

Thornhill Secondary School

School Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Thornhill Secondary School Council Meeting held on September 12, 2019

Call to Order

Anna Sit, Chair of last academic year called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Welcome:

The Chair welcomed the parents and staff to the first meeting of the school year 2019/2020.

Student Council Report:

Janice (student), president of BOSS, spoke briefly on BOSS and the activities the club assists with. Janice noted the importance of paying the Student Activities Fee through School Cash Online: it funds the student activities throughout the year such as semi-formal, Terry Fox Fun & Carnival. All these activities are organized and run by the students. Paying this fee, assists in offsetting the cost of the activities and it is cheaper for students who paid and attend the activities.

It was noted that some parents could not find “Student Activities Fees” in School Cash online; the Principal will look into this issue.

School Council Report 2018-2019:

The Chair noted that for the past academic year, each meeting aimed to include presentations that provided parents with tips on how to help our kids to succeed in high school. e.g. Grade 10 OSSLT, Grade 9 EQAO, College & university pathway, outside speak - Andy Thibodeau on “Share your care”.

The Chair informed the meeting that the fundraising budget as of June 2019 is \$1830.94.

School Council Elections for 2019-2020:

The Chair spoke briefly on the role of the School Council and circulated a handout. She noted that more information could be obtained online from “YRDSB School Council Handbook” November 2015 edition, “School Council Constitution” specifically for TSS from TSS website/ School Council.

With the posts being vacated, the election process commenced with the completion and/or submission of nomination forms.

Debbie Ziegler, Principal conducted the election process with the assistance of Kandeephan Ganeshalingam and Georgia Vatousis, Vice-Principals.

Ms. Ziegler noted the following positions were required to be filled:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Voting Members

The Principal and Vice-Principals reviewed the nomination forms received and reported the following:

- The following persons have been acclaimed with only one nomination received for each position respectively for the school year 2019/2020:

Chair	Anna Sit
Treasurer	Caryn Zusman
Secretary	Cassandra Culpepper

Breakfast Club

The Chair reported that the School Council donates funds to school annually as well as awards scholarships to two Grade 12 students .

The Council also assists with donations to the Breakfast Club at TSS.

Catherine De Angelo, teacher and founder of the Breakfast Club noted that this is the 3rd year of the programme and stated that approximately 200 students benefit. Ms. De Angelo gave a brief description of the breakfast items provided for the students who partake in the breakfast programme.

Ms. De Angelo stated that the Breakfast Club was in need of a fridge and a music box. Mr. Nader, parent, donated 2 fridges and an electric stove (if the stove can be used).

Ms. De Angelo noted that with the provincial cuts in the budget, funds are needed to start the programme and sought a donation from the School Council.

On a motion duly moved, seconded and unanimously carried, the Council Members approved the donation to the Breakfast Club in the amount of \$500 from the Fundraising budget.

Ms. Caryn Zusman, parent, made a personal donation in the amount of \$500 to match the amount donated by the Council.

Administration Report:

The Principal gave an update on the following areas:

- Staffing/Enrolment
 - New Department Heads
 - Tech
 - Business
 - English (Interim)
 - 2 New Teachers
 - Guidance Counsellors are temporarily housed in the library
 - Principal and Vice-Principals are currently sharing the office
 - An enrolment of just over 1,000 students and still receiving applications.
- Construction Project Update
 - Target completion date is September 23, 2019
 - Fire alarm system is to be replaced
 - CCTV systems were replaced
 - Air condition system installation has commenced however this will take approximately 2 years
- School Clubs
 - DECA
 - 7 students qualified and attended the finals in Orlando and was ranked 4th in the top 10.
 - Maths
 - Science
 - English Language
 - Sports
 - TSS has formed a girls hockey team
- Upcoming important dates, highlighting the following:
 - Club Fair during lunches – September 19, 2019
 - P.A Day – September 23, 2019
 - Photo retake day – September 24, 2019
 - Terry Fox Run and Carnival Fundraising in support of Cancer Research – September 25, 2019
 - Orange Shirt Day in support of Indigenous Peoples – September 27, 2019
 - Ontario University Fair – September 27-29, 2019
 - Opened to all students and their families
 - Interim reports - October 11, 2019
 - Ontario College Fair – October 24, 2019
 - Opened to all students and their families
 - Take Our Kids to Work Day for Grade 9s/Take Our Grade 8s to High School Day – November 6, 2019
 - Mid-semester report cards – November 21, 2019

Safe Schools Presentation:

This was deferred to the next council meeting.

Next Meeting Date:

The next School Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. in the library.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:53 p.m.