



THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



Meeting Notes **Thursday, May 5th, 2016**

1. Welcome (5min)
 - a. Approval of February & March minutes
Done
2. Student Initiatives (30 min): Kim Earle
 - a. Group #1 - TSS Technology Integration Committee
 - Student IT group
 - Hardware purchases and continuing staff and student support/learning

Student IT Team

Student IT Team Service – mission statement. To promote opportunities for staff and students to work together as they navigate digital tools that enhance learning.

Want to integrate the digital tools into the classroom

To support board program called TTEP. (Teacher Technology Engagement Program.)

Team meets Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. 3 -4L00 pm after school in library.

The group can help with "Green Tools" which are board owned and operated. Supported and accessible to all students via their log-in.

"Red Tools" are non-board supported one.

Emphasis on Google Education tools.

Program was new in April with a "soft" roll-out. Next steps are promotion, training members, promotion and planning for 2016-17.

- b. Group #2 - Outdoor Learning project
 - process update
 - proposal
 - stewardship request
 - fundraising

Presented by Sanjna and Gabriella. Grade 11 students.

Idea came thru Ms. Earl's Urban Planning class about a year ago.

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Looking to foster a sense of community, outdoor education, space for music, and area to gather as well as general greening of the school & community.

Goal is to foster a sense of community while enriching the school environment and creating an eco-friendly educational space.

School council's mission statement overlaid with the this group shows a lot of common ground.

Proposed area is immediately east of the student parking lot, between the lot and the south wing of the school.

Could be used as an outdoor classroom, open mike nights, club meeting space.

Phase 2 is planned to include a garden. For a club and classroom resource. Maintenance could be handled by the "Eco-Action Club" as well as community partners who could handle in the summer.

Looking for the parents council to take stewardship of garden slots and financial support in our school enrichment project.

Total investment is expected to about \$27,000 to handle initial construction.

Students suggest that rain barrels could provide water requirements in case a water line is not available on that side of the building.

Time line is for construction to take place in May 2017.

Shirley invited the group to present to the next Parents Council in the fall.

3. Fundraising update (10 min)

- a. Treasurer report (Vivak)
- b. Final allocation of funds

4. Staff Appreciation Breakfast (10 min)

- a. Date & Volunteer list

Moved to Wed, June 29th.

Need help to do set-up and pickup of food.

(7:30 AM to set-up. 9:00 AM.) Volunteers selected on site.

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5. ProGrant Update (5 min)

a. For 2016/17

ProGrant request has been submitted for next school year. Focusing on mental well-being, math literacy, social media literacy. \$1000 should be approved for the program over the summer.

6. Forum updates (10 min)

a. Spring 2010 (Carol Green/Georgia)

Parent's Voice Matter. Presented on March 9 by Michelle Cassidy. "Putting the Health in Mental Health". Three main points – What is the thing I could start doing that would have the biggest impact on my life, also suggest writing in a daily gratitude journal, and also identify what we really love in life and makes us happy.

Second workshop. "Change How I Feel". Point was if we don't feel good in our minds, we don't feel well in our bodies. We are in control of our feelings. Suggests 1) Meditation, 2) Accu-Pressure www.fastereft.com, and 3) Picture Switching. Take a picture of something that makes you really happy. Make it bigger and bigger in your mind. Then do the same exercise with a negative influence – but make that smaller and minimize it. Finally in your mind, place the small picture in front of the large happy image in hope that the happy will over whelm the negative one.

Final Presentation . Math learning for elementary students.

7. BOSS update (10 min)

Baron – President. Dana Bank – Spirit Director.

Noted a disconnect between the various groups in the school. Wants to work toward removing that disconnect.

Hosted "Brave Heart" dance in February. Very successful compared to previous year.

Hosted Open Mike night last week. "'Best one we've ever done."

"Leadership Night" taking place tonight – May 5th. Designed to help people improved their individual leadership skills especially placing people with people they don't know, 75 people attending now. Program included a presentation by "Brain Power", and other events aimed at personal development.

8. Administration Report – David McAdam (10 min)

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Several school events upcoming.

Grad on June 27th. Prom on May 19. BOSS election on May 26th.

Only seven weeks left until exams.

School won "School of Character" award from York Region.

Student leadership is at the heart of what we're doing here at the school.

"There is no elevator to success – you have to take the stairs."

24 students from TSS were represented at the recent awards.

9. Misc topics

- a.** Consideration for Executive for 2016/17. Shirley reminds parents that if you are interested in being involved next year – elections will be held at the first meeting in Sept.
- b.** Proposal to cancel June 2 meeting – meeting cancelled. This was the last meeting for the year.