



Alexander Mackenzie High School School Council

Monday, September 17, 2018

MINUTES

Present: **Council:** *Lisa Wakayama(former), Loren Thorburn (former and current), Kelly Levson (former and current), Christine LaForge (former and current), Katerina Papas (former), David Mountain (former and current), Sabira Pradhan (former and current), Karl Brumund (former and current), Gail Harris (former and current), Lory Maiorano (former), Ruby Thind (current), Andrea Kalmin (current), Otilia Olteanu, Jay Perri, George Ellinas, Cathy Clarke*

Absent: *Francine Hudspith (former), Madeleine Harvey-Raymond (former)*

Guests: *Lana Fisher, Amanda Backal*

Council Decision:

1. May Minutes Approved - *via email vote*

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions: - *Lisa Wakayama*
2. Student Council Report - NA
3. Community Representative/Grade Lead - *Amanda Backal*
 - Grade 9 Orientation took place Tues. September 4 which included lunch time activities – 90 ambassadors helped out
 - Club Sign Up day was a success – students may still sign up for clubs by approaching the teacher facilitator (visit Guidance or the Main Office to find out the staff representative for clubs)
 - Green Acres' Day for all the grade 9s is October 5
 - School Spirit is a focus for this year - Pep rally is being planned which might be combined with a teacher vs. student sporting event
 - Hallowe'en activities will take place over the lunch hour
 - Wellness activities are planned around midterms
 - Semi-formal will take place November 29 – attempting to make tickets less expensive so that the event will be more affordable for all students
 - AMAC gives back – food drive before the holidays
 - Winterfest talent show will take place in December
 - Students are being encouraged to communicate with the President's Council through Instagram DM

4. 2017/2018 School Council Business – Lisa Wakayama

- Approval to accept the September Agenda – motioned by Karl, seconded by Sabira, all in favour

5. Election for 2018/2019 School Council – Lisa Wakayama

- Meeting dates chosen for 2018/2019 Council:
 - Monday, September 17 @ 7:00
 - Monday, October 15 @ 7:30 (Guidance presentation - gr. 11/12 @ 6:30)
 - Monday, November 19 (PRO Grant and/or Hospital Workshops)
 - Monday, January 21 @ 7:30 (Guidance presentation – all grades @ 6:30)
 - Monday, March 18 @ 7:00
 - Tuesday, May 21 @ 7:00
- New Council: Karl Brumund (treasurer), Gail Harris, Andrea Kalmin, Christine LaForge(secretary), Kelly Levson, David Mountain, Sabira Pradhan, Ruby Thind (secretary), Loren Thorburn (chair)
- Community representative from hospital to be contacted by Otilia and informed of the meeting dates

6. Administration Report

Otilia

- Library renovations should be done before the end of September
- Student Support Centre is complete and is staffed by 2 teachers at all times
- Enrolment is 1250 students which is an increase of 200 over last year
- Lunch time is a challenge but congestion will be lessened soon with the opening of the library and the starting up of lunch time clubs
- October 10 – educators from the Netherlands will be visiting the school
- IB is in full swing – teacher training has taken place and new books have been introduced
- Guidance has started their “Town Halls” at lunch time listening to student wishes and concerns
- School is full – possible need for multiple lunches in the next year or two

George

- Safe School Assemblies took place on the first Friday
- Grade 9 day went very well – students got to know the school and their peers – lunch was provided
- Club sign up day was last Friday
- Thursday, October 18 is Parents’ Night – booking to take place through EDSBY – if possible, a map of the school will be available on the EDSBY site to help with bookings – otherwise, map will be provided on a future ebulletin

Jay

- School Photos were taken – orders can be done online using the code provided by the photographer– Photo retake day – Thursday, October 4
- 40 students completed the School Climate Survey online and on paper in 5 languages – whole school to complete in November

- October 2 @ 7 – Arts Information Meeting at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts – school council presence requested (Gail, Loren, others?)
- Midterm reports to be distributed October 12
- October 17 is IB Information Night at the school
- October 18 is Parents' Night

7. Teacher Report – *Cathy Clarke*

- follow the school on twitter - @AlexMackHS, Dance/Theatre @AMHSPA, music @AHMS_Music, Visual Arts @amhsvisa, Physical Education and Athletics @mustangsmove, Special Education @specmack, York Region District School Board @YRDSB
- see full report at the end of the minutes

8. School Survey/Parent Night council Presence – *Sabira Pradhan, Karl Brumund*

- council members given a copy of the survey and asked to complete it and/or add suggestions for editing
- discussion regarding question 3 – wording to be changed to remove the mention of one specialty program and add on other areas of interest
- one question to be added that gives information regarding the profile of the responder (ie parent of student, student, specialty program, mainstream)
- subcommittee (Sabira, Karl, Andrea) to revise the survey and send to the office for distribution online
- responses due by Sunday, September 30 so that the subcommittee can summarize the findings before the October meeting

