

Riverdale Collegiate Institute
School Council Minutes
October 23, 2014

Present: Kenn Harvey (Principal), Nicole Herbert (Chair), Susan Farrow (Secretary), Nelia Wong (Student Council VPX), Nancy Flood (Teacher Rep), Saddeiqa Holder, Mirka Macalik, Sharon Wood, Mary Anne Lemm, Matilda Kissi, Le Eiko Hockema, Cathy Kettle, April Moon

Regrets: Kim McClory

1. Welcome - Nicole welcomed everyone.

Collecting goal ideas: Nicole brought forward items identified last year for council working goals. Kenn identified a new school issue. The following list was generated for the poll:

- a. Student Mental Health & Wellness
- b. Parent Involvement on school committees
- c. Pathways Education
- d. Student, Staff Engagement

2. Student Council Update

- a. Grade 9 Rep and Community Rep have been added to the Student Council.
- b. Recent Events:
 - Club President's Meeting
 - Grade 9 Day (Mini, Mini Olympics)
 - Equity Leadership Training for members of Student Council
- c. Upcoming Events
 - Haunted House

3. Matters Arising

- a. Staff Rep – Everyone welcomed Nancy Flood as our new staff rep. Position to be shared with Dave Robb.

4. Principal's Report

- a. Grade 9 Day – Huge success. Likely to be an annual event.
- b. Sub-Committee Reports
 - **Caring, Safe and Accepting Committee** met today. Working on plan for “lock-down” protocol when students aren't in class e.g. lunchtime. Nothing exists currently.
 - **Equity Committee** has had two meetings. The three areas of focus identified were: socio-economic equity e.g. in sports; gender equity (e.g. dress code); and grade 9 equity, as they are under-represented in the school leadership roles and activities.
 - **Mental Health League (MHL)** – Two students will be selected to be Mental Health Champions within the school. They will be trained as facilitators through a program sponsored by the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario.
- c. Fundraising Appeal Letter – this year's appeal has raised \$2705, so far.

5. **Ward 15 Update** - Ward 15 is still looking for 2 **PIAC** Representatives.
Wendy Lo from TDSB legal gave a presentation on **CASL** (Canada Anti-Spam Legislation) and how it may affect School Councils. Emails to parents cannot contain commercial info (anything related to money) without having their express consent. We currently have a mix of implied and express consent for our email lists. There is some dispute over interpretation of the legislation as it pertains to School Councils. April will help draft a letter from council to send to the government.
6. **Chair's Report**
 - a. Nicole passed around some information sheets on various upcoming parent conferences and workshops: PIAC conference, November 15; People for Education Conference, November 8. Kenn offered to pay the registration fee out of council admin funds for parents interested in attending the P4E event.
 - b. Nicole notified the group that the school has written 3 x \$200 cheques out of council admin funds for the annual School Council Pathways Scholarships.
7. **School Statement of Needs** – Committee reviewed and passed without changes. Nelia will take it to Student Council for consultation prior to finalizing.
8. **Working Group Report**
 - a. School Council agreed to adopt the “Three Tier Executive Model”. This means the committee will have a past, present and future Chair. Mary Anne Lemm moved and the council passed the motion. Each position will be a one-year term. Saddeiqa Holder moved and the committee passed the motion electing Mary Anne Lemm as Past Chair, Nicole Herbert as Current Chair and Matilda Kissi as Future Chair.
9. **Planning for the Year**
 - a. Workshops – Council agreed to invite Rod Cohen from Blake Boulton Youth Outreach to come to our Nov. 20th meeting to speak on drugs in our community. Nicole will apply to the ministry for retroactive funding of workshops. The government has a program that will give School Councils \$3 for every person in attendance at a workshop.
 - b. Parent Survey – This year's survey will go out with the November report card. Kenn will obtain translations in the appropriate languages. We will also ask Student Council to find students to man a table for us at Parent/Teacher interviews, to assist with translation.
 - c. Goal Setting Poll – Those in attendance voted for their top 2 areas of focus for the year. This year the focus will be on Student Mental Health and Student/Staff Engagement.
10. **New Business** - The school administration, Student Council and MHL will all be working on initiatives for Bullying Awareness Week in November.

Council adjourned.