

**Riverdale Collegiate Institute**  
**School Council Minutes**  
**February 20, 2014**

**Present:** Kenn Harvey (Principal), Nicole Herbert (Chair), Susan Farrow (Secretary), Saddeiq Holder, Kim McClory, Derby Crewe, Matilda Kissi, Lisa Xiong (Student Council VPX), Harumi Yamamoto, Laura Fitzsimmons, Mirka Macalik, April Moon, James Chow

**Regrets:** Lakshmi Kygo

**1. Welcome** - Nicole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Student Council Update**

a. Recent Events:

- Semi-Formal
- Biz-Buz Week
- Valentine's Day Rose-a-Grams sponsored by Girl's Athletic Association
- Moderns Madness Week sponsored by the Moderns Department
- Capoeira Dancers
- Samosa Sale sponsored by the Riverdale Muslim Student's Association
- Riverdale Pride Week
- Ending Abusive Relationship Assembly for grade 11/12.

b. Upcoming Events:

- Talent Show – March 5<sup>th</sup>
- Planning underway for other activities.

**3. Matters Arising**

- a. Extra-curricular activities – No response yet.
- b. Gr. 9 Community Kick Start – Ideas welcomed. No initiatives to date.
- c. Parents Reaching Out Grants – Ideas welcomed. Applications due in May.

**4. Principal's Report**

- a. Kenn spoke to the council regarding the recent street robberies. Parents were directed to the information pamphlet provided in the email sent today and asked to review with their children.
- b. The Japanese exchange students have come and gone. All around a highly successful exchange as highlighted by a request from the Japanese hosting school to become a sister school to Riverdale with possible continued future exchanges.
- c. Kenn handed out an information sheet listing all of the extra academic help for students available within the school.
- d. Kenn reviewed cell phone policy with the council. TDSB policy allows individual schools to determine whether phones are permitted in the school and classroom. Use, while in class, is to be determined by each teacher.

- e. Black History Month is underway with many activities going on within the school all month long.
- 5. Ward 15 Update** - Lakshmi sent her regrets, as she is attending the PIAC council event for Riverdale, so no items to report. January minutes are available on the Ward 15 website: <http://www.cathydandy.ca/> Next meeting is a parent forum “Supporting Your Child in School”, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 9 am – 12:30 pm Wilkinson Jr PS. To register, contact [yasmin.karim@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:yasmin.karim@tdsb.on.ca)
- 6. Chair’s Report** – Nicole went over the highlights of the TDSB’s new Mental Health Strategy. Three keys points to be in place by the end of this year:
- Professional Development for staff on the Foundations of Mental Health
  - Increase by 50% the number of secondary schools engaged in anti-stigma initiatives
  - Mental Health teams will be established in all schools

A link to the strategy was provided in the February newsletter to parents.

- 7. Parent Involvement Presentation** – Kenn and Nicole gave an informative presentation on parent involvement in their child’s education.
- 8. New Business** - None

Council adjourned.

Next meeting March 20, 2014. Guest: Superintendent Mike Gallagher