

RHS School Council Minutes

Date & location;

Attendance:	Jasmine Northcott Laura Wheeler Jessie Lavallee Sophie Kholtochina Lama Baltagi Li Mariel Toribio A. Elham Seddigh Ayafor Sarah Godding	Mike Furlong Greg Wysnski Malanie Bolster Sally Fereday Katie Lee Janet Dill Jonathan Wootton Florence Wootten
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Agenda Items

1. Welcome, Approval of agenda and Oct 10, 2023 minutes
2. Guest Teacher – Ms. Lavallee
3. Principal's Update (Rachelle Sintic)
4. Teachers Update (Laura Wheeler)
5. Student Council Update
6. Co-Chair's Update (Nancy D. & Ann W.)
7. Fundraising for RHS
8. Final Exams overview
9. Committees
 - a) Multicultural Dinner
 - b) Parent Reaching Out Grant - PRO GRANT 2023-2024
 - c) Grade 12 Graduation
 - d) Fundraising
10. Next meeting Dec. 12, 2023 ? - Holiday celebration / meet and greet?

1. Welcome & Minutes Approval

Call to Order at 7:05pm

Minutes Approval (month of October 2023)

Moved:

Second:

Vote result (carried) APPROVED

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2. Guest Teachers

Updates from Ms.Lavallee

Ridgemont's first Night Market (December 6, 2023 4-7pm in the RHS cafeteria. Snow date – Dec.7.

- Anyone is welcome to put in a booth. Only locally made items are allowed (ie no marketing for other companies, etc).
- People will be welcome to perform in the Lobby at the same time.
- Coordinators will work with vendors / performers to ensure minimal overlap.
- Council and community members are encouraged to share this info out with their communities.

Drama department activities

- Company of Fools coming to perform Hamlet.
- Stage management program developed for Spartans Studio
- Grade 9 arts and the drama programs are following a curriculum focused on Indigenous programming and are working on learning and sharing various types of Indigenous art through dance, drama, and art. NAC10 (Dance, Drama, Art).

3. Teachers Report

Ms.Wheeler

- Looking for funding for the breakfast program
- World studies program made a beautiful map which was displayed on the auditorium floor
- A few different sports will be holding tryouts soon, which will be noted on website and emailed to students
- Black Student Union (BSU) will be hosting Scholarship and resume workshops
- Numerous recent success with RHS sports teams, including with the Jr girls basketball, and Sr. boys volleyball. Tryouts underway for some other teams.

4. Principal's Report (Rachelle Sintic)

Greg W

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- Mid-term progress reports delivered Nov.21. Full disclosure Nov.28th (Classes dropped prior to this will not appear on transcript. Any classes dropped after this point will show as withdrawn. Next semester begins Feb.1/24.
- Remembrance day assembly last week.
- Islamic Heritage Month presentation soon and Islamaphobia presentation this Friday.
- Literacy tests coming at end of November for grades 11 and 12 who have not yet written them. Grade 10s will be done at the end of semester
- EQAO math will be done at the end of the math semester.
- 19 new sections (individual classes) started this year. All are now staffed with teachers. The majority of the new sections were focused in ESL/ELD, with some others used to create classes that had were limited due to too many interested students.
- Photo retakes - Nov.23 (afternoon).
- Grad photos – 3rd or 4th week of December.

5. Student Council

- Halloween spirit activities were very successful and very well organized (haunted house and fashion show).
- Winter holiday spirit week
 - o Some events planned: ornament making, door decoration, and movie night (free entrance with food for sale), snowperson making contest, themed dress days (ugly sweater, holiday colours, etc).
 - o There will be signup lists for participation.
 - o SC also hopes to decorate the lobby and are seeking donations of decorations.
 - o A dance will be held for Valentine's – SC will be doing fundraisers to fund this.
- SC considering a board wide event in spring summer 2024 which will be focused on student made arts. The goal is to bring people together from different school.

6. Chair's Report (Nancy Dean)

- Discussions have begun to plan for management of School Council related funding.

7. OCASC Report (Nancy Deans)

- Parent involvement positions in OCASC have recently been eliminated.

8. Comments / Concerns

Fundraising

- A committee will be put together to look into some questions such as what can raised funds be used for.
- What are the actual needs of the students / school so that we can make sure we direct funds where they are needed
- Greg W will look into what we can and cannot do wrt raising funds, and will provide this info to us soon.
- Creation of committee moved by Mike. Seconded by Anna and John. Passed.
 - o Volunteers: Lindsay, Florence, John, Mike

Final Exams Overview

- Removal of grade 9 and 10 final exams is causing concern to some. Concern is that it is not preparing students for writing exams prior to at the grade when post-secondary schools are able to see the marks.
- This was a board decision. Grade 11-12 teachers are able to decide whether they will use final exams for their courses, or use other methods to evaluate students. This ministry-backed board decision was seemed to cause too much stress for students, which they feel is counterproductive.
- Parent Reaching Out Grants for 2023-24 preparations are underway. This program helps parents get more involved in their children's education by supporting local parent-led projects that encourage student learning and promote well-being. - PRO GRANT 2023-2024

9. Next Meeting

Next meeting - Dec.12/23

Meeting adjourned at 8:36