

Dr. G. W. Williams School Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting #1 – Monday, September 18, 2023

In-person Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Attendees:

School Administration: Andrew Gazaneo, Interim VP Ken Arnott

Parents: Anita Lo, Murli Sadanandam, Johana Vigneswaran, Kathy Duncan, Raza Khan, Shannon Harris, Murlidharan Sadanandam, Sana Naqvi, Ummama Siddiqi

Student Council: Hayden Lai (Comms Director, Student Council)

Regrets: Melissa Schmidt

	Item	Topic Lead
1	Land Acknowledgement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Gazaneo led the land acknowledgement• A video, Kids News Explains Reconciliation was shown<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/watch-what-does-reconciliation-mean/#:~:text=Reconciliation%20is%20the%20opportunity%20to,school%20survivors%20and%20their%20families	Andrew Gazaneo
2	Welcome and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Kathy• Agenda – Approved by ?? and seconded by ??• Minutes – Approved by ?? and seconded by ??• Slides available here	Kathy Duncan
3	Inclusion Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendees joined in an activity and shared what they are thankful for and what is the hope for the future	Andrew Gazaneo/Haley King
4	Student Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student Council's main role is for students to get involved in various activities.• An update on recent activities was provided by Hayden	Hayden Lai
5	School Council Review process <ul style="list-style-type: none">• YRDSB is reviewing the Council process• Dr. G. W. Williams School Council last updated its Terms of Reference in 2014• The Board is looking at policy 262 (https://www2.yrdsb.ca/PP-262-SchoolCouncils)• A video from the board with respect to the changes was shown• It was recommended that we delve into the policy to see how the associated	Andrew Gazaneo

	<p>procedure is connected</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Assessment form is requested to be completed and is specific to Dr. G. W. Williams (http://bit.ly/45TvYUh) 	
6	<p>School Council Election</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have to have a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Gr. 9 Parent Representative May also have a community representative Chair – Johana Vigneswaran Vice Chairs – Raza Khan and Shannon Harris Secretary – Kathy Duncan Treasurer – Murlidharan Sadanandam Gr. 9 Parent Representative - Sana Naqvi Community Representative - Ummama Siddiqi 	Andrew Gazaneo
7	<p>Staff Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grade 9 day a great success IB review completed last year and was very successful Sept. 30 is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation/Orange Shirt Day We will be hosting the Aurora Area Post Secondary Fair – Oct. 5 Many fall sports underway 	Hailey King
8	<p>Administration Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Start up Guide – Mandatory and optional form submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be completed this week before students will be permitted to participate in a number of activities Student forms are in their GAPPS email – or they can go directly to the YRDSB website – Start up forms: https://startupforms.yrdsb.ca/students/ Emergency Procedures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire Drills Bomb Threat Drill Lockdown and Hold & Secure BYOD Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 93% have devices and were already bringing them everyday Have provision for other to sign one out from the library for the year Moving away from using paper and pen more to technology Staffing and Timetable update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to board for additional ESL resource was accepted; now have an additional class Attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some issues with students arriving late and/or missing a class here or there or not returning after lunch Concerns around how early in the year this is occurring Need to ensure that legitimate absences/lates are reported by parents 	Andrew Gazaneo

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This can be done by calling 905-727-3131 or sending email to drqwilliamsss.attendance@yrdsb.ca ▪ School website: http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/drqwilliams.ss/Pages/default.aspx ○ Students can start to make appointments with their Guidance Counsellor in November <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Credit counselling report is confidential but you can request a copy and it could be emailed to you or you could pick it up - has to come from Guidance ▪ Volunteer hours form ▪ Question re: what courses will be available in the summer slot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No grade 9 compulsory courses 	
9	New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report. 	Kathy Duncan
10	Chair's Report and Mailbag <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No snail mail • No relevant email information • New Chair advised of protocol re: School Council email 	Kathy Duncan
11	Meeting Adjournment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting adjourned at 8.20 pm • First motion to close the meeting is Amy and seconded by Patricia 	Kathy Duncan

Next Meeting: **Monday, October 16, 2023**, at 7:00pm in the Library

All Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.