

Riverdale School Council

Annual Report 2013/14

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 2013/14 school year. Minutes of the meetings are available to parents through the school office and by joining the school email list.

Meeting Dates:

September 19, 2013
October 24, 2013
November 21, 2013
January 14, 2014
February 20, 2014
March 20, 2014
April 24, 2014
May 22, 2014

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
Secretary – Susan Farrow, Mirka Macalik
Principal – Kenn Harvey
Teaching Rep – vacant
Non-Teaching Rep – Scott Mead
Student Council VPX – Lisa Xiong

Ward 15 Rep – Lakshmi Kygo
Pool Captain – Muriel Deschenes

School Committee Representatives:
Caring & Safe Schools – Lakshmi Kygo
Equity – Matilda Kissi

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 \$500 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 2013/14, 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 \$4740, which goes to the school's Discretionary Fund. This money supports our students to enhance their opportunities at Riverdale.

In 2013/14, Riverdale School Council held parent information sessions on "Connecting With Your Teens", Kids Help Phone, Course Selection & Post-Secondary Education, and Bullying, as well as hosting "Grade 9 Parents Orientation Night." We discussed "Happiness & Positive Psychology" with our Superintendent. We also completed the annual People for Education survey, part of their "Annual Report on Schools."

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