



# Alexander Mackenzie High School

## School Council

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Tuesday, May 19, 2020

7:30 – 8:30 pm via GoToMeeting

### MINUTES

#### Attendees

**Present:** Loren Thorburn, Xun Wang, Karl Brumund, Christine LaForge, Kelly Levson, Ruby Thind, Teresa Ho, Sabira Pradhan, Krista Pummell, George Ellinas, Yula Nouragas, Cathy Clarke, Lana Fisher, Palwashah Ali

**Guests:** Helen Y

**Regrets:** Angela Flesariu, Lin Zhu

**Absent:** Ion Gosman

#### YRDSB Information

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Pages/BoardNews/Coronavirus.aspx>

#### Student Report - Palwashah Ali

- working on ways to improve student mindset
  - using instagram for positive messaging

#### 2019/2020 School Council

##### 1. Treasurer Report - Xun Wang

- no changes since last month and no changes expected for the rest of the school year

##### 2. 2019/2020 Accomplishments - Loren Thorburn

- Delivered and Reported on Parent Survey
- Represented council at various school events:

- Arts Information Night @ RHCPA, Teacher/Parent Interview Night, IB Information Night, Grade 8 Information Night, Arts and IB Welcome Evening
- Delivered Hour of Code
- Attended Regional School Council Meeting
- Offered January Workshop – ASYR
- Joined Guidance and Students to present at Board Leadership workshop
- Updated Administrator's Profile (welcomed new Principal)

### 3. Graduation Awards - Loren Thorburn

- September 21, 2020 as suggested date for final council meeting: 7:30-8:30
  - guidance presentation planned for 6:30pm
- Information to be shared
  - Parent Survey, Hour of Code, Screenagers workshop idea
  - Graduation Gifts

### 4. Graduation Awards - Karl Brumund, Loren Thorburn, Lana Fisher

- students not nominated yet
- some uncertainty
- will look to defer awards funding to next school year

### Teacher's Report - Cathy Clarke

- full report attached at the end
- many pages of detailed information from all departments
- students still creating works and virtual presentations being created
  - will be announced on social media the week of June 22
- cool stuff happening in the geography department

### Guidance Report - Lana Fisher

- new scholarship announced - check Google classroom for graduating students
- AMHS website has details about summer school at <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/alexandermackenzie.hs/guidance/Pages/default.aspx>
  - summer school learning details (in class, online) to be determined
- university dates to reply with acceptance have not changed
  - June 1 for universities
- graduation requirements
  - everybody who is a potential graduate will be allowed to graduate, as per Ministry of Ed
- US/international schools
  - guidance has not received any new information
  - SAT/ACT recommended
- college/university fair for September 2020 at Metro Toronto Convention Centre cancelled

### Graduation Awards criteria

- guidance provided the criteria for the awards

- will provide more information

### **Admin Report - Krista Pummell**

- schools not resuming this school year
  - hope is that school will resume in September
- summer school details not confirmed yet
  - classroom? online?
- admin team does not have additional information at this time, beyond what was announced by the Government of Ontario
- YRDSB working with public health on a process to allow students to retrieve their belongings left in the school
- parent bulletin resumed last week
  - thank you to Yula
- YRDSB has links for community resources for support and outreach
  - <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/Repository/NewsEvents/Pages/BoardNews/Coronavirus.aspx>
- yearbook content mostly done, but logistic questions regarding delivery
  - school still deciding if it will be printed or refunds offered
- student success team actively working to support students who require additional support

### **Student Mental Health Concerns - Lana Fisher, Krista Pummell**

- guidance is actively monitoring and answering student emails
  - offering available YRDSB and external counseling resources
- admin and staff actively working to help students

#### 2019-2020 Council Members

Chair: Loren Thorburn

Secretary: Karl Brumund

Treasurer: Xun Wang

Parent Reps: Angela Flesariu, Christine LaForge,  
Ion Gosman, Kelly Levson, Lin Zha, Ruby Thind,  
Sabira Pradhan, Teresa Ho

#### 2019-2020 Meeting Dates

~~Meetings in Room 122 of AMHS~~  
now online via gotomeeting

Monday, September 16, 2019 @  
7:00pm

~~Monday, October 7, 2019 @ 7:00pm~~

Monday November 18, 2019 @ 7:30pm

Monday January 20, 2020 @ 7:30pm

Monday, April 21, 2020 @ 7:30pm

Tuesday May 19, 2020 @ 7:30pm



## **Arts Mackenzie**

### **Dance/Theatre Arts**

Students continue to engage with a variety of performance based and wellness lessons. [Here is a sample week breakdown from the studios.](#) Teachers continue to explore with a variety of teaching tools, including Google Meet and whiteboard animation videos to create a digital studio distance learning environment.

We are excited to launch into our final unit of the school year, **Creating Together...Apart...** where students will have an opportunity to create solo or in groups, cross Arts Mackenzie disciplines. Inspired by the Community Positivity Artwork, students will use inquiry, research and performing arts to culminate their semester. The showcase performance of learning will be released the week of June 22nd through social media.

Students are also encouraged to participate in the *Not a Big Deal Contest* and student leadership continues to write positivity blog posts with [Quarantine Magazine](#).

End of the year department celebrations will be moved to virtual formats. Our student leadership is currently working designing a virtual celebration of creativity and critical thinking.

