



Thornlea School Council

Thornlea Secondary School
8075 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 4N4
Council email: thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca

Meeting Details and Participants Meeting will be in person

Date / Time	February 21, 2023 7pm to 8.30 pm		
Executive Committee And School Participants	Myra C (Co-Chair)	Diana L (Communication)	Mr. Foti (Principal)
	Eva S (Co-Chair)	Claudia M (Secretary)	Ms. V Johnson-Lee (Vice Principal) Ms. L. Patrick (Vice Principal)
	Jim Z (Treasurer)	Sharon A (Extra-curriculum activities)	Mr. Ram (Teacher Representative) Ryan and Michael (Student Council Representatives)
Members at Large	Lee Ann C Grace Y Aroon B Jason C	Jennifer F. Amir S Ashraf C Jady K	Homeria S. Ian S Syed S
Attendees			

Agenda

#	Topic	Lead	Time (mins)
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Land Acknowledgement, Virtual Norms	Ms. V Johnson-Lee (Vice Principal)/ Ms. L. Patrick (Vice Principal)	5
2.	Discussion with Trustee and Superintendent *	Chair: Myra C and Co-chair Eva	55
3.	Review & Approve Past Meeting Minutes	Chair: Myra C	5
4.	Administration Report	Principal: Joe Foti	10
5.	Teacher Report- Optional	Teacher Rep	5
6.	Student report- Optional	Student Council Rep	5
7.	Initiative updates (Pro Grant and the Career Night)	Chair: Myra C	5
8.	Round Table	All	Time permitting
9.	Adjournment		



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***Questions from community:**

Questions for School Trustee – Ms. Jenny Chen:

1. I was unable to find any information about you prior to or after the election. Can you please share your background, such as professional, community participation, school involvement, children etc., and what your priorities are for the next 3 and 1/2 years?
2. As a newly elected trustee, what is your focus this year?
3. As a Trustee, how will you keep the parents informed and engaged? From my experience, the Trustee (from TDSB) will send out monthly Ward newsletters, organize in-person meetings for the parents with special speakers/ topics, have a FB page to share info (or tweet info).
4. Our school's cafeteria catering service is still not available. From what I heard, other YRDSB high schools have their cafeteria catering opened (Sutton High School, Stephen Lewis Secondary). When will our cafeteria catering open? YRDSB has a contract, obviously this vendor is in breach of the contract.
5. What capital projects or renovations are planned for Thornlea in the next 3 years? I believe the last "renovation" was 2012 (over 10 years ago). Thornlea SS is over 50 years old, and there are a lot of opportunities to bring our school into a more "digitally-enabled learning" environment. Are there any plans in the work/budget?
6. One of the priorities of the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan is to build collaborative relationships. Did the Board consult parents/guardians before deciding to discontinue the Pre-AP/AP Program at Thornlea? What is the Board's policy on parent consultation (when it's necessary to do so and when it's not)?
7. The MOE provided funding for Tutoring support to the school boards. How is YRDSB using these funds for our students? TDSB has engaged tutors but we have not heard what YRDSB is doing

Questions for Superintendent – Mr. Grant Fawthrop:

1. Can you please describe what types of situations a parent can contact you to get you involved and get your support?
 2. How can you help expedite some of the requests that come from the School Council, such as the Green Room renovation, opening of cafeteria catering service?
 3. The AP Program at Thornlea will be discontinued starting September for incoming grade 9s, as the Board believes that AP is a form of de-streaming. Is the AP Program discontinued at Thornlea only, or is it Board wide? How is the Board going to address the academic needs of students who like to be challenged and learn advanced concepts or would like to write the U.S. College Board AP exams in Grade 12? The IB program is a form of streaming too – why isn't it discontinued as well?
 4. Thornlea's utilization rate is currently at around 75%, while nearby Bayview Secondary is at 130% of its capacity with 8 portables. Would the Board consider re-drawing the school boundaries for specialized programs such as Gifted Program or adding an IB Program to Thornlea (while lowering new IB enrolment at Bayview Secondary or Milliken Mills) to "redistribute" students, so that resources/facilities are better utilized?
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