

RCI School Council - Remote Meeting
Minutes for October 25, 2021(7:00 – 8:30pm)

Agenda Item	Lead	Details	Minutes
1. Call to Order & Welcome	Jackie		Melanie Boyd-Brown, Lisa Truant-Tan, Jackie Marrie, Nicole Coker, Robynne Ostry, Rojean Prince, Michelle Haurilak, Zannat Reza, Carla Granger, Lorraine Sixto, Andrea Peterman, Nicole Coker, Mari C, Leslie Amdedian, Sasha Samaroo, Amal Shoom, Anna Stanford, Farida, Dr Paul Guise, Joseph Muller, Nathan Barran, Farah Kavousi, Kay Laidlaw, Philip, Kevin and Karin Hill, Taissa Callaghan, Andrea Peterman, Deke Nur, Melissa O’Connor, Rene James, Maria Ellen Aquino, Kevin Lewis, Peter Kotanen, Amy Fleischman, Yahya Mohamed; Admin: Paul Edwards, Ms Fernandes, Nabila Anwari,
2. Approval of Past Minutes	Jackie		Motion to accept Michelle Haurilak and Lisa Truant-Tan after Mel reviewed highlights of meeting at request of attendees.
3. Principal & 4. VPs’s Report & Update	Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Update • VP Updates 	<p>Mr. Edwards: COVID wise – doing well – at MV is also doing well - no cases. Extra Curriculars up and running – includes frisbee, student council planning activities etc, chess, math club, nutrition snack team, + yearbook committee. Grad 2022 committee will start to convene, planning for an in-person ceremony. Robotics – convos happening – will have a team, just a matter of registering and beginning learning journey Parent – teacher VIRTUAL interviews on Tuesday, November 2nd. Interviews can be scheduled from 2:00 – 4:00 PM and 6:00 – 8:00 PM and will be held using the Zoom teleconferencing software which you can download for free on any device at https://zoom.us/. If you wish to schedule a virtual meeting with any of your child's teachers, please see the emails sent via School Messenger. June 2021 grads – picking up packages etc this week. Programming for next year (2022-2023) has begun and starts by defining the subjects/cluster of subjects that RCI will share with the system – the beginning of the journey. As part of this, are working collaboratively with parents, teachers and students to understand what elements and approaches within the current Masters program can be incorporated into the other streams at RCI for the betterment of all students. Feedback is being solicited via Google Surveys. Masters program will stay in its current format for the</p>

			<p>Current Grade 9-12 cohorts. This discussion is looking at grade 9s for 2022 to make their academic experience better; Grade 8 Open House is November 25th. <u>Questions/Comments</u> <i>Question</i> - what makes the Masters program in grade 9 different than other programs as hard to tell in current environment. <i>Answer</i> – It is hard to tell in the current environment as COVID restrictions over the last 2 years has impacted experiential learning elements such as field trips, cross learning, and guest speakers. Hope is that by second term (grade 9s) that this will start to be alleviated as science and computer science/tech courses will be held then and they are foundational elements of the Masters’ experience. <i>Comment:</i> Great to hear about soliciting feedback and finding ways to extend the learnings from the Masters program to all students within the RCI community. Will be important to ensure survey questions and requests are clear and straightforward for parents and caregivers. <i>Question</i> – What has the school been doing to ensure it has the right mix of staff to support this? <i>Answer</i> – This has been a grassroots process and 18 months ago started working collaboratively with staff to talk about how to make sure RCI is gleaning the best learnings so that all the students (~100 in grade 9) could be benefiting from them. <i>Question</i> – As it relates to parent feedback – are you looking for feedback on the types of programs that RCI could also offer (for example Western Tech offers a leadership program SHSM) or should the feedback be focused on how to provide more hands-on opportunities or bringing in guest speakers etc. <i>Answer:</i> Both <i>Question:</i> Is there any way to get some of the Masters enrichment material back for the students who have lost out over the past 2 years? Can some of the programming be extended to G12? <i>Answer:</i> Mr. Edwards will take this idea back to teachers and advise.</p>
5. Overview of School Council Positions, Roles	Jackie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Item 	Jackie and Mel gave a brief overview of the roles where we continue to look for co-chairs (Communications, Treasurer and Co-Chair) Karin Hill has volunteered to be the co-treasurer with Robynne Ostry. Open positions are for a Co-Chair and a Co-Communications Lead