We will continue to post accomplishments on our social media pages (@artsmackenzie and @AMHSPA). Upcoming posts include dancing together while social distancing, #remotesHORTS and connecting voices. Please check social media at the beginning of June for those videos.

### **Music**

Virtual choirs, bands and orchestras will continue to be posted and shared with students to honour the concert preparation work.

### **Visual Arts**

-Will be posting more community positivity works to Instagram when the other classes complete the assignment.

- Arts and Culture Club and the Visual Arts Department are encouraging students to participate in the *Not A Big Deal Contest*
- we have a film class Google meet with Sean Cisterna next week to discuss documentary filmmaking (in prep for their final assignment)
- many art classes will be creating works in response to the Getty Museum challenge

### English

Summer Martin had her poem Her Destiny - "An Ode to Georgia Gabor" chosen as part of Chapman University's Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest. Congratulations Summer!

### Eco Team:

In the new school year, the team will continue promoting the school's Eco Station and the clothing collection box in the school parking lot. the goal is to support good stewardship. For those families that wish to donate used clothing items, please feel free to stop by the Trench Street parking lot to use the donation box. Eco tips are included in each weekly family bulletin sent home electronically. We have postponed a school trip organized by York University until the new year. Details will be shared once new plans are made and confirmed.

### Community Class, Special Education and Eco Team:

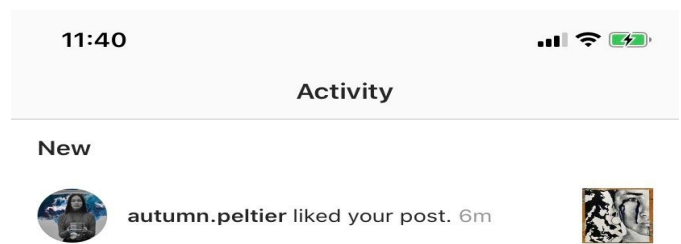
The students from the community classes participated in many hands-on activities throughout the year to support functional life skills. They grew and cultivated plants using the school's greenhouse. They made use of donated fabrics by measuring, cutting and sewing shopping bags and quilts. They helped the Eco Team by collecting and sorting GOOS (good on one side) paper so that they can be used to create writing pads. Students and teachers are eager to think of more creative ideas next year to help develop skills.

### Healthy Snacks Program:

The school will continue the healthy snack program once we are back in school. Since we were not able to use all of our grant money this academic year, we will carry this over into the new school year. Throughout the year, we offered fresh fruit, and packaged dry goods such as raisins, bread sticks, granola bars. We hope to continue offering these snacks in an effort to support good eating habits.

### Geography:

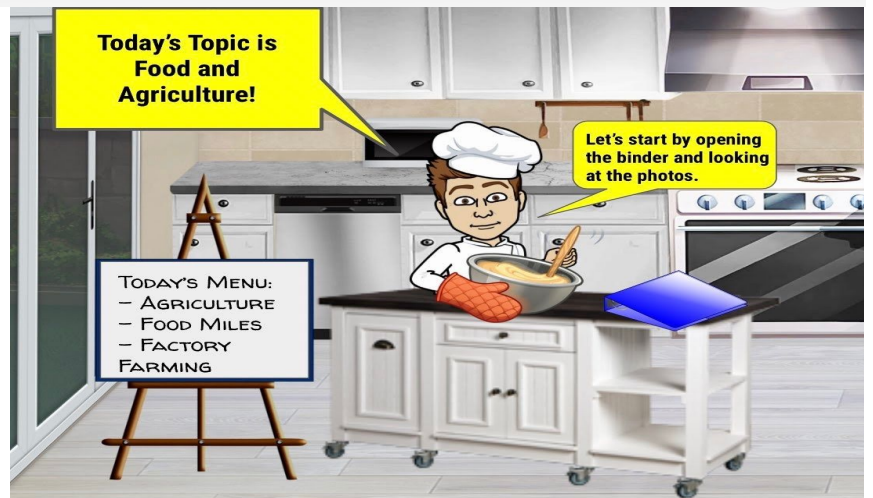
There's a lot of interesting things happening now in Geography. A lot of students have enjoyed the



virtual classroom format of presenting course content. Also, Geography is big on inquiry and differentiating assessment - some students are producing incredible inquiry projects while at home. I had one student showcase their learning in the form of a



drawing/painting of a teenage water activist, Autumn Peliter. Once posted on the student's instagram account, the image was liked by Autumn Peliter herself. The student was over the moon with joy. This shows that students are finding meaning in their learning, connecting their learning to the things they feel are important, and getting recognition from others in the Canadian community.



## International Baccalaureate

Update regarding fees for the IB Program:

Formal registration to the IB Diploma Programme includes the payment of fees. The total cost for next year is \$1,545.00. The amount includes payment of exam fees, external

assessment marking fees, and the associated costs of running the IB Diploma Programme at Alexander Mackenzie High School.

Knowing that this year is not a typical one and that our collective circumstances are varied, we have not sent out a request for payments yet. To mitigate some of the pressures that families are currently experiencing, we have delayed the first payment until August. There will be three installments: \$500.00 in August; \$ 500.00 in September; and \$545.00 in October.

Please contact Nazila Reyhani, IB Coordinator, at [nazila.reyhani@yrdsb.ca](mailto:nazila.reyhani@yrdsb.ca) if you have any questions.

