

School Council Meeting

14 November 2018 / 6:30 PM /

ATTENDEES

Bekki, Jocelyn, Yolanda, Alta, Deb, Nancy, Ashley, SoRa

AGENDA

Administrative Business

1. No objections to October meeting minutes as published.
2. Confirmation that Ashley and SoRa will join representing the Home and School Association
3. Alta reached out to Debbie the crossing guard to invite her to participate as a Community Representative. She declined as she does not live in the neighborhood and was uncomfortable representing the community.
4. Search continues for a Community Representative and a Staff Representative
5. 2017/2018 Annual Report
 - Board procedure requires us to file a report on our activities and make the report available to all parents.
 - Report was supposed to be completed by September 30th.
 - Not enough members in attendance tonight were active on last year's Council and can comment.
 - Next Steps - Alta to make a template available on Google Docs for the group to brainstorm.
 - *Post Meeting Update: PDF template provided by the TVDSB Parent Involvement Committee. Alta provided it to Arka for completion of a draft. Will be circulated for comment.*
 - **Deadline December 22st 2018.**

Screenagers Report Out

- After payment of licensing fee and split of proceeds with Screenagers, we made \$165.00.
- Attendees reported very positive engagement from students during question period.
- Many parents reported that their children voluntarily chose non-screen related activities after seeing the movie.
- Over 100 people attended.
- Grades 7-8 and 4-6 had in class screenings and discussions.

Principal's Update

- Math event this term will be a Breakfast event. 8:30am - 10:30am, parents will have the opportunity to visit 2 classrooms and see what the children are doing.
- It is important to stress that parents are the 3rd part of the education triangle (teachers, students). Many parents are still looking to the teachers to provide worksheets rather than being able to provide interactive learning experiences in the home.
- As we move into next year, we may want to reevaluate how we spend the Parent Involvement fund. Is the Back-to-school BbQ event really our best return on investment for getting Parent Involvement in the educational experience? (Table for New Business in the Spring)

Open Discussion - Health and Physical Education Curriculum Changes

- Introduction from Nancy;
 - Curriculum has been re-issued by the Ministry to support Grade 1-8 learning objectives.
 - Teachers have a responsibility to cover the curriculum while maintaining an inclusive environment under the Safe Schools Policy.
- Alta presented a comparison between the 2015 Curriculum and the Reissued Curriculum that will be taught this year. It was compiled by the Toronto District School Board
- Yolanda is very concerned that the gender identity, sexual health and relationships portions in the senior grades have been pared back to the detriment of student education.

- Key question: What do we want to do as a School Council to;
 - a. place the interests of the school and all its students first.
 - b. focus on student learning and well-being
 - c. promote meaningful parental and community involvement and actively seek the views of our school community.

Options Discussed

1. Providing Curriculum documents to parents and links to public comment process
 - Likely to have little impact on parent involvement and no impact on Student well-being in the short term.
2. Writing a letter of support for the Teacher's Union.
 - Would need to ensure it reflected the views of the entire school community if it was to be signed by the Council.
 - No good method for soliciting opinions from school community.
 - Little impact to student well-being in short term.
3. Providing Lending Library of resources for teachers to distribute to students who are looking for support.
 - Concern that this could be seen as infringing on Teacher's role in the classroom.
4. Putting on a series of Health and Wellness based events or a Fair type event that bring in experts from the community.
 - Could require additional funding to put on.
 - Good way to get a broader range of engagement from parents and students.
 - Topics could include mental health issues (anxiety, resilience), sexuality, nutrition etc.
 - Explore further in January.

Next Steps:

1. Alta to write update for December School Newsletter and provide links to curriculum documents.
2. Everyone to bring ideas for topics and resources related to Health and Wellness to January meeting.

Next Meeting

January 16th 2018

Adjournment