

Milliken Mills HS School Council
Meeting #3 – Monday, November 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

1. Opening of Meeting

- Welcome and Attendance

Present for all or parts of the meeting: Amanda Chen; Baiju Thomas (Vice-Chair); Christopher Hilmer (Principal); Dawn Imada-Chan (Vice-Principal); Dongxia Wang (Chair); Jenny Zheng; Jilin Wen; JJ F. (Student Council Rep); Laaibah S. (Student Council Rep); Michelle Zhang (Treasurer); Minnie Chow; Nada Kesavan; Peter Wang (Secretary); Ruth Hong; Shanshan Chen; and Shirley Liu.

Regrets: Kamla Reid (Teacher Rep); Sanjeevan Sivanesan (Vice-Principal); and Nadia Pinelli (Staff Representative).

- Land Acknowledgement
 - First week of November was Treat Recognition Week.
 - 1763, Proclamation of King George III: confirming original occupation by First Nations – settlers could not live on land until treaties signed.
 - 1764, Fort Niagara meeting between Sir William Johnson and First Nations: peace relations to be established between the Crown and the First Nations.
 - The Province of Ontario has more than 40 treaties with the First Nations.
 - Indigenous people have treaty rights, and all Canadians have treaty rights and responsibilities.
- Approval of the Agenda and Minutes from October Meeting
 - Michelle Zhang moves to approve Meeting Agenda, second by Baiju Thomas; Michelle moves to approve October meeting Minutes, seconded by Baiju.

2. Student Report

- JJ: Spirit Week was held.
- Laaibah: drama club performed murder mystery (on Google meet)
 - Future event: Talent Show - auditions will take place shortly.
 - Friday music after school to start up again.

3. Administrator Profile (see School Council webpage

<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/millikenmills.hs/SchoolCouncil/Documents/Administrator%20Profile.pdf>)

- School council to give view on what skills or experience they want future principal and vice-principals to have collectively to run the school.
- The profile has five categories on skills and knowledge needed to run the school – Principal Hilmer displayed a draft profile and requested changes from the council.
- Council decided on the following changes to the draft profile: (1) Add “Works towards developing resilience in student” under “the heading “Leading Instructional Program”, and (2) append “including mental health resources offered by the board and the community” to “Is knowledgeable about Board Procedure and Resources” under “Developing the Organization”.

- Baiju moved to adopt the amended administrator profile; seconded by Michelle.

4. Community-Building Activity

- Led by Vice-Principal Dawn Imada-Chan: group participation on Jamboard for the question “Is a hotdog a sandwich?”

5. School Council Goals of the Year

- Build communication channel for parents: Principal Hilmer reported that documents and links have been set and cleaned up at school council website; Dongxia has made sure that council email is working and available.
 - Dongxia mentioned school activity volunteer form for those who wish to volunteer.
- Organize workshop – Parents Reaching Out (“PRO”) grant program is available but must put proposal together to get the grant.
 - Three possible topics for the workshop: (1) social media literacy for parents; (2) understanding teenagers – developmental challenges, and communication strategies, how to raise responsible teenagers; and (3) what parents need to know about the university/college application process.
 - Majority of those present voted for topic (3) above.
 - Principal Hilmer will investigate sharing access or pool together expenses with other schools.
- Peter moved to approve; Baiju seconded.

6. Teacher Report

- Vice-Principal Dawn: Dr. Reid sends her regrets.
- Drama Department: over 40 students were involved in the successful murder mystery – 30+ classrooms participated.
- Physical Education Department: Boys soccer just finished their season with 5 wins and 1 tie, hope to advance to playoffs.
- Science Department: IB internal assessments are underway for Chemistry and Biology and will be sent to IB for final vetting; the department will take the lead in creating Three Sisters garden and curriculum writing with Indigenous consultants of the Board in partnership with indigenous elders.

7. Administration Report

- Principal Hilmer
 - A reminder to all parents re. covid protocols: screen daily for students even if vaccinated; York Region School Board is using provincial screening tool.
 - Any student exhibiting Covid symptoms must not attend school and can only return to school after a negative Covid-19 test.
 - IB program: assessments to take place on November 18th and 20th; offers for first round to be sent out during week of December 10, response to which are due after winter break.
 - Grade 8 open house – info evening on December 8.
 - Ontario Education Ministry: de-streaming all Grade 9 courses or offering Academic stream only for next year; only Grade 9 math de-streamed for this year.

- Vice-Principal Dawn
 - Grade 9 families – workshop this week on mental health (York Hills) webinar on managing mental health, perhaps some Grades 10-12 will also participate.
 - November 18: OSSLT literacy test – all other grades to do asynchronous learning.
 - November 25-30: completing midterm report cards – to be distributed electronically to GAPPS account.
 - November 25: photo day for student ID card and yearbook.
 - November 26: “Take Our Kids to Milliken Mills High School” event for Grade 8 students, including pre-recorded videos and sample lessons.
 - Week of November 29: graduation portraits for Grade 12 students.

8. Chair’s Report and Mailbag

- No new mail has been received.
- YRDSB timeline for the PRO grant workshop: December 3 grant application deadline; June 17 deadline to complete workshop; and June 24 deadline to submit report how grant was used.
- Dongxia attended York Regional School Council Forum.

Adjournment: Michelle moved to adjourn, seconded by Shanshan.