

MINUTES

1. **Welcome**

Present: Michelle Kane, Andrew Butler, Jake K (Student Council), Lilly I, Dean L, Alison B, Bill Ii, Robert M, Thenali T, Thayalini S, Kami G, Claudia C, Alexadra D, Peter

2. **Review of October 15, 2018 Minutes:** Items that require updating-

- Item 8: Change “many” to “some” re: period 1 lunch.
- Item 4f) : Anti Black racism, islamophobia and FNMI education as possible additional courses to be investigated.
- Item 5: include \$1,000 board contribution of school council.

3. **MDHS Student Council Update**

Jake from Student Council

- Semi-formal is this Thursday. Open to all grades. In past, there were a lot of grade 9s. 12’s have prom and many from other grade have previously gone. Usually around 170-200 students attend.
- December: Holiday assembly on last day. First ever holiday market – clubs will sell food, period 3/4
- If school council needs help with events, student council will try to contribute as best they can. Eg. safety blitz handouts. Peter will approach council later about further possible joint initiatives re: School Safety Initiative.

4. **Technology presentation**

- Andrew presented about Google Apps and EDSBY after the main meeting was adjourned.

5. **MDHS School Staff Update**

- a) **Parent teacher interviews** happened and interim reports have been handed out.
- b) **Teach Assist** - Check marks on Teach Assist or email teachers.
- c) **Upcoming Exams** are coming up soon, and will be here fast.
- d) **Exam review sheets** may be coming up. If teachers don’t provide sheets, students can create their own and run it by the teacher.
- e) **“MyBluePrint”** - Recently switched from Career Cruising to MyBluePrint. Called: **MyPathway Planner**. But as the switch is happening, teachers are still being trained on it.
- f) **Leadership meeting today** for staff. Exams discussed. Design Thinking Projects next semester. Kids take the lead. Being tested in Co-op now. Real world applications. Small scale impacts. Cross department cooperation being investigated. Eg packaging in math, art, ... Most teachers rolling out before April and it can be presented in May.
- g) **Literacy blitz** this Wednesday. Looking forward to **OSSLT** for end of March. Should be reinforced at home too. Look at different types of text. Eg. newspaper reading: look at headlines and pictures. PA Day on Friday. There will be workshops

- in the morning and in the afternoon. Every student counts survey started today. Conducted in school. Results will drive the school for the future.
- h) OSSLC cancelled this year due to lack of kids. Opened it to student council and then extended to further groups. Still not enough interest. Too many retreats, too soon? Cost may have been a factor.
 - i) Grade 9 Take Your Kid to work day took place November 14th. Take Our Kids to work day was a great success. 430 grade 9's participated; 8 students did not sign up, and stayed at home even though there was a complete day planned by the school as a back-up;
 - j) Grade 8's visited school on Grade 9 Take Your Kid to work day; Many classes opened up and lots of activities for the day.

6. Treasurer's Report

- Money has more than doubled to \$1046. Parent-Teacher night generated \$495 in donations. \$100 was donated on Grade 8 info night. More expected with month end reconciliation for online donations made during Parent-Teacher night.
- PRO grant update. Receipts from last year went to the Ministry. Came back to us, and then sent back to the Ministry. Last year's grant should give us an additional \$925. Request: Break down board contribution to show that separately. It will give us a better picture of what we have. PRO grant for current school year is still on hold.
- Fundraising: maybe we should be thinking outside the box to generate more funds. A target may give us focus in fundraising. Eg. Another laptop cart would be handy. The board will match up to \$15k. Most departments have one now, and the larger departments have two. French has and iPad cart, and can use one. Maybe the money should be set-aside for underprivileged kids? The need may be \$1000 to \$1200. This would go to uniforms, bus costs, field trips, sports, lunches, etc. We need to set priorities. Fundraising ideas included discussion about raffling off a car? Michelle will check to see if this is still permitted. Maybe chocolate sales? Target: \$20k? Concern raised whether fundraising a large amount will give impression we are setting up a two-tier system? Some discussion about should we fundraise, the optics of generating that much money, and the time commitment required. In the past, we've generated in the \$1k range annually.

7. School Council Updates

- a) **Student council meeting on Oct 16th**. Looking at coordinating with them. Safety initiative was discussed. What we have done and where we are. Looked for feedback, but didn't get any. Maybe as the relationship has progressed further. Most of Student council's agenda was around their events. Will provide our questions to them in advance when seeking their opinion.
- b) **Safety blitz on Oct 24th**. Looks like there has been an improvement. Traffic seems calmer. Getting on Church St seems to be easier now. Another blitz will happen later. Any help will be appreciated. The board has hired an Active and Safe Routes to School Coordinator who will work with both YRDSB and YCDSB. YRT

mentioned that they are looking into an outreach program, and they would like to engage us maybe early next year.

- c) **Student Wellness presentation on Thursday 7 - 8:30.** Two Youth Mental Health presenters and a booth with a social worker will be set up. Cannabis presentation to be deferred until spring to coincide with timing of when edible cannabis products will be sold. Nothing noticeable so far about the impact of legalization at the school.
- d) **PEAC fall forum. Nov 26 5:30-8:30 at Milliken Mills HS.** Michelle will pre-register 5 people. Another parent forum in the spring. Planning will start in January. Let Claudia know if you are interested in helping organize

8. Principal's report.

- Capital items: technology. One refresh has happened. Enquiry based learning.
- Semester 2 staffing. Need 2 more math sections, but it depends on the board.
- Therapy dogs hopefully will be coming again.
- Exam study skills workshops. Exam schedule coming out before the holidays.

Proposed School Council meetings for 2018 - 2019

- **Tuesday February 19**
- **Tuesday May 21**