

Thornhill Secondary School Parent Council Meeting

Minutes - September 17, 2015

1. Welcome

- David McAdam – welcome & introduction to nomination & election process

2. Nominations for Council

- Co-Chair** - 2 positions (Acclaimed)
 - Shirley Porjes
 - Susan Eaton
- Treasurer** – 1 position (Vote conducted)
 - Hayley Morris
 - Vivak Gupta (*won*)
- Co-Secretary** – 2 positions (Acclaimed)
 - Hayley Morris
 - Andy Weinkove

3. Election of New Executive

- Co-Chairs
 - Shirley Porjes
 - Susan Eaton
- Treasurer
 - Vivak Gupta
- Co-Secretaries
 - Hayley Morris
 - Andy Weinkove

4. DECA Update – Ms. Del-Bianco

- Student presenters = Ben, Julia & Hayley
- Largest student organization at TSS (*approx. 90 members*) prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs (globally recognized – 215 000 members)
- Areas of focus:
 - Marketing
 - Business Management & Administration
 - Hospitality & Tourism
 - Finance
- Reviewed advantages of membership which included:
 - Highly regarded in student supplementary applications for post-secondary institutions
 - Communication & Presentation Skills
 - Networking at Provincial, National and International levels through competition
 - Connecting with business through judging community
 - DECA Scholarships for competition finalists
 - Competitions = Regional, Provincial & International
- Goal = to encourage Parent/Parent Council support (judges, supervision & funding)
- Will be canvassing for members & promoting the club through upcoming club fair

5. Review & input to Parent Council Annual Plan – Shirley Porjes

- Reviewed topics listed including:
 - EQAO Results
 - Pathways – targeted at Grades 9 & 10 (usually well attended)
 - Financial Planning Seminar – guidelines for parents to help students start financial planning
 - English Department presentation
 - Review of current use & plans for technology for students, teachers and parents

6. Administration Report – David McAdam & Sandy Kofalvi

- Weekly bulletin will include dates of upcoming events
- Staffed for 1122 students
- Currently have 1150 students – so application for additional resources is in place
- Cash on line facility now available for parents
 - Available through the website
 - All payments to school (*clubs, trips, apparel*)
- Resources = available on our school website (including calendar of events)
- Oct 8th awards assembly (last year academic awards) (3pm-5pm)
- Sept 21st – Oct 1 = Safety Week
 - Drills and related safety exercises scheduled
- Bi –annual School council review of Dress Code Policy
 - Parents inquired if there was a process we can explore if we want to open/amend the dress code?
- Motion: To explore it further = Lewis – seconded
- YES – 14 of 23 motion carried

7. BOSS Report – Michelle Randall – Vice Principal

- Upcoming event = Terry Fox festival – Sept 30th
- Dance – date to be confirmed
- Club Fair – September 21st
- Grade 9 Student Senator vote coming up on October 1st

8. Open Forum

- One time donation request – by letter (*sent with report cards*)
- Appeal for donations from business (through parent connections) that would be recognized in the magazine)
- Review of typical use of funds raised. Technology = major focus with some funding
- Guidance services for students (parents voiced issues/concerns about current efficacy of processing course assignments – especially in the senior grades).

Next Meeting: Thursday October 15th, 2015

- EQAO Results
- Information session on University/College Applications

Upcoming Council Dates for 2015/2016:

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|---------------|------------|
| • November 19 | • March 31 |
| • January 14 | • May 5 |
| • February 4 | • June 2 |