

MINUTES

1. **Welcome**

Present: Michelle Kane (Principal), Corey McArthur (Vice-Principal), Georgia Clifford (Vice-Principal), Andrew Butler (Teacher), Student Council Member (Thenusha), School Council Members and multiple parents/guardians.

2. **School Council Elections**

- a. School Council Chair – Peter Triantafillakis
- b. Secretary – Debbie Taylor
- c. Treasurer - Bill Indzevski
- d. Communication Representatives – Kami Gill & Thenali Thenichseliam
- e. Community Representative – Claudia Coore

3. **Review of May 2018 Minutes**

- passed

4. **Treasurers Report**

- full update next meeting
- Anne to support Bill in Treasury role; will work with budget secretary (Shannon)
- \$108 to start
- last year School Council focused on school safety initiatives (i.e. Feather flags on school boulevard) to promote walking, biking and public transportation instead of driving
- also helped support students with financial means
- will receive a “Pro-Grant” this year – for student well-being
- will look at the possibility of some fund-raising initiatives

5. **School Council Focus**

a) **School safety Initiative**

- last thing that occurred was “Stop Sign” at Church & Elm (now a 4-way stop)
- installed feather banners for school boulevard
- focus on physical changes for safety (i.e. Newly painted laneways upon exit of school parking lot)
- focus on attitudes and behaviours of both students and parents/guardians – needs to be done consistently
- have spoken to School Trustee about formalizing something for safety at Board level – need to have a group or committee continuously looking at safety on school property and on city streets – this is new and under discussion
- we need help from members of the school community and council with items still outstanding

b) **Student Wellness**

- How can the School Council help support the Student Council with their initiatives?

- Would like to know what parents/guardians can do to help support their kids
- School Council will look at heading this up and look into some ways in which we as a council can help (Georgia will look into this)
- Suggestion/request for “Marijuana Awareness” presentation/information by some parents/guardians now that it is becoming legal – perhaps ask police and public health to assist with this

c) Technology

- To review whether there is interest to arrange presentation for Internet safety (previously presented by parent who works for Telus)

6. School Updates

a) The Student Council “Wellness Wednesdays” will start in November

- will involve student input to doing something different each Wednesday including mindfulness, stress reduction, building relationships and learn who students can talk to for help and other 10 minute activities – these will be student led
- in past there was a Grade 11 day in the spring for wellness, but it has only had attendance of about half of the students – may shorten the time it is offered – perhaps more attendance
- perhaps offering this to parents/guardians as well will increase attendance and effectiveness (i.e. Students during the day and parents/guardians at night)
- parents want to know how to communicate more effectively with their kids
- November is the chosen month for this as this is the time where troublesome signs start showing (also the reason why “Wellness Wednesdays” will be in November)
- Students/parents/guardians need to know how to identify signs and signals of distress
- Possibly look into programs/seminars/workshops offered by hospitals (one exists at Sunnybrook- will review wellness presentation for parents and a second for both parents and students) – Thenali will look into this

b) Student Council Representative – Thenusha

- focus on student well-being
- Grade 9 camp day will have a “World Cup” theme – each class will have its own “country” – includes lunch
- intention that at each School Council meetings there will be a School Council representative in attendance
- will be doing “Wellness Wednesdays”
- spirit week next week (“Disney” theme)
- Terry Fox day next Thursday, September 27th

c) Technology

- Needs in school for technology are the sound system needs an update and iPads are needed

d) Co-op information by Andrew Butler (can be reached at Andrew.butler@yrdsb.ca) - happy to take questions – Apprentices to be offered – can take Level 1 Apprentice before even leaving high school

- SHSM events upcoming in October – including field trips and will be free of charge

-

e) Various Updates

- Updated (with Michelle Kane) on grade 9 first day – had lots of activities including a scavenger hunt
- Music assembly last week – can ask Mark Caswell (mark.caswell@yrdsb.ca) any questions
- Photo day last Friday – retake day to be announced
- Guidance busy with timetables – all issues with timetable for semester 1 should be resolved by now
- Semester 2 changes will be looked at shortly
- Student Activity Fee collection is low – need to pay for this if student wants to be in a club or on a team – also pays for guest speakers, bussing and discount offered for semi-formal and prom

f) Leadership Meeting occurred with the staff

- – “Inquiry Based” learning – will be more student based/focused/run
- – Students build empathy around a topic and build on it, define it and think of ideas, then test it – idea is that every course has an Inquiry Based learning element to it
 - “Kid driven/Teacher Facilitated”
 - goal to have this done by Semester 2
 - on the same track as “Modern Learning”
 - want to inspire learning
 - Student Voice to give Student Choice

g) Principal Update

- Off to a good start
- 1568 students
- 110 teaching staff
- 150 all staff
- will be starting breakfast club as part of student wellness

MARKHAM DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL – SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING –
Monday, September 17, 2018

Location: Library 7:00pm

- swim team (new) starts this week
- startup of cooking program
- Upcoming dates....
 - Oct 2nd – camp day at Green Acres for Grade 9 Day
 - October 10th – Bravo Breakfast – for “Subject” award winners – parents will be invited and RSVP requested for all parents of recipients
 - College/University Day in Fall
 - Oct 18 Interim reports (no marks) go home with request for interview with parents/guardians
 - Nov 1 - Meet the teacher (appointments must be scheduled)
 - Nov 15 Mid-term report card (will show percentages)
 - Feb 2019 – final report cards for semester 1

For next meeting – table top 5 safety initiatives for program underway and survey results for Student Wellness

Proposed School Council meetings for 2018 - 2019

- **Monday Oct 15**
- **Monday November 19**
- **Tuesday February 19**
- **Tuesday May 21**