

**Riverdale Collegiate Institute
School Council Meeting,
January 22, 2015**

Present: Jeffery Woods, Nelia Wong (Student Council VPX), Lakshmi Kygo, Kim McClory, Harumi Yamamoto, Sharon Wood, Mirka Macilik (Secretary), Karen Wiseman, Nicole Herbert (Chair), Rebekah Tsingos (VP), Dave Robb (teacher Rep), Siobhan Keogh, Carol Baum, Matilda Kissi (Vice-Chair), Claudia Blume, Nathalie Burstein-Woods, Jean Chhiu, Jennifer Zhao

Regrets: April Moon, Susan Farrow, Kenn Harvey, Mary Anne Alton

1. Welcome Nicole welcomed the group.

2. Student Council Update

- Presidents of the various clubs had a meeting to share ideas and prioritize possible assembly events
- lots of pre-holiday spirit events< eggnog pong very popular
_semi –formal Jan.23, sold out, 378 tickets, last few had to be raffled.
- in spirit of inclusion, effort to include grade 9 was successful;
- Course Fair during extended lunch on Jan 27

3. Matters Arising

- CASL letter expressing our concerns was sent to Director Donna Quan, PCEO - Michelle Munro, & Legal - Wendy Lopez. No response received, or expected.
- letter will be kept on file for possible follow-up , review and general availability
- SC annual reports and minutes have been added to the school website. Plan to continue keeping this info up to date (barring more technical difficulties) Thanks to Helen in the school office for getting the technical support to make this finally happen.
- Workshop funding application has been sent in to ministry and \$54 expected as result of parent attendance for event featuring Blake Boulton Youth Outreach co-ordinator. The group agreed that the funds will be donated to the Centre upon receipt.

4. Principal's Report (delivered by V.P. Tsingos):

- Use of movies in classrooms. They are used to supplement main ideas but also used in an emergency when a lesson plan has not been made available to substitutes
- currently, students are involved in course selection for upcoming year. Students are encouraged to seek curriculum guidance
- info night for parents in staffroom on Jan 28 regarding post-secondary Spec.Ed supports and accomodations
- college and university applications are due
- report card coming on Feb 5, parent teacher interviews on Feb 12
- upcoming assemblies for Black History Month and Inside Ride
- School improvement Plan overview, see attached

- School committee meetings upcoming: Feb 19, Safe and Caring schools, Mar 12, Equity. Both committees meet at 3pm. Please contact Nicole if you wish to attend, as our designated reps cannot always make it.

5. Ward 15 update

- First meeting with new trustee Jennifer Story to be held on Feb 17, 7pm at Frankland Community School

Searching for a ward Chair for monthly meetings, 2 parent representatives from the ward to attend monthly PIAC meetings at 5050 Yonge, plus one parent rep from the ward for the French as a Second Language AC.

6. Chair's Report

- PIAC School Council Appreciation dinner, Feb 26

- TDSB review and directives: Min of Ed. Liz Sandals ordered a review of the TDSB in December. Report by Margaret Wilson came out this month. Minister has made directives to the board, to be implemented by Feb 13. All available on TDSB website: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/new/2015/reportTDSB.html>

The board of trustees is holding a special consultation meeting Jan 26 to hear deputations on the directives.

7. Parent Survey Results

71 private responses and 37 public, (during parent teacher night). Thanks to Siobhan for her help both deploying the survey and analyzing the results.

-results help School Council form objectives and determine which topics would be of interest for speaker events and parent communications.

Top areas of concern:

- Academic Support
- Teen Anxiety, Depression
- Extra-curricular Activities
- Bullying

8. By-law review and Operating Procedures

The group approved our updated by-laws and the new Operating Procedures document. This new document outlines council's current practices and provides continuity from year to year.

Presentation by Dave Robb, Riverdale Guidance – Course Selection & Future Planning

To see the Prezi, go to: https://prezi.com/rbmpj6wnlb-z/course-selection-an-overview-for-parents/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

Next meeting: February 19, 2015, with guest presentation on Teen Sexual Health