

WEST ROUGE JUNIOR PUBLIC SCHOOL

Nov 3, 2020

SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Attendees

Trish Gordon, Vanessa Martin, Tiago Do Couto, Shaira Kachra-Velji, Rupinder Brar, Rob Klassen, Rebecca Forsey, Nadia Taylor, Michelle Shin, Karen Savage, Jacqueline Abel, Jackie Ventresca, Heather Alousis, Deborah Bowers, Carmela Graham, Ashanthi Au, Anita Klubal, Alison Mitchell, Alison Koukal, Kim Stewart-Strong, Stephanie Tomlin, Inder Singh, Carla Scirocco, Mike Murphy, Richie Singh, Celestia Richards, Justine Graham, Laura Driscoll, Leah Denov, Sara Presotto, Shree Paradkar, Tesha Gibbon

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Stephanie
Second: Alison Mitchell
Motion Passed: No disapproval

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 2

Chair Report - Carla Scirocco

- By laws were last revised in Sep 2016. Setting a committee to review the bylaws. Anyone interested can email Carla. Anita has offered to share learnings with the committee.
- Parents to provide input on SSON by Sunday Nov 8th at 5pm to carla_scirocco@hotmail.com

Vice Chair Report - Stephanie Tomlin

- Would like us to strive to have the minutes out to the Parent community ideally within a week, rather than waiting until the following month's meeting to approve, so we are getting information to the whole parent community in a timelier manner. By laws allows to vote by email. We may need to accommodate amendments that may need adjustments or possibly be re-voted on. Broad agreement that we should try to get the minutes out sooner and use email to approve.
- Proposal to add a one-year SAC executive position "Virtual Learning Rep" for the purpose of being an inclusive council & considering the needs and giving a formal voice to the 29% of our school families that are virtual learning.
 - Motion: Stephanie
 - Second: Heather
 - Motion Denied: 0 votes
 - Tiago has offered to represent the Virtual learning community.

- Need financial goal setting (for funds in and out) and having a prioritized plan to vote on, before spending SAC funds.

Principal's Report – Michael Murphy

- Thank you!
 - Thank you to our new SAC executive for all of their work.
- School Budget Report
 - School budgets are tied to school enrollment which is far less than usual after losing nearly 100 students to virtual school
 - As a result, our school budget which we received last week is down \$13, 084 from last school year
 - Total budget this year is \$38, 128
 - This budget is used for everything from office phone and photocopy bills, to classroom consumable supplies, to library/textbooks, to supply teachers for teachers to attend P.D.
 - Currently working with our school budget committee to finalize our budget plan for the year. We will prioritize resources that can be used in person or virtually, look to sustainable spending (not one off events), and focus on technology
- Caring and Safe School Committee
 - A Caring and Safe Schools Committee is being formed to address issues such as our School Code of Conduct (which was updated by this committee two years ago), anti-bullying plans, mental health and wellness supports
 - Committee consists of staff members, students, and looking for a parent/community representative
 - Please let me know if you are interested. We meet a few times per year.
- COVID Update
 - Cases are rising in TDSB schools
 - As of this morning there were 182 schools reporting positive cases, 267 student cases and 58 staff cases
 - We continue to be diligent with our protocols including hand hygiene, enhanced cleaning, relying on our parents to keep students who are ill at home following the TPH guide of when to return, we continue to have complete compliance with mask wearing inside the building, parents/caregivers have been cooperative in wearing masks outside while on school property
 - A few concerns with the same students routinely not having their pre-screening paper. We have been following up.
- HEPA Filters
 - The TDSB was given Ministry money (and received a significant private donation) for portable HEPA air filtration systems for use in older schools where ventilation may be a concern.
 - West Rouge has recently received 17 units (for each classroom). Will share specs with Rupinder.

