

King City Secondary School Council

Minutes

2014 October 9

1. David Cooper and Jim Streb called the meeting to order and welcomed the Council at 7:04 p.m.
2. Approval of agenda
Motion to accept the agenda Payne/Cooper
Carried.
3. Declaration of conflicts of interest.
No conflicts were declared.
4. Approval of previous minutes
Motion to accept minutes of 2014 September 11 Whicher/McLaren
Carried.
5. Business arising from previous meeting
No business arising.
6. Student Council Report Ripley Antonacci
Ms Antonacci reported on the success of ROC King from the perspective of the students. There was very good participation by the mentors, and the Grade 9 students again seemed to do well in team building and participation.
Halloween preparations are coming along, with Tuesday being the Door Decoration contest, Wednesday will be decoration of the front foyer and trivia, a guessing game to benefit “Me to We,” and the fashion show on Friday.
Tomorrow is scheduled to be a Green & Gold day.
The Semi-formal will be held in November at Le Jardin. A new DJ has been hired in response to comments last year. The decorator is still pending.
7. Guest – Sue Browne and Catherine Cameron-Rodgers
Ms Browne made a presentation about the work of the Social Workers in helping students and families cope with the pressures of secondary school. Ms. Browne is responsible for 12 schools, including KCSS.
In the normal course of events, the administration performs triage, identifying students who may be struggling. This information is often provided by the classroom teachers. The social workers after meeting with the students may make referrals to other health professionals, e.g., a mental health and addiction nurse, or COMPAS.
For children older than 12 years, the children need to give consent to participate, however Ms Browne prefers that parents and children agree to any recommended program. The programmes are generally 3-6 sessions, usually consisting of one session involving the school administration, two sessions with the social worker, and the final sessions with another health professional. This can, of course vary, depending on the needs of the student. Ms Browne also spoke of the possibility of home visits should the situation warrant it.
The social workers also deal with truancy for students under the age of 18. In the current provincial standards, 12 out of 30 credits can be work related, allowing some students to work/study outside of the school during regular school hours.
The Board also has a Tragic Event Response Team (TERT) to deal with traumatic events that occur in the community. And in the case of credible direct threats, the team is available quickly.
Finally, Ms Browne spoke of the resources available to families in York Region:

Primary responders would be family physicians;
310-COPE or 905-953-5412 on cell phones;
Kids Help Phone ;
Mackenzie Health;
Southlake;
Kinark;
Blue Hills Child and Family Centre;
Atlas Programme in Stouffville-Markham;
Family Services of York Region (www.fsyrc.ca);
Catholic Community Services of York Region;
Women's Counselling Centre;
Yellow Brick House.

8. Teacher Report

David Bocknek

Mr. Bocknek reported on the success of ROC King, stating that it was, once again, a success. Reports are to be sent out shortly, and parent/teacher interviews are scheduled for October 30. The faculty, particularly the Math Department, is placing increased emphasis on meta (critical) thinking for the students. This seems to be an area of increasing importance and has not been developed at the lower grades.

9. Co-chair report

Cooper/Streb

David and Jim reported on attempts to coordinate efforts between the Marsh Growers Association and the "Grab-and-Go" programme at KCSS.

Motion to adopt the amendment to the Constitution

Streb/Cooper

Carried to add a new section at the end of the Constitution to include Rules of Order. (updated Constitution to be distributed).

The Council still needs a Community Representative

10. Administration Report

Memo Board was "awesome", Deborah was responsible.

"Our School- Our Community" Lindsey Riddel

Thumb prints

Sentinel Article

Richard Windmore "Instructional Round" states that critical thinking is an area that needs improvement

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50

Radell/Wizniak