

Richmond Green Secondary School – School Council Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

Attendance

Staff Members: Daraius Bharucha (Principal), Sara Gupta (VP), Lynn Pyke (Teacher Rep)

Student Representatives: Kira Yip (SAC Chair)

Attendees: (see list)

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Land Acknowledgement
 - Inclusion
 - School Council Video and Review Form
 - School Council Elections
 - School Council Forum Sign Up
 - Student Council Update
 - Principal's Report
 - Teachers Report
 - Overview of Cooperative Education and SHSM
 - Dates for School Council Meetings
 - AOB and Adjournment
-
- 7:05 start – Mr. Bharucha welcomed all attendees. Introduced the admin team and shared the agenda
 - Shared quote for the meeting and Land Acknowledgement.
 - Shared theme for the year for school staff

Inclusion

- All attendees participated in the inclusion activity – Stranded on a Deserted Island – details in slide deck.

School Council Video and Review Activity

- All attendees viewed the video for School Council and updates to the new document and highlights – Video link in slide deck
- Attendees worked in groups on School Council Policy Review. It was felt by all attendees that we should defer this to the March School Council Meeting as almost everyone was new and did not have sufficient context at this time to respond.

Elections for School Council

- Mr. Bharucha reviewed composition of school councils and the role of officers. Details in the slide deck.
- Nominations forms were distributed to those present,. There was one nomination received earlier but the individual was not present.
- After all nominations were received the Council for 23-24 school year was composed as follows:

Hila Draper and Karim Hasham – Co-Chairs of School Council
Jaclyn Zhang and Lucy Giannotta – Co-Vice-Chairs
Ana Pad and Stefanie Hill – Co-Secretary

School Council Forum

- After asking for council members to participate in the school council forum on October 25th at Richmond Hill High School, the following were registered to do so;
- Mr. Bharucha, Ms. Draper, Mr. Hasham and Ms. Zhang

School Council (SAC) Update

- Kira provided an overview of student council and the work that student council does
- Specific update on Club Fair – Approximately 40 clubs participated and showcased themselves for students so that those interested could sign up.
- Video for Fright Night on October 30th and details of the event. The event will have adult/ teacher supervision.

Chair's Report

- Hila Draper who was Chair last year provided some insight into school council activities from last year and pre-covid.

Teachers Report

Ms. Pyke and Ms. Jaffer are the Teacher representatives to school council.

Ms. Pyke provided information from some departments:

Geography and History

- Trip to Europe has been approved for next spring
- 10 students to a Model UN Event this Friday and Saturday

Guidance

- Post Secondary Day - Assembly - Application Process & Important Dates, Deadlines & Resources were shared
- Optional Scholarship Presentation
- All above information is on the Grade 12 Google Classroom
- Hosted - **Post Secondary Fair** - in partnership with other Richmond Hill High Schools - Representatives from Universities, Colleges - great success

RGSS Experiential Learning Opportunities Presentation

- Ms. Pyke did a presentation on the various forms of Experiential learning that students can access at RGSS. The presentation is linked below.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iPknSuPo-2HvLfKseots-WqwjyuuwC0-sbVg1TzjuOrQ/edit#slide=id.g24dfd0ed7b8_0_82

Principals Report

- Mr. Bharucha spoke about appropriate conduct and behavior with community partners, especially in the plaza across the street as complaints had been received from vendors there about inappropriate behavior, shoplifting and racist comments. He emphasized how parents as partners need to work with the school to have

appropriate messaging about behavior and that vendors may call YRP in certain situations to deal with students if this persists.

- Mr. Bharucha explained how Activity Fees help support the various programs, clubs, sports teams and other student life enrichment opportunities and that parents are highly encouraged to pay the activity fee. For certain events there will be a two tier cost based on payment of activity fee to cover the cost of events.
- Mr. Bharucha spoke about appropriate costumes for Halloween – no replica weapons – no costumes that are insensitive to personal identities or that display or encourage hateful actions.
- Mr. Bharucha provided an update about Remembrance Day and the need to recognize the sacrifices of various groups and identities that made a contribution.
- Ms. Gupta update that Parent Interview night was on October 26th and appointments could be made with teachers through the TeachAssist portal.
- Ms. Gupta updated about the Grade 10 OSSLT and Grade 9 EQAO tests that would be upcoming and that further information and messaging would follow.
- Ms. Gupta updated about Take our Kids to Work Day and the requirements for that and a permission form that would be sent to parents as well that on that date Grade 8 students from our feeder schools would be participating in a high school orientation opportunity.
- Ms. Gupta updated that Grade 8 parents open house would be on November 20th and more messaging would follow.

School Council Dates for 23-24 Year

- October 17th 2023
- December 19th 2023
- March 19th 2024
- May 14th 2024

AOB and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM