



Alexander Mackenzie High School

School Council Minutes for October 26th, 2015

Present: Francis Bromet, Jennifer DiGiacchino, Eric Issaev, Christine LaForge, Loren Thorburn, Lisa Wakayama, Ellen Davies Campbell, Gail Harris, Lory Maiorano, Tali Smith, Rhonda Wolfe

Absent: Adoris Thompson-Forrester

1. Student Report - *Kia and Aida*
 - 2 Spirit Days so far
 - Nov. 12 is the semi-formal. Tickets can be purchased using School Cash Online. Need minimum of 150 students for semi-formal to take place. 40 tickets purchased to date.
2. The Resilience Project - *Dr. Sue Ball, Chief Psychologist, YRDSB*
 - AMHS along with three other YRDSB high schools in the second year of this project. Some feeder schools from each high school are also involved.
 - This project helps students to become mindful and learn to bounce back from adversity.
 - Students in Special Education have created advocacy cards.
 - There has been a delay with the release of the secondary curriculum from the Hawn Foundation. A committee of AMHS teachers and administrators created their own curriculum. The AMHS curriculum booklet was distributed to interested council members to borrow to examine.
 - Watch for a parent survey regarding this project
3. Admin Update - *Debra Conrad-Knight*
 - Friday's Hallowe'en celebrations include line dancing in the foyer at lunch. Cosmetology has special plans. Students are encouraged to wear costumes. Costumes must conform to school dress code and board policies.
 - November 4 is Take Our Kids To Work Day. The grade 8 visit that usually takes place on this day has been cancelled due to the current work-to-rule situation involving the elementary teachers.
 - Remembrance Day Assembly
4. OSSLT results – *Adele Pantusa, Literacy Teacher and Otilia Olteanu, Vice Principal*
 - Results and analysis of the results were shared
 - Improvements continue to be made at the school level
 - Students who are unsuccessful on the test are able to take a summer school course in lieu of rewriting the test.
 - Sample tests are available on the Government of Ontario website.
 - In the near future OSSLT will be completed on the computer. Keyboarding skills are a definite asset. Google play apps for keyboarding exist.
5. ARTS Update – *Debra Conrad-Knight*
 - 340 people attended the ARTS Open House
 - “Showcase” is November 23rd at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
 - A second bus has been confirmed for the Chicago trip
 - “Cinderella” will be performed on December 10th and 11th at the RHCPA
 - ARTS Application is posted on-line and is due December 4th

6. School Council Business

- Minutes approved – *Ellen Davies-Campbell*
 - Council Activity
 - Book Drive and Sale - *Jennifer DiGiacchino*
 - The book drive and sale was successful again this year. Approximately \$500 was raised. The Silent Auction was a successful addition to the event this year. The spring seems a better time to do the sale. Jennifer, Rhonda, Lory, Francis, Christine, Loren and numerous students were all involved in this event.
 - ARTS Mackenzie Open House - *Lisa Wakayama*
 - Jennifer, Loren, Gail and Lisa attended this event. For a short time before the formal presentation and then again after the presentation, these council members spoke to parents, distributed pens and distributed flyers for the upcoming parent talk.
 - Grade 8 Open House *Loren Thorburn*
 - Lisa, Francis, Jennifer and Loren are available to attend this upcoming event.
7. Donation Drive- *Loren Thorburn*
- Gail, Tali, and Loren will work on creating a form to be used for the annual donation drive.
 - The form will be presented at the next meeting.