9. PRO Grant Discussion – *Lisa Wakayama*

- Topic – financing post secondary education
- Lisa has contacted Karyn Gordon (“Inspiring Your Teen’s Dream Career”) and Robin Taub (“Raising Money-Smart Kids”)
- Possible formats include guest speaker and then break out discussions or Panel Discussion
- Seneca college representative is available
- Lana Fisher was contacted by Mackenzie Health – they received an RBC grant to help raise public awareness regarding mental health support – they would like to offer workshops for students and parents before the end of the calendar year
- Subcommittee formed to arrange speaker presentation (Gail, Loren, Lisa, Katerina) – information to be presented at October meeting

Date for next meeting: *Monday, October 15, 2018 @ 7:30*

English

A group of 6 students will be attending the *Be Heard Spoken Word Festival* on October 11th. Students attending are members of the Spoken Word Club and many of the students in the club have chosen to workshop spoken word pieces that they created in their English Classes.

International Baccalaureate Program (IB)

It's application time for Alexander Mackenzie's Preparatory Programme for the 2019-2020 grade 9 class. IB Information Evening will be held on Wednesday, October 17th at Alexander Mackenzie High School. Application opens on Friday, October 19th and closes on Wednesday, November 7th. Please see our school website for more details concerning the application and program.

Mathematics

There are about 80 students signed up for the Math Club in the Club Fair last Friday. The Math club meets every Tuesday from 3:00pm – 4:00pm and Thursday from 11:20 am – 12:15pm. The club executives are helping students for preparing the coming *Canadian Open Math Contests* (Nov 8) and *Waterloo Intermediate and Senior Contests* (Nov 21). Registration for the contests will be available on the School Cash-online starting Oct.1, 2018.

Physical Education

It's the start to another sports season at AMHS. Follow AMHSpheD+athletics on Twitter @mustangsmove for information about the department, teams and Athletic Council.

Quest

On November 15th, representatives from the Alexander Mackenzie High School community will be presenting at YRDSB's Quest Conference. The workshop, entitled "From Awareness to Action - Revitalizing Your School Culture" highlights how our school community has used the principles of equity, innovation and student voice to enhance student achievement and well-being. More details about Quest available here: <http://www.questconference.ca/>

SHSM

The first student Specialist High School Majors' meeting will be on Thursday, September 20th at lunch. The SHSM team will be hosting lunch and learns for junior students to learn more about how they can become involved in SHSM in the senior grades.

Special Education

Special Education is in the process of making Individualized Education Plans more effective, relevant and efficient in consultation with parents/guardians. Stop by room 147 to see the 29 gallon aquarium, which is supporting wellness and the work experience program for our community class students. Follow the department on Twitter @specmack

Alexander Mackenzie High School Twitter @AlexMackHS

York Region District School Board Twitter @YRDSB

Arts Mackenzie

It's application time for Arts Mackenzie. We will be hosting our annual Arts Information Meeting at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts (RHCPA) on October 2nd at 7 p.m. for interested applicants to learn about the application and audition process. Questions regarding applying for Arts Mackenzie available here: <http://bit.ly/QsArtsMack>

The annual Arts Mackenzie field trip to Stratford will take place on October 4th. Students will have an opportunity to attend a workshop, watch a performance of the Music Man, and engage with performers after the performance.

Dance/Theatre

The dance and theatre students are working with a variety of guest artists, including Kyle Koss (hip hop artist), Ash Knight (director/playwright), and Krystal Meadows (performer) in their early technique units. Students will also be engaging in a variety of field trips throughout the semester, including a pre-show workshop/performance of Robert Lepage's *Coriolanus* at the Stratford Festival in October.

End of semester showcases are as follows:

- Winter Showcase January 15th at RHCPA (Theatre Arts/Dance Graduate Showcase)
- Arts Festival January 17th Studio 121 (Showcase of Work From Junior Grades)

Music

All classes and ensembles are in the early days of rehearsal. Some upcoming events:

- Grade 9 Orientation BBQ Tuesday, September 18th
- Showcase 2018 November 14th at RHCPA
- *Les Miserables* December 6th and 7th at the RHCPA
- Senior Arts Recital January 9th

Visual Arts

The following events are occurring in Visual Arts:

- Arts and Culture Council is looking to arts monthly art contests
- Open studio space for the AMHS community to create every Tuesday
- Set design and painting for *Les Miserables*
- Participation in *Marktd Shoe Design Competition* early October at OCADU
- New club this year - Film Club

Follow Arts Mack on Twitter:

Dance/Theatre @AMHSPA

Music @AMHS_Music

Visual Arts @amhsvisa