

Riverdale Collegiate Institute
School Council Minutes
March 20, 2014

Present: Kenn Harvey (Principal), Nicole Herbert (Chair), Susan Farrow (Secretary), Lisa Xiong (Student Council VP), Saddeiq Holder, Kim McClory, Derby Crewe, Matilda Kissi, Harumi Yamamoto, Mirka Macalik, Sirje Lautens, Rose Kudlac, Mike Gallagher (Superintendent)

Regrets: Lakshmi Kygo

1. Welcome - Nicole welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Student Council Update

a. Recent Events:

- Riverdale's Got Talent
- Riverdale Environmental Action League has added GOOS (good on one side) Bins to all classrooms.
- Student Council has introduced Ask.FM/Riverdale Ask. This is an anonymous vehicle for students to ask questions of student council.
- Aboriginal Awareness Week sponsored by Free The Children
- First meeting for the upcoming Mini-Olympics (Apr. 29 – May 1)

b. Upcoming Events:

- Student Council is planning a Spirit Event; details to follow.

3. Matters Arising

- a. Extra-curricular activities – Upcoming meeting with key players where this will be a point of discussion.
- b. Parents Reaching Out Grants – Ideas welcomed. Applications due May 16.
- c. Mental Health Team – See Principal's report.

4. Principal's Report

- a. Mental Health Team – Some discussion about incorporating into the Caring, Safe and Accepting Committee. More to come.
- b. Budget and staff allocations passed at the March 5th TDSB meeting; details to follow.
- c. Student trip to Ecuador, through Me to We, was very successful.
- d. Upcoming Student Trips – Art Dept. is going to New York and Music Dept. is going to Cleveland.
- e. Kenn advised that he inquired again with staff regarding teacher representation at the school council meetings. He did not receive a commitment regarding future attendance. A Teaching Rep is a required position on School Councils by ministry Reg 612.

5. **Ward 15 Update** - Items discussed included Mental Health Strategy, Optional Attendance Policy review and French Policy review. Minutes are available on the Trustee's website: www.cathydandy.ca
6. **Chair's Report** – Nicole shared with the council a letter received from a parent inquiring about TDSB's policy regarding school closures due to weather and scheduled sporting events. Nicole also shared with the group information regarding upcoming fairs and events.
7. **New Business** - None

Council adjourned.

Meeting was followed by a very informative presentation from Superintendent Mike Gallagher on Happiness & Positive Psychology.