. 27 computers, \$8505 + some tax (~\$9000). Tech studio Rm 211: not sure, Rm 204: mirrors Rm. 209 so 27 computers @ \$300/machine refurbished with monitor, keyboard & mouse. Asking to focus on Rm. 204.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- **Balance:** \$1,424.87 balance. Only \$1.95 bank fees.
- Bank account changed. New account hopefully to be set up in the next few weeks and old account closed.

CHAIR REPORT:

- **By-law update:** Still sitting with the board to reconfigure the template.
- **Parent social:** Tabled for Fall 2022. Please let us know if you or anyone you know would be interested in taking this on.
- **Website:** Maria and Caroline to work with Tracy Bruno to make changes and bring things up to date and make it look a little bit nicer and fresh.

FUNDRAISING REPORT: Vanessa Keall-Vejar (provided by email)

- **PIAC:** Next one April 19
- **Flipgive:** Currently at \$77. Need \$33 more to get a cheque issued. Happy to send another update.
- **Seed Fundraiser:** Timing may not be so good and may compete with direct ask. Maybe table for April or for next year.
- **Direct Ask:** Recirculate direct ask with revised wording and then send out. Then send another reminder out in the fall with message "Thank you for meeting us so much closer to our goals."
 - Krista: how does one contribute and do you get a tax receipt? Answer: School cash online. Yes a tax receipt is issued.
 - Comment (Ryan): On the flyer for the Direct Ask... it might be worth bragging about our recent wins at the

Business competition that Ms Niehaus mentioned. Let's capitalize on the success.

- Question (Ms. Niehaus): What about Richview Stickers for the back of the car as an incentive to donate towards Direct Ask? Response: May not be in budget, may not be ready for initiative. It's a great idea! Let's table this idea for next year.

SCHOOL STATEMENT OF NEEDS:

- DONE! A few changes were provided and incorporated. One parent asked if we could incorporate sexual harassment as something to be dealt with as well.
- Caroline submitted to Lucie for final review before Lucie sends to superintendent

Motion to approve: Maria, 2nd: Manisha. All were in favour.

GRADUATION:

- RCI has June 29th secured at 1:30 pm at the Chateau Le Jardin in Vaughan
- Lucie to confirm with venue what we can/cannot bring (e.g. refreshments)
- Lucie and Marie to meet regarding what school would like SAC to help with (e.g. decorations, gown distribution and retrieval,
- Marie to put together a letter asking for help/volunteers and submit to Lucie to send out (Principal's Update). Krista Vanderwal has offered to help out.
- There is not very much budgeted to the grads (e.g. gifts, etc.) because school put all funds towards securing a venue.
- Questions (Caroline): Have we ever charged for grad? Lucie and Marie to discuss options to raise funds to help towards the budget.
- RCI is looking for a different venue for next year - one in closer proximity.
- Tracy and Marie to connect regarding touring the venue.

Other Outstanding Items:

- Ryan was directed to the school website for a course syllabus however class information is updated. Can the RCI website be updated to include relevant and current information. This is a huge process and teacher-led. Maybe Lucie can connect with teachers to ask if they can update their information.
- New Guest Speaker for Future School Council Presentation: Lucie to chat with Caroline and Maria to go through who is available and who is approved. Topics of interest: Sexual harassment, Truth and Reconciliation

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 21st @ 7pm

TOPIC OF DISCUSSIONS TABLED FOR NEXT MEETING:

- N/A

Meeting adjourned.