

Pierre Elliott Trudeau HS

School Council Meeting, September 17, 2014

Minutes

2013-14 Co-Chairs: J. Lum, C. Young

Attendance: 79 parents, D.Linkewich, P. Viscomi, P. Simmons, J. Shep, D. Imada-Chan, B. Thillainathan

Topic:

1. Welcome/Introductions by D. Linkewich and J. Lum
2. Elections
 - 5 Executive Members: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and 2 co-treasurer, 10 parent voting members of School Council (Executive members and members of council must commit to attendance and are able to vote) and 2 Community members
 - Any and all parents/community are welcome to come to monthly meetings
 - A review of the School Council objectives was shared by J.Lum.
 - School Council members filled out and submitted nomination form.
 - All members elected by acclamation.

Important school decisions include student and parent voice.

We want individuals to feel comfortable to share their ideas and thoughts. When sharing issues, we ask that individuals also come with possible solutions.

Council Members Are: F. Fu, T. Cheung, V. Leung, Z. Reinsch, M. Qadir, C. Ho, S. Saiyed, I. Hoang, C. Goodridge; A. Wu

Chair: J. Lum

Vice-Chair: M.Thomas-Gill

Treasurers: M. Ameeriar & M. Malik

Secretary: C. Young

Community Members: R. Malhotra & K. Mark

Student Council Update by B. Thillainathan

- A small sampling of the various clubs offered were presented. Some examples: Computer Science/Robotics Club, Acoustic Music Club, White Pine Book Club, Trudeau SRA-trained peer mediators, Trudettes. See website for all the clubs offered.
- Club week was held last week with student displays and members sharing information.
- Student Council working on Trudeaumania-a Grade 9 full day Event held at Camp Robin Hood, to help build friendships between class members.
- New position in Student Council: Media Publicity

- October 18th is Trudeau's birthday, but will be celebrated on Friday, October 17th—the students and staff will have cake and festivities.
- SAC Calendar will be updated with events. Trudeau also has a Twitter account.

Administration Report by D. Linkewich

Staffing: 174 staff members. Staff list on website. Parents can email a teacher by using the following: teacherfirstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca.

Enrollment:

- 1936 students.
- Due to the size of the school, students may have lunch in all periods including period 1 lunch. We have grown over the past four years and have added a new wing with 14 classrooms and portables.
- YRDSB will be reviewing the school boundaries. They will come and do a presentation in the future to explain how the process works. There will be a lot of notice around this meeting. Stay tuned for more details.

The school has worked to continue to increase communication with parents. Here is how to receive more information about what is happening at Trudeau:

- Trudeau is on Twitter! @trudeauhs
- School website with Google Calendar shows all upcoming field trips, special events, sporting activities and university visits.
- E-bulletin sent every Friday. This e-newsletter contains essential information, reminders, notifications and contains your son/daughter's attendance

Staff Report by J. Shep

Student Services (Special Education) is now on Twitter-special education news will be shared as “#SERTnews” on the Twitter feed. All news shared on the Twitter feed.

Plenty Free Breakfast Program-local vendors are on board. The program services 150-200 students. It provides students with quick snack in case they miss breakfast. Anyone can access this program, no questions asked. Some of the foods offered include sandwiches, fresh fruit. Many local community partners participate. If anybody has questions, suggestions or would like to donate, please let us know. The program starts at 7:50 and goes to 8:05am daily. It opens up again between first and second period. ***Plenty program welcomes food or cash donations from parents. Please contact Mr. Shep if any questions.***

Announcement from the Moderns Department: The France/Spain trip that is still open to applications to those students taking a Moderns class (French, French Immersion, Core French and Spanish). Please contact a Moderns teacher.

Boys and Girls Group open to all - Girls group meet Periods 2/3 on Wednesdays-an opportunity for members to converse and build community. Boys Group being held Thursdays afterschool with gym space.

Student success Room 116 is open at lunch to students to relax, play football or hoops.

Administration Report - D. Imada Chan

Friday, Sept 5th: Wellness break: One component of our school improvement plan is to focus on wellness, in particular, we want students to make the connection between wellness, resiliency and success.

Monday, September 8th: Safe Schools Assembly for all grades. It consisted of a presentation by the administrative team, as well as our School Community Resource Officer, PC Drummond. The purpose is to ensure students have a clear understanding of the school expectations and how they can have a successful year at Trudeau.

Wednesday, September 10th: School Photo Day. For those students who have missed taking their picture, there will be another opportunity on Friday, October 3rd.

Friday, September 12th: New Teacher Induction Program: All new teachers participate in this program for their professional learning and are designed to support new teachers during their first year at Trudeau.

Monday, September 15th: Department Heads' meeting. The head's discussed the Ministry of Education's new vision, Achieving Excellence and worked on our School Improvement Planning teams to create the action plans that will carry out the strategies that we have identified as of importance for this year.

Monday, September 22nd: Our staff will be undergoing extensive training and learning around various health and safety matters, all designed to keep our learning and working community a safe one.

Friday November 21 – Band workshop

December 11 - 16 – Winter Melodies Concerts

Related to safety, we have already had one fire drill and next week will have our first lockdown drill.

Administration Report - P.Viscomi

Mark Reporting: Families get provincial report card twice a semester: at midterm and again at the end of the semester. Additionally, they will get an interim report 6 weeks into the semester - no marks are reported, just a level is given. First Interim reports will be sent home on October 17th. These reports are passed out in homeroom. Marks also available in the e-bulletin if parents have signed up.

OSSLT (Gr. 10 Literacy test) Students must pass to earn their diploma.

Some results from the 2013-2014 OSSLT:

- 424 students took the test for the first time. 17% are ELLs.
- 57% of the students do not have English as a first language.
- 73% read for one or more hours at home. Most students like non-fiction.
- 55% of students write for one or more hours beyond their homework.
- 89% of our students are successful (77% success provincially).
- 70% of students with special education needs were successful (44% provincially).
- Previously eligible students (57), 84% were successful (50% provincially)

Supports for the OSSLT:

- Lit Blitz held one period a month dedicated to practising literary skills.
- Afterschool course regarding literacy.
- Embed literacy in all courses.

Test results available on the EQAO website.

Administration Report - P. Simmons

EQAO Math - This test is written in the same semester student takes math and is counted as 5% of their mark.
Grade 9 Results for 2013-2014

- 64% of applied students achieving were at or above the provincial standard (improved by 4%).
- 96% of our academic students were at or above provincial standards.

Grade 9 Transition to high school: Many steps are taken to ensure a smooth transition for grade 9 students. They include:

- Grade 8 Visit
- Network meetings between schools-teachers at Trudeau meet with staff from feeder schools
- Orientation Day – first day of school is only for Gr. 9
- Trudeaumania – full day just for Gr. 9 and mentors when they meet and interact with other Gr. 9
- Support Team: Guidance Counselors, Student Success, teachers
- Students can speak with the teachers, administrative team anytime

Parents and Community Report-R. Malhotra

Parents Reaching Out Grant-Grant from Ministry of Education to increase parent engagement. Each year funds are available up to \$1,000. We have received a grant for 2014-2015 for \$1,000. Topic: From Student Well-being to Life-long success. Sub-committee to be assembled to discuss activities that the grant money will fund. Contact Robert Malhotra.

School Goals (Group Discussion) led by D. Linkewich

- groups of parents brainstormed ideas on various topics and then shared in discussions
- all ideas collected and will be review by Admin team

Z. R. motioned to adjourn the meeting.

M. Q. seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wed. Oct. 15, 2014 @ 7 pm.