

**York Memorial Collegiate
School Council Meeting
Tuesday, October 2, 2018
Minutes**

Members: Dawn Gent, Apurba MMukherjee, Anissa Tata, Stephen Clarke, Truong Nghiep Hung, Tanisha Campbell, Cornelius Frederick, Grace Spencer Burke, Hugh MMcCague, Ayan Usuf, Bishakha Chowdhury, Nancy Martins, John Masciotra

Regrets: Donna Drummond

Agenda Item	Decision/Action Taken	Person(s) Responsible
<i>Welcome and introductions</i>	Call to order: 6:30 PM Welcome and introductions	Nancy Martins/Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>Review and approval of previous minutes</i>	Previous meeting minutes had been distributed by e-mail and were approved.	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>School Council Elections</i>	Co-Chairs: Bishakha Chowdhury & Dawn Gent Treasurer : Grace Spencer Secretary: Tanisha Campbell Community Reps: Ayan Usuf Some positions required a vote this year – how exciting!	Nancy Martins
<i>Student Council Update</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No one from Student Council was available so no update at this meeting 	
<i>New business arising from minutes</i>	It was decided to hold “mini workshops” during each parent council meeting to encourage greater attendance at meetings. Some suggestions were: Using the YMCI website; how to deal with teens; filing complaints for faster results; introduction to computer programs. We will also still hold our full-length workshop in November and April.	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>Principal Update</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nick Rowe has moved to another school and John Masciotra is replacing him 894 students enrolled at YMCI, 249 are in grade 9 As classes are full, we have received 2.5 new full-time contract teachers Successful start to school year: approximately 220 grade 9 students participated in Moving on Up Day; Spirit Week culminating with Welcome Back Assembly; 120 families attended Curriculum Night Music Camp Sept 27 - 29 Some staff changes Some upgrades to roof completed with solar panel; parking lot, phase 1 completed, phase 2 beginning Please see attached for further details 	Nancy Martins as per Donna Drummond
<i>Chair's Update</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 workshops with PRO Grant will be presented this year: Fostering Resiliency in our Teens and Pros & Cons of Gaming We do not fundraise as students seem to do a lot of this throughout the year. 	Bishakha Chowdhury

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School Statement of Needs was distributed and those present opted to take time to look at it and discuss it at our next meeting in January 	
<i>Parent Reaching Out Grant (PRO)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not doing this year as Bishakha missed the deadline due to misreading the message. Bishakha will look into other options for use of PRO grant in future years We will still hold 2 full-length workshops this year, one in November and one in April 	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>2016 – 2017 Parent Workshops</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> November 13: Using Google Classroom, Scholarships & other financial aids for post-secondary education Ideas for an April workshop will be discussed as the year progresses All workshops are held in the Library at 6:30 p.m. 	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>2015 – 2016 School Council Meeting Dates</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tues, Jan 22, 2019 Tues, Feb 19, 2019 Tues, May 28, 2019 All are held in staff room at 6:00 p.m. 	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>Public comments / questions / arising issues</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a question regarding Take Your Kid to Work Day: Students come to school that day. If your workplace holds it on another day, arrangements can be made with the office for them to attend on that day. Concerns regarding the track & field area were raised as it's only in fair state and rusted screws & nails were found on the track. A synthetic track was suggested along with improvements for the long jump & triple jump pit. The VP's will follow up with Mr Balassis. There was a draw for an i-tunes card which had been generously donated by a parent in the previous year. 	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>Date of next council meeting:</i>	Tuesday, January 22, 2019 @ 6:00PM in the staff room	Bishakha Chowdhury
<i>Agenda items for next meeting</i>	Review School Statement of Needs. Discuss ideas for future "mini workshops" and for April full-length workshop.	
<i>Adjournment:</i>	8:30 PM	Bishakha Chowdhury

