

MINUTES

1. **Welcome**

Present: B. Schouten (Principal), C. McArthur (Vice-Principal), G. Clifford (Vice-Principal), A. Butler (Teacher), R. Mistry (YRDSB Safety), P. Triantafillakis (School Council Chair), members of student council, and many other parents/guardians.
- first official meeting of 2019-2020 school year

2. **Review of Minutes from May 2019:**

- Passed by Dean & Deb with one adjustment on #7-“Collective Agreement”- should say *average* 28/class

3. **Student Council Update:**

- Shirley & Anjali – Co-Presenters for 2019-20
- Have made an initiative to collect backpacks for the Bahamas (with help of Ms. Clifford) – 13000 homes were destroyed – need hygiene items, school supplies, food supplies and monetary donations – goal is for each homeroom to make 2 filled backpacks and some monetary donations (through cash on-line). – it will be promoted through announcements and they would like it complete by Friday September 27th – idea is that if you bring in something, you will get a piece of cake
- Spirit week will take place Sept 24-27
 - Tuesday is “Cozy Day” – hot chocolate for those in spirit wear
 - Wed is “Retro Day” – song trivia will be the activity
 - Thursday is “Monster University” – wear “M” gear or any university gear
 - Friday is “Caribbean Day – Bahamas - donations for piece of cake

4. **Role of School Council**

- Welcome to new and returning parents/guardians
- Role is to advise Principal and bring forward any concern that may occur about the school
- Principal will seek advice on school improvements, ie. “Code of Conduct” or “Dress Code”
- Supporting interest of all students – not just one part (ie. music, athletics, etc.)...Good of the whole school
- Focus on school policies as guided by YRDSB Board
- Not for personal issues or any staff members
- Meetings for personal questions for Administrators should occur at a different time
- Cannot leverage position as member of School Council with school administration if you have a concern
- Involvement is important and it is appreciated when parents continue to come to meetings and be involved through all grades

5. **Nomination of School Council positions**

- Chair – Peter Triantafillakis
- Treasurer – Bill Indzevski (Daisy Cheung as back-up)

- Secretary – Deb Taylor (help by Thenali)
- Communications – Thenali Thiruchselvany & Don Hawley

6. School Staff Update

- Andrew Butler has agreed to pick one thing to talk about in the meetings ie. EDSBY, Google Docs, Teach Assist and is open to suggestions
- We can pick one for October and he will help – probably GAPPs – Google Apps
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to read the school bulletins
- Grade 9 day – a great day where the kids had the school to themselves
- Safe school assemblies on bullying/cyber bullying occurred
- No phones unless the teacher has told the students it is OK and being used for school – **if parents/guardians need to reach their child, they must contact the school to reach their child during school times, or wait until a break** – students need to adhere to the appropriate use of technology
- Vaping/smoking is NOT permitted on the school grounds – talk to your kids
- Leadership Teacher meeting – Indigenous teaching is happening
- Student activity fee is used for school based activities, some technology (ie. Projectors and new equipment), looking at Director’s plan in order to foster Mental Health and Inclusivity
- Sept 25 – University information for Grade 12 students
- Fairs for University and Colleges will be in mid October.
- SHSM – Specialist programs to support Arts/Culture, Transportation, trades and Horticulture

7. Treasurer’s Report

- Balance is \$840
- Last year – some fundraising (raised \$1510) through donations with a gift of a MDHS mug
- Have not heard about possibility of a PRO Grant this year
- Money raised is used for needs of children and supports those students in need
- Suggestion of ways to fundraise include a fashion show, silent auction, tickets for a sporting event (raffle)

8. School Council Updates

A) 5 official meetings proposed plus 2 sub committee (no administration)

- Monday September 16
- Tuesday October 22
- Monday November 18
- Monday January 20 (sub committee – no administration)
- Tuesday February 18
- Monday April 20 (sub committee – no administration)
- Tuesday May 19

B) School Council Activities

- fundraising
- wellness & mental health
- Education/Info for parents

- Last year – Sunnybrook Wellness presentation
 - York Public Health presentation on Cannibas
 - Documentary movie “Screenagers” – What Can Parents Do”
 - Meet with Student Council (we are here to make things better and support Student Council
 - PEAC – Parent Engagement Advisory Committee – How to increase student achievement and well being
 - Technology Presentation – set aside some time in October for GAPPs
- C & D) School Safety** – September 5th – 1st Safety blitz – awareness for students, but mostly for parents – Mayor Frank Scarpitti came (brought certificate for blitz)
- have been working on for 4 years and have made achievements (ie. Stop sign at Church & Elm)
 - wristbands for those walking or biking (not car)
 - plan is available from Peter
 - have person in Board that is responsible for safety (Reena Mistry) – represents York Region Public School and York Catholic School Board
 - Board person (Reena) has come up with different ways to help with safety (ie. Flex posts in middle of road outside of schools)
 - School Council has been working with Reena and others since November 2018
 - We need parents to use the Pick Up/Drop Off (PUDO) and not on the street (Church Street)
 - Encouraged all parents to attend meetings
 - Approx 40% of kids from feeder schools over 5km away
 - Working with grade 8’s in feeder schools on the safety features of the YRT buses
- E) Principal Profile** – our opportunity to tell the Board what we want for a principal – areas we think are important (voice of parents)...in fall
- F) Student Climate Survey** – done last school year – results tallied – need someone to review data and make suggestions

9. School Updates by Principal

- thank you to other administrators and Andrew for joining meeting
- still getting to know school and has been in all areas of the school observing and getting to know the students
- 1500 students at school (bit low – should be 1560 – worth 2 teachers)
- no staffing changes for now (maybe in second semester)
- sporting events up and running – flag football came in second
- 14 fall sporting teams
- was a wonderful music night for grade 9 parents – very welcoming and well attended
- clubs are very active
- working on compliance – 1st staff meeting is on September 23rd (PA Day) – Health and Safety

MARKHAM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING –
Monday September 16, 2019

Location: Library 7:00pm

- Safety Week – next week
- Hold & Secure and Lockdown Drills will happen next week – fire drill has already happened

10. New Topics

- Peter suggests we are open to new ideas and to encourage parents/guardians to continue coming to meetings

Meeting Adjourned