



# council MINUTES

Tommy Douglas Secondary School

Wednesday January 11, 2023 | 7:05 – 8:50 pm

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## In Attendance

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Amir Bigloo, Joe Giusto, Lisa Parkyn, Tina Gandhi, Geoff Trueman, Linda Lazarou, Diana Zincarelli DiNardo, Erica Lien, Pina Kafkis, Lakman Ranasinghe, Gisella Primerano, Sandra Sardone, Elizabeth Sloane, Laura Gatti

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## Approval of Minutes

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All in favour.

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## Meetings – 5/school year

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September 28<sup>th</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup>, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## Chair Report (Amir Bigloo)

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- **Vehicles stopping on Major Mackenzie Drive in front of TDSS:** The City of Vaughan has sent a request to the Region of York for installation of No-Stopping signs in front of TDSS on Major Mackenzie Drive. The Region is still reviewing the request. Amir to follow-up with Linda Jackson (City of Vaughan) or The Region's Transportation Dept. for updates
- **Traffic Education Blitz:**  
School is planning to set another blitz for Feb/Mar

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## Financial Report (Erica Lien, Treasurer)

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- **No expenditure, based on last 2 years**
- **Council has \$500/year to spend**
- **Brainstorming to spend:**
  - Potential Bicycle Tune-up Shop (partner with Auto-Shop Teacher/Sandra Sardone to confirm possibility)
  - Scholarship Award for graduates
  - Graduate gifts
  - Donate/Contribute to student council

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## Student Report (2 TDSS Student representatives – Anya, Rosemary & Luca)

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- **Semi-Formal:** Very successful. over 400 students attended
- **Cookie-gram fundraiser to support Men's Mental Health**
- **Remembrance Day – Social Post**
- **Candy-grams for Holidays – raised funds**
- **Spirit Week, before holidays – good engagement from students**

- **Holiday Concert** was held with good participation from parents and students
- **TO COME:**
  - Stress-Free days (to help students ahead of exam preps)
  - Black History Month
  - Multi-Cultural Day
  - Valentine's Day Candy-grams
  - Encourage Walking (could partner with Bike-shop idea from Parent council & promote bike racks funded by school)
  - Future Exams: Therapy days idea for students (to help students ahead of exam preps). Ie. Bring therapy dogs into school

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### Principal's Report (Sandra Sardone)

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- **Hot Topic!** Timetable change set for September 2023, moves to 5 periods at 75-mins/each (8am – 2:40pm) to accommodate high-volume. Currently at 1,700 Students/Staff.
- **Hold & Secure:** Occurred Thursday December 22, 2022. Students were safe and staff managed the quick call to action.
- **Hallway Blitz in action:** Staff looking out for students vaping, kids roaming the hallways during class time = disruptive to others. Hallway blitz looks to stop kids from missing instruction.
- **Cafeteria:** Hope to re-open in Sept 2023, unless the current vendor can accommodate staffing issues to open this school year.

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### VP Report (Elizabeth Sloan)

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- **Exams January 26-31 / Inclement weather makeup day is February 1**
- **Learning Skills Working group:** in-class supports to help prepare students for exams:
  - cellphone use
  - getting organized
  - study skills
- **February 2:** exam review day
- **February 3:** PA Day
- **Semester 2 schedule finalized / starts Feb 6**
- **EQAO: Gr. 9, January 18/19**
- **De-streaming:** Effective September 24, Gr. 9 English will be de-streamed

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### Teacher Report – Laura Gatti

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- **Drama & Dance Sept:** hosted holiday concert on Dec 14 to over 100 guests
- **Music Dept:** Hosted concert December 21 to over 300 guests
- **Both depts will host a spring concert – TBD**
- **Geography Dept:** will be offering a Grade 11 open level Travel & Tourism credit next year – Looking for guest speakers from travel industry, send email to Kimberly.millard@yrdsb.ca

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### Coming Up!

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- In place of our next February 8, meeting the Guidance dept will host a “Course Selection Parent presentation” @ 7pm at the school gym:
  - Link to google form <https://forms.gle/NDk8LyNP9G7vkJWz6>

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## **Next Meeting**

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**Wednesday May 10th, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m., Tommy Douglas Secondary School**

Motion to adjourn this meeting was made at 8:50 p.m.