RICHVIEW COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Parent Council Agenda

Thursday October 10, 2019

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Library

Approval of agenda – Approved

Approval of minutes – Marie Skinner, second Daria Valero

Student council Report

* Toonies for Turkeys – Fundraiser to provide meals for less fortunate families. This year, $1,118 was raised (for the Scott Mission)
* Annual Richview coffee house – will be held November 20th in the library. Signups for performers will be in November
* Dodgeball – Tournament is now in progress. This tournament is a good introduction for students to intramural sports. Elimination and Finals are to be scheduled
* Braeburn Christmas Event – The event is in the early planning stages (permits, buses are in progress). The date for the event this year is December 7th. Gifts and other donations (i.e. craft supplies) will be needed from parents. An email will be sent out asking for donations
* Prom – is being planned for the end of the year. Venue visit to Palais Royale is planned. A survey was conducted and students said they preferred a cocktail/buffet event rather than a sit down dinner. Ticket prices were $120 last year; hoping to reduce them this year

Athletic Council Report

* Friday Night Lights (FNL) will be played October 18th this year. Junior and Senior teams will play ECI. There is usually some RCI merchandise (i.e. hats) sold at the door
* RCI Athletic Clothing – First orders for the clothing will be in October and then another order in the spring. All orders will be done online
* There are 3 pep assemblies planned – October 17th is the first one and the goal is to highlight all teams
* The RCI Saints Annual Invitational Basketball Tournament is being planned. Up to 18 schools participate and the tournament will run over 2 days in January
* Inside Ride event is being planned for April 3. This fundraising event will support families dealing with cancer
* Athletic Banquet is being planned for June 1st, 2020
* Male and Female athletes of the week are now being nominated. Coaches are asked for recommendations
* The Athletic Council is also responsible for scorekeeping games outside and inside
* Muskoka Woods (Jan 20-24, 2020) - permission forms for Grade 9 went home October 9th. Selection for senior leaders is in progress

Trustee update

* Trustee MacLean attended the awards ceremony at RCI October 10th
* CUPE strike was averted over the weekend – decision had been made to close the schools if the strike happened because of concern over student safety (i.e. safe arrivals). This was handled differently than 16 years ago, for many reasons contingency plans were not possible
* More labour issues are expected this fall - teacher unions EFFTO and OSSTF are without contracts (contracts end at the end of the school year – Aug 31); negotiations are starting and are likely to continue through the fall. Five days’ notice would be given in the event of a walk out or lock out.
* Parents should use the TDSB website to keep updated. TDSB will provide updates once resolutions are shared
* Question asked: Can a decision be made on school closures earlier? Is there a deadline that TDSB would use for negotiations as this is very disruptive for parents who have to plan for alternative care. Trustee MacLean answered that the board will always try to negotiate to the last minute and in the case of the CUPE negotiations the deadline was midnight on Sunday
* There will be a Ward Forum on Nov 5th, from 7PM to 9PM at ECI

Principal’s report

* Teachers and students are organizing walk ins to protest government cuts to education. Once was held the morning of October 10th, they are very peaceful
* CUPE strike last week – nothing was affected in the building, although the Snack program was cancelled because of this (it has now resumed)
* Awards ceremony was held October 10th. This ceremony celebrates academic achievement from the previous year for grades 10, 11 and 12. Thanks to Tracy Bruno for organizing the event. There were several sports teams absent for todays’ ceremony, so moving the ceremony to November may be considered for 2020
* When a vote was held last year, 82% of students voted to move commencement to June – about 1,000 people attended last June. Commencement will be held in June 2020 for this years’ Grade 12 students
* Large Class size Issue - 2 more teachers have been allocated and Ms Kletke is still looking for a French/History/English/Civics teacher (potentially a teacher who was at RCI last year). There are still some class movements happening, all must be completed by the end of October
* School enrollment is currently 1,117 students (110% capacity). Enrollment is closed for French and English has a waiting list of over 100 students.
* There are three major concerns

1. Vaping – is being taken seriously and is a chronic problem in the school. RCI has a new teacher who had a central position last year and who is helping with education on the consequences of vaping. Some education has been done with the Grade 9s and the teacher (Jeanine) will be doing a presentation to staff to have them incorporate the information into the learning for other grade levels. . New launch was last Friday (CBC were her taping last year).

2. Attendance – Attendance policy reminder will be sent out. This policy deals with late arrivals and leaving classes (hallways passes)

3. Phones – teachers are making it clear that phones should not be out unless it’s part of the instructional time

Ms Kletke is asking parents to have these conversations with students at home

* This year there will be public consultation about another French school in the west. Kids already in systems will be grandfathered. Will take another year to evaluate, will result in a redistribution of programming (zones and entry points)
* The Canadian Open will be held at St George’s June 8-14, 2020. There will be disruptions as part of Islington will be closed. Use the RCI field for Friday and Saturday is being discussed (for a donation). There will also be volunteering opportunities for students. The RCI parking lot will not be used during the tournament
* Question asked: For the schedules which are sent out in the Principals Reports, can any updates (i.e. game times) be updated on those calendars
* Question asked about the status of EQAO. Ms Kletke noted that the school improvement plan is work in progress and will concentrate on wellness, achievement and equity.

Fundraising

* Fundraising took a hiatus last year after 3 years of the Reinvigorating Richview campaign. This fundraising was used mostly for Technology
* Wish lists from departments have been provided and any money raised will be considered for use with the wish list
* Fundraising ideas

o Fundscript – fundraise through gift cards (for major stores). Possible no cost to whoever is buying the card (this needs to be confirmed) and the company will donate between 2% and 10% of the amount that’s purchased back to the school. It’s online – there may be a fee associated. Michelle to further investigate.

o Etobicoke Business FOB – this was done in past years and was very useful. May be worthwhile to investigate

o Poinsettas fundraiser will also happen. Note to Heather to start to let people know about the fundraiser

o Crooked Cue Fundraiser – proposed date is Feb 5th (Wednesday). Tickets are priced at around $40 per person (will be sold online). Items/services are needed for the silent auction. If you have any connections or have anything to donate let council know. Once the venue is confirmed, an email will be sent to save the date.

Agenda for the next meeting to define what funds will be used for (try to use the funds in the same year we raise them)

Meeting adjourned at 8:25

**Next Meeting will be held November 14th**