- We had previously received a number of donated systems from parents to assist at the beginning of the year when we did not know that the Board would be able to provide schools with these devices
- I will be working with those who were involved with the donation to determine what they would like to do with their devices now that we have the Board ones to begin using
- Progress Report Cards & Interviews
 - Traditional progress report cards will be sent home on November 17 th. For students who recently switched back to in person learning their reports will be based on more limited assessment data
 - Parent-teacher interviews will be held on the PA day- Friday, November 20 th. These will be done virtually or by phone
- Scholastic Virtual Book Fair
 - The book fair will be happening virtually this year where families are given a link to browse items and make online purchases
 - Purchases are then delivered to the students' houses
 - 20% of all sales comes back to the school so this is a great way to support school initiatives (outlined in the budget section)
 - The book fair opens this Saturday and runs until November 20 th. The link and more information will come out Friday on the weekly
- Remembrance Day Assembly
 - West Rouge hosts an annual Remembrance Day assembly on November 11 th around 11:00 am and our students always do a wonderful job of this meaningful assembly
 - This year our assembly will be held virtually
 - A link will be shared with parents including our virtual students who may wish to attend
 - Thank you to the many staff members and classes who will be finding creative ways to participate this year
- Parent Conference
 - PIAC which is an organization that supports School Councils across the TDSB will be hosting a Parent Conference virtually on November 21 and 22 nd
 - Information has been or soon will be sent to Council Chairs so please speak to Carla if you are interested in attending or wanting more information

Treasurer's Report - Alison Mitchell & Alison Koukal

- 23,883.24 left in the account
- Historically each teacher has received \$150 for classroom supplies. This was an amount fixed year ago. We can revisit this in a subsequent meeting once we have full context of the dollars we have to work with, potential for fundraising, and priorities for spending.

Web Administrators – Nadia Taylor & Quathar Jacobs

- New executive members to send a photo and a little bio to Nadia for updating the website.
- If you need Nadia to send something to the community, send her and Mike an email.

Social Responsibility Representative- Deborah Bowers

- Angel Tree
 - Important to do this. We could possibly do gift card tree. Biggest thing that is going to hinder is the limit of volunteers to come in through the school. Gift card is a good idea.
 - Nadia to send content to Deborah.
 - Mike: We can do collections outside the building as well.
 - Rebecca: Happy to help with food bank.
 - Deborah: Doing a food bank drive outside is a good idea.
- Winter Clothes drive
 - Rebbeca: Will be willing to help with that.
 - Mike: This will have to be outside the school.
- Holiday Food Drive
 - Will need to collect food from outside the school
- Altamont - need to confirm what we are doing for Altamont this year.

Fundraising – Leah Denov & Laura Driscoll

- Looking at touchless things we can do for fund raising.
 - We are working out logistics on best way to do it without collecting papers and giving cards.
 - Looking at gift cards where school get 3% back.
 - Have a list of retailers that can be shared.
 - Indigo cards where school gets 15-20% cash back.
 - Krispy Kreme: Looking at options.
 - Amazing box of cards: buy a box of 28 cards that costs \$32, \$11 of which goes to school.
 - Steph: Getting local businesses to donate and then use the forum to advertise. Sent an email to SAC on Nov 5.
- We need to decide based on our budget and how much are we looking to raise for. By next meeting we can make a list of things we can do to raise money.
- Nadia to send Deborah and Leah content. Identify opportunities that are easy to work.
- Leah: We will look at Mabel's labels and send the information to everyone to look for.
- Mike: Important to have people know where their money is going towards.
- In the absence of fun fair and pizza day we need to look at a hero fundraiser.

Kindergarten Representative – Tiago Do Couto

- No update; question on puddles in the play area.
- Mike: I haven't noticed a lot of puddles in the kindergarten play area forming.

Teacher Representative – Jackie Ventresca

- Wellness Committee
 - West rouge tree of life.

- Mental health and well-being notice board. Parents have shared messages.
- Safety Patrol
 - Students went to training with Toronto Police and have been doing a great job.
- Music Program
 - We have some ukuleles that are being used.
- Virtual Assemblies
 - This is a success. Including virtual students is a good idea.
- Technology Integration
- Outdoor Learning
 - Big emphasis on community class, gym classes outside.

New Motions/Other Business

- Carmela: Is it possible to get a wish list from school/community?
- Mike: We need to look at budget and come back with a picture.

Meeting Adjourned at 8.45 PM