School Council Meeting – October 2nd, 2018

Principals Report

- New administration –
 - o John Masciotra has joined the administration team. John looks after students whose surnames begin with H-M. John has joined us from Martingrove CI where he was a VP.
 - o Joanne D’Addio deals with students whose last names begin with O-Z
 - o Nancy Martins deals with students whose last names begin with A-G
- Enrollment of 894 students. Of these 249 new grade 9’s (132 male and 117 female)
- Classes are full particularly in some of our grade 9 & 10 English and Science classes in addition several of physical education classes are above the allowed amount. We applied to the board for extra staffing and have received 2.5 full time contract teachers. Kelsey Flynn has accepted the 0.5 contract position with Science, Phys-Ed and GLE. With the additional staff allocation we are able to split large classes and make them smaller. We will be making these timetable changes over the next few weeks.
- Successful Start to School Year – Move on Up Date Saw approx. 220 Grade 9 students in attendance. Students participated in a scavenger hunt, team building games, tour of the school to name a few
- Grade 9 also participated in Spirit week which culminated with a Welcome Back Assembly organized by Student Council and they were also a part of a Safe School Assembly presented by administration that discussed information on expectations and how to have successful school year.
- Last week Tuesday saw our Curriculum Night with approx. 120 families in attendance. Excellent turn out in comparison to past years. Changed the structure of the night, asking for feedback from parents. Thank you to the student leaders for their help and demonstration of good leadership.
- 91 Students from the music program went to Camp Wahanowin from Thursday – Saturday excellent number of participants. Positive feedback received.
- On October 10th all grade 9 students will participate in an outdoor team building day at Thornhill Outdoor Education Centre. Prior to this day Mr., Vujacic and Shelle Rankine will be taking 30 students to participate in a leadership development program at the centre in order to prepare them to help lead activities on the October 10th. Developing student’s leaders in a big focus of the school this year. Another example of this is our YMCI tech team comprised of 5 senior students who help with all the required tech issues in the school.
- Running Enhanced Pathways in the following subjects: English and Geography. Enhanced Pathways focuses on elevating the learning environment of students. It is the placement of grade 9 students who have traditionally selected between the Academic and applied level courses in all Academic level programming. It is the TDSB’s and York Memos belief that all of our students deserve an elevated learning environment with high expectations and caring supports and that streamed classes puts certain groups of students at disadvantage.
- Introduction of new SHSM’s award – Arts & Culture
- Increased Coop Program – offering 4 credit Coop
- Advanced Placement Program – Expectation that students taking an AP class take the AP exam in May. Need for students to show “Grit” and willingness to be “Risk Takers”. In the Physics, Chemistry and Biology grade 12 AP classes, due to the volume of work involved students are strongly encouraged to participate in the additional classes offered after school.
- Continuation of Breakfast and Lunch Program – 1 parent has responded to our call out for parent volunteers to help with the breakfast program.
- CBC Report on the range of Final Marks between high schools in Ontario – Universities downgrading grades if you attend certain High Schools in Ontario. York Memorial C.I. deemed as a school that marks students appropriately and is reflected in the students marks at universities such as Waterloo. In other words an A at York Memo normally translates into an A at University according to the universities tracking methods.

Staff Changes

- New ACL of Special Education – Paul Aranha – joins us from Rosedale School of the Arts where he was the ACL of Special Education. On September 21st (the early dismissal day) Paul delivered PD for staff around providing accommodations for students with IEP's and teachers role in helping to develop IEP's.
- **Change of Superintendent of Education**
As of Monday, September 24th our new Superintendent of Education is Marguerite Campbell. Her Administrative Liaison (AL) is Bernie Daya. Both can be reached at (416) 394-2030. Our school remains in Learning Centre 1 (LC1), Learning Network 4 (LN4). The LN4 group of high schools has been amended – we are now with John Polyani, Yorkdale Adult Learning Centre and George Harvey. We thank Vicky Branco for her leadership and support of our school, Vicky takes on the new role Central role at the Board looking at Leadership, Learning and School Improvement.

Facilities

- Roofing project – complete. Solar Panels also put on roof.
- Parking Lot – The repaving of the school parking lot has started and phrase 1 is complete. Phrase 2 is to begin the week beginning October 1st. Parking will continue to be a challenge until the project is complete.
- Replacement Doors on the 2nd & 3rd floor corridors of the school building – complete
- Science Labs – Gas lines still turned off, not sure when lines will be upgraded. This has meant a whole year with extremely limited opportunity for students to do experiments.
- 671 lockers being replaced on the ground floor
- New speakers in the auditorium and new stage curtains
- Will be installing new LED lights to be able to be controlled from a computer. LED lights at the school waiting for them to be installed by TDSB trades.
- Creating a new cross curricular computer lab on the ground floor in room 11; we are waiting on drops installation by TDSB trades.

Upcoming Events

-Terry Fox Walk/Run – Thursday October 4th – whole school participation

- Terry Fox Walk/Run will occur this Thursday, Oct. 4 using a modified schedule.
 - Period 1 and 2 or Block E and F** will run in the morning until 11:30
 - Lunch will run from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.
 - Terry Fox Walk/Run will run from 12:30 p.m. – 3:05 p.m. (school wide)
 - Please note this event will run rain or shine, so you may need to remind students to bring an umbrella.**
 - The route runs from Eglinton/Keele to Keele/Donald Ave (in front of George Harvey) to Donald Ave/Silverthorne, to Silverthorne/Cameron Ave, to Cameron/Scott Rd, back to YMCI.
 - We have contact 12 Division (Police) to have a presence at the major intersections.
- Board Wide PA Day – Friday, October 5th
 - Grade 9 Outdoor Ed Field Trip – Wednesday, October 10th
 - Commencement (Early Dismissal) – Friday, October 26th

Parent & Community Engagement

Last year we looked at improving Parent Contact, Engagement and Communication. In order to achieve this we are committed to do the following:

- 2018-19 Magnetic School Calendar given to every students family,
- More Timely Call Outs and Emails to parents,
- Emails in 5 languages (English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese & Somali)
- Keeping the Website Up to date
- Increase use of Technology – looking to have staff move to google classrooms – parents can access at anytime
- Parent Newsletter