

# Rockford School Council

rockfordschoolcouncil@gmail.com Twitter and Facebook: @rockfordcouncil

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## Minutes for Wednesday, April 7, 2021

**Time: 6:30pm**

**Attendees:** Beverly F, Randy F, Thane J, Monica O, Delia J, Kate B, Carmit G, Natasha A, Jelvis C, Yoshiko, Claudia P, Anna K, Felicia M, Ander S, Sandra S (5-6 teacher), Kornits, Ivana L-M, Cynthia G, Reena

### 1. Welcome

The executive introduced themselves and the meeting attendees were all invited to introduce themselves as well.

### 2. Review of the School Council Code of Ethics

Delia read out the School Council Code of Ethics that was passed earlier this year to remind everyone of the code that all members of council are expected to follow. The code of ethics can be found on the Rockford School Council website.

### 3. Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2021 meeting

**Motion** – Ivana Lukic-Miloloza, **Seconded** – Carmit Gonen.

All in favour - **Approved**. Minutes will be posted on Rockford website.

### 4. Toronto ChessKids Update

Toronto ChessKids have added a new incentive – new participants will receive their own chessboard and book upon joining. Class times are 5-6pm on Mondays and Fridays, 6-7pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and there are 5 players maximum in each class.

### 5. School Council Update

Carmit and her family are moving away and therefore will be leaving School Council – we thank her for her work on Council and wish her and her family best of luck!

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## **a. Spirit Wear**

Delia demonstrated the new Spiritwear website and the new products that will be available for purchase. Orders can be shipped to the school for free, or directly to home for \$9.95, but will have free shipping to home once the order reaches \$75. Ms. O volunteered to come to the school to give out orders if the school is still closed when the orders are delivered. The online store will close at midnight on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **b. Online Bingo Nights**

Natashia explained how Online Bingo would work, and how parents can purchase 4 cards in a pack for \$20. We would do one night each month and need 2 people to run it. We decided on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> as our first night, in order to give enough time to advertise and set it up.

## **6. P&G Personal Care and Menstrual Products**

A box of free personal care items (sanitary pads, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, etc.) was given to the school by P&G for emergency use by students when needed. The school can order more items to refill the box as needed. There was a discussion on where to place the menstrual products in an appropriate place for girls to have access to them without having to ask a staff member for help, but it was ultimately left undecided.

## **7. Kindergarten Play Area Safety**

There was a kindergarten student that was left alone in the east gate area, and Alissa happened to be at the school and saw the child open the gate and go out. It was a situation where the teacher had gone chasing after another child who had gotten out of the play area and run up Torresdale Avenue, and the ECE had been busy getting the other children indoors and hadn't had a chance to do a headcount yet of the remaining children. Thankfully, Alissa saw it and alerted another teacher immediately. There was a discussion about the best way to secure the gates – they are currently using zip ties that have to be cut with scissors each time. Reena, who is a teacher at another school, said that they have had success using climbing clips to hold their gates shut.

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## **8. Principal/Vice-Principal's Report – Mr. Jovanovich and Ms. O**

### School Staffing Committee

- School Staffing Committee started deliberations
- Each year, the Committee's role is to make recommendations regarding the organizational model of the school, instructional periods, the instructional day, and the selection of specialties
- School Superintendent in turn reviews the report and provides final approval
- Primary Class Size caps will apply to all to Grades 1 to 3 classes

### Best Practice

- Maintain flexibility in JK/SK registration
- JK/SK classes should be combined
- Grades 1-3 classes must be created according to the Teacher Allocation Sheet provided
- Group classes to maintain as much flexibility as possible so that September realignment is minimal
- Combining classes maximizes flexibility and helps to balance out class size
- When combining grades, a minimum of four students from a grade must be present

### Proposed Organizational Model for 2021-2022

- Our Staffing Committee will propose an organizational model for the school to the Superintendent
- This model will be the tentative organizational model for the upcoming school year
- This model will remain tentative right up until the end of the first month of the new school year as we are required to meet Ministry demands through reorganization (if necessary)

### Student Placements

- Student placements are decided by our Placement Committee
- The Committee consists of the sending teachers, receiving teachers, specialist teachers and administration
- Members of the committee follow the school's placement guidelines and have the best interests of the children in mind
- The following are examples of our guidelines used by staff when placing students into next year's class groupings.

### Guidance:

- Academic Strengths and Academic Needs
- Social / Emotional Strengths and Needs
- Class size

- There may be personal information that is unknown to the school staff that may affect the child's placement
- This might include family changes, recent learning assessments or medical situations.
- If you wish, please confidentially share this information with your child's present teacher by May 1
- Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to prepare for next year in a positive and productive way
- Please refrain from making grade or staff member requests
- These requests are not supported by the guidelines. Thank you.

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Please see:

-2021 Classroom Organization Spring models

-Bell Times

## Rockford Equity PLC

- Board focus on anti-racism, anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, anti-Asian racism, power & privilege
- Set tone that this work is not optional, and that it is “heart” work
- Shared historical lens on anti-Black racism so staff have context
- Need to regularly check ourselves for bias and privilege
- Difference between “equality” and “equity”
- Difference between “intent” and “impact” – systemic oppression, microaggressions
- Importance of understanding student identities
  - Culturally relevant and responsive teaching
  - Understanding of how power & privilege affect one’s reality—one person may interpret / experience the same situation very differently from another person
  - Understanding of how our cultural / implicit biases affect our teaching—programming, resources, lower expectations, special education / streaming, relationships with families
- Next steps...
  - Stopping / Intervening, Naming & Knowing
  - PR 728 Reporting

## Toronto Public Health - COVID-19 Infection Prevention

-This is a very important update about the status of in-person learning at the TDSB. Toronto Public Health (TPH), has just announced that all schools in Toronto, including those at the TDSB, will be closed to in-person learning as of Wednesday, April 7, 2021 and remain closed up to and including Sunday, April 18, 2021.

- This TPH order is being made under Section 22 of Ontario’s Health Protection and Promotion Act in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

-Rockford PS is continuing with learning online

-14 Lab Positive COVID cases at Rockford PS

## Rockford PS - Timetable and Schedule

The students and teachers will follow the same:

-attendance routines

-daily schedule

-rotary subject schedule

-remote Learning Timetable

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Time	Period
9:10-9:50	
9:50-10:30	
10:30-10:40	Recess
10:40-11:20	
11:20-12:00	
12:00-12:40	Lunch
12:40-1:00	
1:00-1:40	
1:40-1:50	Recess
1:50-2:30	
2:30-3:10	

## School Budget Request

- past requests tabled at the start of the year
- budget request tabled and then asked for consideration at next meeting as all school budget requests
- cubic yards of topsoil to fill in field to level areas / significant puddles in the field
- Board will not bring soil to school
- staff

## **9. Questions & Answers**

Q: Is there going to be a virtual school option again in September for next year?

A: We are not aware of this yet

Q: If my child forget things in class how can I come to pick them up when we are at home?

A: Have them call EXT.20010

## **10. Other Business**

None.

## **11. Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, May 4, 2021

**Meeting adjourned: 8:58pm.**

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