<p>6. Financial Update</p>	<p>Robynne Ostry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update 	<p>Email update from Robynne who could not attend: “- I met with Marlea Burgess and she is investigating parent council funds (either donations that were made as part of previous direct donation campaigns or that were allocated to the council by the board in previous years. - I suggest that any funds that are there be used as soon as possible and that they be used towards a school wish list. I believe there was mention that the school might still need some Hepa Filters for classrooms. - no money was raised by parent council last year - the parent council bank account has a small amount in it and it has been recommended by the board that the account be closed. Marlea will send me the details. I agree with this recommendation.”</p> <p>Discussion around how parent council can support school staff. Questions as to what has been done in the past – it’s largely been a direct donation campaign with a ‘wish list’ from teachers circulated. The school did not fundraise during Covid.</p> <p>Feedback from the meeting suggested proceeding with a direct donation campaign, prior to the holidays now and if there is parent support to organize a small fund-raising committee then a follow-up campaign could be organized after Winter Break to target specific companies for donations (auction style) etc.</p> <p><u>Actions:</u> Mr. Edwards to supply Karin and Robynne with a ‘wish list’ from staff. Jackie to share the Direct Donation template and info with Karin + Robynne Karin + Robynne will manage the DD campaign this Fall including coordinating communications with admin/staff to RCI community. Jackie can provide support as needed (she ran past ones).</p>
<p>7. Ward 7 Update</p>	<p>Mel Boyd-Brown</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update 	<p>No update. Ward 7 has not published this year’s meeting schedule yet. New Parent rep emails shared with Trustee. New reps are Rojean Prince + Michelle Haurilak.</p>
<p>8. Mountview Update</p>	<p>Carla Granger</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update 	<p>Great start to the year so far – school has had mock elections, orange shirt day, Terry Fox run – 97 students in total – a new gr 7/8 teacher and very engaged and dynamic; Focus – parents have been asking about the RCI pool – waiting for feedback on that; focused on assessment kits (reading, numeracy etc) and discussions on how to move forward with</p>

<p>9. Community Updates</p>	<p>Nicole Coker (Toronto Public Library) + Lisa Truant-Tan (Robotic)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toronto Public Library Updates • Robotics 	<p>that; Mr. Edwards added: CBC radio interview with MV students on Indigenous holiday proposal; and grade 5/6 class made 2 air filters which are fully functional;</p> <p><u>Nicole Coker – Toronto Public Library, Jane & Dundas branch (621 Jane Street)</u> https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/janedundas/ (email: ncoker@tpl.ca) Library Hours: 9am-8:30pm M-F + Saturdays 9am-5pm; Now also open Sundays from 1:30-5pm (until June 26th – closed holiday weekends).</p> <p><u>Teen Focus:</u> Please see handout (TPL Online Resources for Youth Winter 2021) – RCI website Youth Hub is up and running with access to laptops etc from 3 pm – 7 pm. Free printing, study space and access to laptops, printers and ipads; plus, homework support; Take + Make in the Youth Hubs – Prepared Craft Bags filled with supplies to make crafts plus video demos to show how-to’s Young Voices Magazine of creative writing and visual art created + selected by Toronto Teens and published annually for 50+years. Available online + in print. Deadline to submit is March 27th/2022 – registration form to submit online or at back of magazine (available in branches). Online Programming available via the Toronto Public Library website (https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca) Battle of the Books: reading Rainbow on Monday Nov 15th (4-5 pm) – a hosted online book battle featuring 2SLGBTQ+reads. Peyton Thomas author visit (Both Sides Now) on Tuesday Nov 16th 6-7 pm (online) Online Trivia Nights for teams + Virtual Escape Rooms Poetry Saved Our Lives program – Wednesdays 4-5 pm – Virtual workshops on Poetry and Spoken Word.</p> <p>Nicole provided a quick overview of the 40 databases available FREE to any card holder: Online Count – a-z list of databases Highlighted a few databases: “Career cruising” – career guidance resource for students. “BrainFuse” – Kids grade k-12 – tutors – can submit essays to tutors and correct grammatical errors and provide feedback; submit via website and receive info via website;</p>
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“Linked in Learning: – video tutorial courses – available 24/7.

Shakespeare plays (video) to help students understand the material better.

If have questions email Nicole and she will go through the resource with you.

Digital Access Card

A reminder, if you don't have a physical library card, virtual cards (Digital Access card) are available for those with a Toronto based telephone number and 13 years of age and older. The Digital Access card provides access to the digital collection, including e-books for 30 days. Then come with photo ID (name/address) to get a physical library card.

COVID Cleaning

Computers are available at the library in 55-minute slots except between 1:55 and 2:30 (cleaning) Monday to Saturday and from 3:25-4 on Sundays.

Other Services

Brand new – free blank Presto Card – for anyone asking for them — (TTC charges \$6) – that are set up to be adult cards but can change profile to seniors or students when show ID at the desk in any station.

Also available: Free printing of vaccine QR codes when you bring in your health card. A librarian can help you.

Please note that currently there are no volunteer opportunities at the Jane and Dundas branches until 2022. Volunteer opportunities can be found at

<https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/>

Book a Librarian service available – you can book 30-60 min virtual session or a 30min in person session (limitations on in person – see staff).

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/book-a-librarian/>

Lisa Truant-Tan – Robotics

Robotics is working with school to reach out to mentors etc to re-engage.

Location for competition events in the Spring – Humber and York University; more info on firstcanadarobotics.com and see an update there.

Competition will be returning this year; Students should be listening to announcements and checking the announcement board to learn more about timing.

			Encouraging students who may not be as technically inclined to join, as there are many roles to learn from
10. Other Items			<p><u>Questions:</u> Any update on June 2022 grad? Answer: No news yet but planning as of March/April that grads will be in person; grad committee will be struck, and plans made to be in person and will only pull back if need be, to virtual; Request for re-usable water bottles: Breakfast program – moved away from disposable water bottles for cost and environmental reasons. Students can use the water stations with re-usable water bottles. ASK: If you have extra water bottles, please send them with your students to the office. Will lockers be available this winter? They are ready and available as soon as the TDSB/TPH gives the go-ahead.</p> <p>Next Meeting November 29th @ 7 pm. More details to follow.</p>