

Thornhill Secondary School

School Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Thornhill Secondary School Council Meeting held on November 21, 2019

Welcome:

The Chair welcomed the parents and staff to the meeting.

Apologies were made on behalf of Principal, Debbie Ziegler.

Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on September 12, 2019:

On a motion duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Council Members approved the minutes of the meeting of the School Council held on September 12, 2019.

Student Council Report:

Janet (student), President of BOSS gave an update of the Student Council's activities highlighting the following:

- Leadership night on November 21, 2019
- Semi-formal on November 28, 2019
- Open mic in December 2019

Thornhill's Toy Mountain and Food & Clothing Drive

In the spirit of giving, Thornhill Secondary School will be collecting donations for CTV Toronto's annual Toy Mountain and our very own Food & Clothing Drive! It will be a competition between the Houses of the TSS Spirit House Council to see which House can collect the MOST donations. Possible donations include: Unopened toys for teenagers, cash donations, non-perishable food items, and clothing items in good condition.

The Food Drive and Clothing drive for Christmas is going into full swing in TSS by BOSS. This year, BOSS would like to involve not just the school but to extend this event to the whole community.

BOSS President, Janet asked for suggestion of how to involve the whole community. In response, the parents suggested the following:

- attached the flyer to the weekly parent bulletin, but specifically make it visible before the attendance record of the students.

A few parents noted that the flyer should not be extended to the feeder schools as they have their own Food Drive.

BOSS President noted that the bulletin will be updated with BOSS events.

It was noted that some parents expressed that their children felt bored during lunch time (75 minutes is too long) due to lack of activities (athletic) to participate while other parents expressed that their children felt lunch time is too short, they do not have enough time to do what they want.

BOSS President noted that there have been a lot of activities during lunch time such as spirit week, however it depends whether the students participate or not. It was also noted that there is a lack of funding (their main source of budget - Student Activities Fee is even lower than last year). If students do not pay the fee, it is difficult for BOSS to organize any extra activities and even the fee for other activities such as Semi-formal has to be raised

BOSS President stated that she will speak with individual students and help them to find activities during lunch time.

Treasurer's Report:

Caryn Zusman, Treasurer presented the 2 Treasurer's Reports:

- as of November 2019, the School Council Fundraising Budget is \$1,212.09
- Mr. G. will follow up with the missing \$300 since the last academic term
- as of November 2019, the School Council Budget is \$500

Grade 9 EQAO Presentation:

The Grade 9 EQAO Presentation was presented by Mr. Gatti, Head of the Mathematics Department.

Mr. Gatti noted that TSS scored an average of 70%-79% (Level 3) on the last EQAO test. He stated that the students are coming entering the TSS at different levels from different schools.

Mr. Gatti was asked if a check was conducted to see if there was a particular feeder school with the issues.

He noted that there are support systems within the school i.e. teachers and/or peer tutors.

The following Next Steps/Action Plan was shared:

- Work with ELL department to adopt different strategies in delivering lessons, assessment and evaluation to accommodate students.
- Ongoing communication with feeder schools:
 - Appropriate math pathways
 - Promote seamless transition i.e. consistent instructional and assessment strategies
- Ongoing communication with parents and students to reinforce the importance of doing homework as well as seeking assistance when needed from teachers.

- Continue to deliver TSS's academic program
- Continue to improve applied results
- Need to address the issue:
 - choosing proper pathway
 - adapt to changing demographic in the school (ELL and VISA)
 - the need for resiliency and development of self-regulation in students.

Administration Report:

An update on the following areas:

- Take Your Grade 9s to Work
- Post Secondary Fair
- Welcome Grade 8s

A message regarding a tour which is being circulated, was presented on behalf of Principal, Debbie Ziegler. It was stressed that this tour is not authorised by the school.

School Council's Topics:

Principal's Profile 2019-2020

The Principal's profile was circulated.

On a motion duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Council Members approved the Principal's Profile as presented.

Fundraising Program Letter 2019-2020

On a motion duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Council Members approved the Fundraising Program Letter of 2019-2020 as presented.

Anna Sit, President stated that she will ask the School's Secretary to attach the notification regarding the fundraising program letter of 2019-2020 to correspondence being sent to the parents.

Next Meeting Date:

The next School Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:15 p.m. in the library.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.