



# Council MINUTES

Tommy Douglas Secondary School

Wednesday May 22, 2024 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm

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## In Attendance

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Amir Bigloo, Lisa Parkyn, Tina Gandhi, Wioletta Rehman, Erica Lien, Lolade Adesina, Beverly Chiriboga, Jasdeep Khaira, Esra Ipek, Diana Zincarelli DiNardo, Keli Patel, Deepma (Dee) Radia, Sandra Sardone.

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## Approval of Minutes (from March 27, 2024)

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1. Land acknowledgement creed - completed 6.35pm by Sandra
2. Review of minutes – Tina moved motion to accept the agenda and the minutes. Sandra shared a QR code for location of where all minutes are housed.

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## Meetings: 4-5 per school year

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October 4, 2023, November 22, 2023, January 17th, 2024, March 27th, 2024, ~~and~~ May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

This is the final meeting for the 2023/2024 school year.

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## School Council Update

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This is Amir's last year as Chair, Lisa (co-chair) happy to stay on next year as her son will be in Grade 12. She may stay longer if her daughter gets admitted into TDSS for Grade 9 at the same time. Lolade's son is also graduating this year so she will not be the secretary next year.

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## Financial Report

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- Council has \$500/year to spend + \$800 grant
  - We purchased life-sized carnival type games like Tic-Tac-Toe and Jenga blocks. We can use these in the Atrium during lunch especially if it is a rainy day. We have definitely spent more than \$500. Anything over that will need to be handled using the school budget. Still need to buy a connect game.

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## Suicide Intervention Support for Students

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We are fully equipped to handle the suicide prevention program. We need to be ready when anyone shows some sign of self-harm – i.e. run to guidance.

- Jasdeep mentioned that she went to a seminar on Suicide prevention. She has contact details of the speaker who is willing to speak at both Public and Private school boards.

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

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- No student council representative attended today's meeting.

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## Principal's Report (Sandra)

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- Calls are now being made to the home for significantly late students, now that the weather is good.
  - If late for up to 30 mins before the start of the class – call made to the home
  - If late for >30 mins, VP or Principal is notified in addition to the call to home
  - If a student is coming in late multiple times per week, a call is made to the home and further discussions may be had with parents. We have seen drastic changes using this method
- Caring and Safe Schools Presentation by Sandra
  - The following were specifically called out as **not allowed**:
    - Videotaping during fights
    - Bullying, discrimination and racism especially on Instagram or starting from an online source, be an upstander
    - Unwanted sexual behaviour
      - Demanding hugs from others
      - Leering or inappropriate staring
      - Sexual jokes
    - Vaping – Toxic, addictive and unsafe
    - Cannabis use
  - Items not allowed in the school
    - Peanut butter, plastic knife or sharp pencil
    - Anything can be a weapon if used to hurt someone
  - Vandalism – things are getting better especially regarding bathroom stalls
  - YRDSB Spectator code of contact when coming to watch a game here at any of our schools
  - Healthy relationships – inclusivity, collaboration, kindness
  - Progressive Discipline model – on/off school property or online
    - There is collaboration and case by case handling
- Suspension, expulsion criteria. There is a lot of work done to meet with students and their families before deciding to go this route

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## VP Report (Cynthia Therrien: students A-G)

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- Gr 9 EQAO June 11, 12<sup>th</sup>
- June 5<sup>th</sup> Life after Grade 8 Session
- Life after Grade 12 – included as part of an information session – check the parent's bulletin April 29 - May 12<sup>th</sup> version

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## VP Report (Elizabeth Sloan: students H-O)

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- Timetable for next year – 1,624 students now (decrease from 1,740)
- Now only planning to accommodate 2 lunch periods except for Grade 12 students. The Grade with fewest students is Grade 9.
- Credit Rescue – Students with missing assessments get an opportunity to complete them latest 5/31 rather than mark as a zero. Notification to be sent to Parents for awareness
- May is very busy with school trips, club meetings etc.
- Trips (extended trips) – families leaving the country for 2-3 weeks when a culminating assignment is due. In this case, it may not be possible to rescue the credit especially if the Extended absence form is submitted on the day before the trip

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## VP Report (Milton Hart: students P-Z)

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- N/A

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## Library Update

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- 2 Computer science students won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at Hack-a-Thon in April.
- April 19 – Tommy's Got talent
- May 22 – Senior Spring Production
- May 29 – The Tommy's – a showcase of our students' talents
- June 6 – Prom and an assembly happening on 5/22 for students attending Prom – 354 students are attending. Approximately 425 students are graduating this year, largest grad set so far
- June 27<sup>th</sup> – Graduation at a banquet venue – Paramount
  - If parents need another ticket (2 provided with the gown package, one extra can be purchased via school cash online and after the May 31 deadline, they will look at those who have purchased a 3<sup>rd</sup> ticket to determine if they can open more spots for a 4<sup>th</sup> purchase after looking at how much more space is available.
  - Parents who need a 4<sup>th</sup> ticket can also work with other students who may not be using their 2 default tickets

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## Coming Up!

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- Graduation date is June 27<sup>th</sup> Offsite (largest grad set so far with 425 students!)
- Exams June 19 – 23
- Exam Review Day June 26
- PA days: June 27, 28

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## Next Meeting

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**TBD by new School Council for 2024/2025 school Year. Have a safe Summer!**

Motion to adjourn this meeting was made at 8:10 p.m.