

# Riverdale School Council

## Annual Report 2014/15

The Riverdale School Council is proud to be part of your children's school community. Within the education system, School Councils advise the principal and the school board by making recommendations. This system was put in place by the Ministry of Education to provide access and accountability for parents.

The council held 8 meetings during the 2014/15 school year. Minutes of the meetings are available to parents on the school website and by joining the school email list.

### Meeting Dates:

September 18, 2014  
October 23, 2014  
November 20, 2014  
January 22, 2015  
February 19, 2015  
March 26, 2015  
April 23, 2015  
May 21, 2015

During the school year, the Riverdale community was represented by a dedicated group of people. Thanks go to the school staff for their ongoing support of council efforts.

### School Council Representatives:

Chair – Nicole Herbert  
Vice-Chair - Matilda Kissi  
Past Chair – Mary Anne Lemm  
Secretary – Susan Farrow, Mirka Macalik  
Principal – Kenn Harvey  
Teaching Rep – Nancy Flood & Dave Robb  
Non-Teaching Rep – Scott Mead

Student Council VPX – Nelia Wong  
Ward 15 Rep – rotating  
Pool Captain – Derby Crewe

### School Committee Representatives:

Caring, Safe & Inclusive Schools – Lakshmi Kygo  
Equity – Kim McClory  
Mental Health team – Nicole Herbert

School Councils receive funding from the Ministry of Education in 2 pockets: one based on student enrollment and the other a flat amount through Parent Engagement grants (separate from the Parents Reaching Out grants, which need to be applied for). Riverdale School Council gets \$1000 per year towards the running of the council and another \$500 per year for parent engagement purposes. This money is delivered to council via the TDSB, through the school's budget. In 2014/15, Riverdale School Council used some of this money for our iContact subscription, an email service, to increase parent communication.

Riverdale School Council annually sponsors 3 Pathways awards for graduating students. The awards are \$200 each for the University, College and Locally Developed pathways.

Our Fall direct appeal fundraising request letter raised \$2855, which goes to the school's Discretionary Fund. This money supports our students to enhance their opportunities at Riverdale.

In 2014/15, Riverdale School Council held parent information sessions on Teens & Drugs; Teen Sexual Health; Course Selection & Post-Secondary Education; and "Helping Your Teen do Well in School & Life", as well as hosting "Grade 9 Parents Orientation Night." We protested the TDSB's interpretation of CASL (Canadian Anti-Spam legislation) on school council activity. We also completed the annual People for Education survey, part of their "Annual Report on Schools." We consulted on the student agenda update, including the school Dress Code. Riverdale School Council inspired a teacher initiative to post exam reviews and Culminating Activities for all classes on the school website.

As always, parents are welcome at all School Council meetings. For more information, please contact the school office.