



Council MINUTES

Tommy Douglas Secondary School

Wednesday March 27, 2024 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm

In Attendance

Amir Bigoo, Lisa Parkyn, Gisella Primerano, Tina Gandhi, Erica Lien, Wioletta Rehman, Beverly Chiriboga, Keli Patel, Dee Radia, Lakmal Ranasinghe, Jasdeep Khaira

Approval of Minutes (from Jan 17, 2024)

Approved with no amendments.

Meetings: 4-5 per school year

October 4, 2023, November 22, 2023, January 17th, 2024, March 27th, 2024, and May 22nd, 2024.

Financial Report

- Council has \$500/year to spend + \$800 grant
- Group brainstormed next time to gather ideas
 - Last year, the funds were spent on the bike clinic
 - Games, such as Connect 4 or Jenga

Student Report (2 TDSS Student representatives – Timothy & Kyle)

- No student council representative attended today's meeting.
- **Easter Event:** after school Easter Egg Hunt
- Starting to plan for a culminating activity in May

Principal's Report (Sandra)

Overview of events that occurred include:

- **Course Selection Night for Parents (Feb 7):** great turnout (cafeteria was full)
- **Turkish Parents Night (Jan 24):** Board Liaison and staff were invited. Planning to do this with other cultural groups.
- **Black History Month:** assembly was done multiple times so everyone was able to attend. Black Graduation Coach was involved.
- **Ski Trip (Feb)**

- **Italy Trip (March): 38 students participated. Went to Venice, Florence and Rome. Next trip is not confirmed but considering Peru. Cost will be around the same.**

Upcoming Events:

- **Solar Eclipse April 8th (early dismissal at 11:40 am):** Staff will be engaged in professional development in the afternoon.
- **Trips across subject areas:** Calendar is full in April and May
- **Phys.Ed – Human Trafficking presentations:** Grade 9 students. If they don't get it this year, they will get it the following year.
- **Multicultural events:** occur at lunchtime (May 8th or 9th)
- **Spring Shows:** Arts night (information will be in the Bulletin)
- **PD Day May 6**
- **Prom Prep Assembly (see below in Teacher Report)**
- **Staffing updates 2024-2025 school year:** Next year, school will be closed to transfers (students who don't live in the area but would like to attend TDSS) and there will be no exceptions. Current enrolment = 1750
- **May/June Police Presentation to be confirmed – process** (police will not be in uniform and will cover topics such as social media, bullying, harassment)
- **Safe Schools – steps** that school has been taking.
- Will share process of suspensions and expulsions at the next council meeting on May 22nd.

Incident on January 22nd – serious altercation in the school. Safe Schools policy was followed. This event affected the perception of TDSS. Shared what was done by the school which started last year. Most of the problems occurs with cell phone usage. If an incident occurs off property and it has an impact on a student, then it is the school's issue. February there was a repeat assembly on Safe Schools and topics were reviewed such as snitching vs. reporting and Report It App (anonymous reporting tool).

Incident before March Break: planned fight in the boys' bathroom that involved multiple grades. There were over 26 students in the bathroom. Suspensions were given to 28 students. School has had extra admin since Jan. 22nd. For two weeks, there was a full-time Occasional Teacher who monitored the hallways and washrooms.

- **Honoring Akbar:** Staff and students want to honour his memory but need to speak with the family first to find out what their wishes are. Brainstormed a scholarship in his name.
- **Jan 8th 2025 PAUL DAVIS:** student and parent presentation booked

VP Report (Cynthia Therrien: students A-G)

- N/A

VP Report (Elizabeth Sloan: students H-O)

- N/A

VP Report (Milton Hart: students P-Z)

- Parent teacher conferences – April 4th
- Midterm marks are due to the office on April 19th
- Mark distribution – April 25/26
- Full disclosure – May 7th (please see below in Teacher Report)
- Final exams – June 19-25th
- Exam Review Day – June 26th

Teachers Update (Laura Gatti)

- **March 26-27:** TDSS Alumni and other York University students have been running workshops in Grade 12 Business Leadership class to give our students an opportunity to create a business plan.
- **April 4th:** Parent teacher interviews from 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- **May 7th** Full disclosure for Semester 2: Students in grade 12 must drop on or before this date in order for marks not to appear on transcripts.

Graduation Updates:

- **Feb 20 – March 5:** Graduation photos occurred. Grade 12 students voted for their valedictorian and valedictorian interviews for the top 6 occurred Monday and Tuesday next week. Students and staff will vote again next week based on top two after interviews.
- **May 23:** Prom Safety Assembly for Grade 12s. Self-nomination forms for certain graduation awards (closed yesterday). Awards Committee has been meeting to review these self-nomination forms.
- **June 27:** Graduation will be held at Paramount (starting at 6:30 pm). There will be a professional photographer at the event. Two tickets per student but more could be given (determined on a case-by-case basis).

Next Meeting

Wednesday May 22nd , 2024 @ 6:30 p.m., Tommy Douglas Secondary School. See you there!

Motion to adjourn this meeting was made at 7:50 p.m.