***Winchester SAC Meeting Minutes***

***Thursday, September 19th, 2019***

***YOUR VOICE MATTERS***

1. **Welcome**

* Introductions by Co-Chairs, Exec Committee, and fellow School Council Members

1. **Role of SAC**

* The School Advisory Council must be comprised of Parents, a Teacher Representative, a Non-Teaching Staff Representative, a member of the Community, and a student; Rita suggested asking a member of the BIA to join
* SAC is designed to serve as a liaison between school and parent
* Allows parents to have a voice i.e. decide how money is allocated
* Parents become members of the SAC by attending monthly SAC meetings or joining a committee and volunteering at school events i.e. Fall Fundraiser/Movie Nights/Fun Fair/Art Matters/School Musical/Garden Club, etc.
* Sign-up forms to join Committees were distributed to members, if interested in learning more, please email the SAC at, [winchestersac@gmail.com](mailto:winchestersac@gmail.com)
* A vote was taken to elect/re-elect Executive Positions -

Co-Chair, Makoto Trotter

Co-Chair, Chirag Joshi

Co-Chair, Chris Jackson

Treasurer, Marjan Bahall

Treasurer, Jonathan Cowan

Communications, Thea Sywulych

Recording Secretary, Erika Stipe

Recording Secretary, Shibani Kulkarni

Event Project Manager, Jenn Torres

Parent Recruiter, Cindy Kenyon

1. **Principal’s Update**

* Enrollment numbers and budget numbers for the 2019-2020 school year have yet be

confirmed by TDSB; more to come next month

* The school will be using Class Dojo to communicate and stay connected with school news and your child’s teacher(s)
* Parents were informed that Class Dojo is a safe and secure network
* There are no paper agendas this year

1. **Construction on Heritage Building Update**

* Tim, Project Manager representing the TDSB provided an update on the construction of the Heritage Building and addressed concerns about the surrounding area and closed off playground
* He explained the work on the Heritage building has been split into two phases since the scope of work is so large
* Phase One is almost complete and Phase Two (located on the South and East sides of the Heritage building) has begun
* The play structure was closed to protect students from any potential falling debris
* It will be reopened at the end of November for 3-4 weeks until the new windows are ready to be installed
* At that time, the play structure will be closed again until all of the work is completed
* Phase Two projected to be completed by end of February/early March

1. **Winchester Fundraising Events**

Marjan summarized the funds raised last year: $26,340.21

Here is the breakdown -

Fall Fundraiser $7,752.38

Movie Nights $468.70

Night at F’Amelia $6,513.30

Art Matters $4,214.43

Fun Fair $7,340

Mable’s Labels $51.22

Fall Fundraiser

* To begin in October
* Detailed letter to be sent home in the coming days

Movie Nights

* New license has been purchased for $300 for the 2019-2020 school year
* 3-4 movie nights are planned to take place
* First movie night will be held in October
* Marjan’s sisters-in-law to run the events with the help of parent volunteers

Night at F’Amelia

* Adults only fundraiser
* Monday, January 20th, 6:30-9pm

School Musical

* Tentative date set for Thursday, January 16th, 2020

Art Matters

* Is an adult evening to celebrate Arts and Music
* All funds raised go directly to further improve these programs
* Tentative date set for Thursday, February 27th, 2020

Fun Fair

* Saturday, May 30th, 2020

1. **Committee Updates**

The SAC is looking for parent volunteers to fill the following positions on these committees -

*FSLAC - French as a Second Language Advisory Committee*

* The FSLAC is a parent advisory committee of the TDSB
* It is in place to support parents and to be your voice on French Programs
* Liaison from our school will help advance French curriculum and issue resolution
* Planned meetings every month during the school year at 5050 Yonge Street at 7pm (dinner included)
* For more information, <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac>

*Grants Writing Committee*

* TDSB schools depend upon independent funding to be able to offer their students additional opportunities
* Grants offered through community organizations and businesses are one way to secure fund

*Caring and Safe Schools Committee*

* Each school must have in place a safe and accepting school team responsible for fostering a safe, inclusive, and accepting school climate that should include at least one student and must include at least one parent, one teacher, one non-teaching staff member, one community partner, and the principal. An existing school committee (e.g., the healthy schools committee) can assume this role. The chair of the team must be a staff member. In the TDSB this team also includes the school’s positive space representative and school equity representative.

*Alumni Committee*

* Volunteer needed to create a data base to connect with Winchester Alumni

If you are interested in learning more about any of these committees or volunteering, please email the SAC at, [winchestersac@gmail.com](mailto:winchestersac@gmail.com)

Garden Club

* Susan explained the club is run by a group of parent volunteers along with a knowledgeable Garden Educator from Green Thumbs, the charitable organization that cares for the school garden and provides opportunities for students to learn about the environment through hands on garden activities
* Club runs Thursdays over the lunch hour from 11:30-12:30pm
* If interested in joining please contact, [susan.blagg@gmail.com](mailto:susan.blagg@gmail.com) or [erikastipe@gmail.com](mailto:erikastipe@gmail.com)

1. **T-shirts**

* New design is complete
* Online orders have begun
* Sizing chart has been sent via Class Dojo
* Any questions, please contact [tsywulych@gmail.com](mailto:tsywulych@gmail.com)

1. **Toronto Centre Parents for Public Education**

* A concerned parent, who is also a member of the above, informed the SAC that on October 10th across the province, there will be rallies to raise awareness/voice concern about the cuts to public education
* If you would like more information or would like to become involved, please email her at, [jd.sarah@gmail.com](mailto:jd.sarah@gmail.com)

1. **Getting involved and staying connected**

* Sign up for SAC emails at <http://eepurl.com/bNqEcr>
* Sign up for Class Dojo first thing in September
* Come to monthly SAC meetings
* Email [winchestersac@gmail.com](mailto:winchestersac@gmail.com) with any questions you have

1. **Future meeting dates**

Nov. 21st, Jan 22nd, Feb 20th, Apr 22nd, May 21st

1. **Mark your calendars, next meeting is scheduled for -**

**Wednesday, October 23rd at 6:30pm**