

School Council

meeting minutes

November 20, 2018
Prepared By: Robin White

Attendees:

Martha Lai, Iana Ivanora, Jolane Folts, Narges Karbasi, Hammas (Student Representative), Terrell (Student Representative), Linda Trimble (School Rep), Bill Melvin (Community Representative), Linda Ward and Robin White.

Regrets: Umakaran Navaratnam

	Item	Description
1	Welcome	Introductions, approval of the agenda and review of October 3 minutes. Minutes were approved and will be posted on the School's website.
2	Chair's Report	Nil report
3	Principal's Report	<p>Linda W. Reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The School participated in the 2018 Global Read Aloud event • Linda highlighted two groups of visitors who recently visited the School: one from the National Institute of Special Education, Republic of Korea and one from a Section 68 School in Ottawa • Additional groups we will host in the near future: from Banting and Best School and Crescent School • PA Day annual medical training was offered in partnership with HBKRH for support staff (on topics including Tip Suctioning, Feeding Tubes etc), and recently a Self-Regulation presenter facilitated a full day session for School staff <p>Upcoming dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 4: First Awards Assembly • December 13: Holiday Concert • PRO Grant: Linda updated we are still waiting to hear if our proposal was successful
4	Elections of Chairs	<p>Linda and Martha provided a brief overview of some of the responsibilities of the various roles and committees</p> <p>Election of Co-Chairs: Martha Lai and Jolane Folts were nominated and accepted the positions.</p>
5	School Council Goals for 2018-19	<p>Discussed possible activities/events for the School Council for this school year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group discussed the need for events allowing parents and students to get to know each other better and connect with one another • The group also discussed the possibility of parents being given an option to be put on a "Class List" of emails to be shared; Jolane and Narges offered to share examples they have received from other schools • Terrell suggested a "Stress Awareness Week", highlighting the need to raise awareness for this issue • Bill asked if there might be an opportunity for volunteers to meet and connect with the parents of the students they work with; Linda W. suggested social opportunities (such as coffee meet and greet events) to bring people together, perhaps in combination with other events already happening. Next step: an event will be offered before the first Awards Assembly on December 4 from 12-1 pm. • An evening Family event will be planned for February 2019 (with invitations extended to siblings and school volunteers) • Family Movie night was proposed • Try to reschedule from last year guest speaker from Foundation regarding Capes for Kids

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda W. shared the process for outreach with community schools. Kathryn Marcus' contact information is available on the School web-site.
6	Policy Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda W. shared the Policy Consultation Form with School Council. Please see individual comments below. Linda shared that the following Policies are to be reviewed every three years. Safe Welcome Program. Linda shared information currently listed in the Parent Handbook. The group discussed some ideas to visibly promote and remind visitors and parents to check in at the school office when they enter the school. The group recommended a letter be sent home reminding all families of this process. Environmental Education Policy Development and Review Human Rights Reporting to Parents Digital Citizenship. Linda shared that we now have our own Broadband network and this will be reflected in the updated policy .
7	Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Web-site: input requested from School Council parent representatives. Iana and Narges offered to assist this committee. The group discussed desire to make the website user friendly and representative of a school. Discussion about the use of student photos being used. Also, the potential for forms being available online for parents. Playground Committee – past parent members their children have now graduated. The next step is a proposal for a design of the playground. Proposal must include consultation with the school community. Jolane, Iana and Bill will be representatives. Jolane has experience preparing grant proposals. Linda will share link of prezi that was created by the Playground Committee.
8	Dates for future meetings and special events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> December 4: 12-1 pm Coffee Talk Event for Volunteers and Families (Before Bloorview School's First Awards Assembly of the school year) Next School Council Meeting: 5:30 pm on January 8 or 15, 2019 (TBD). Following School Council Meeting: 5:30 pm on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.