

## ECOLE SECONDAIRE HUGH McROBERTS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

### 13 September 2017 MINUTES

**Parents in attendance:** Lisa Enns, Sandra Clark, Hugo Mадiera, Miwa Suzuki, Renu Mirpuri, Anna Alibudbud, Asad Zahir, Elsie Hernandez, Sophia Zhang, Winnie Loong, Thelma Ray, Carla Shkwarok, Diane Pai, Sheryl Herstad, Li Ping Magnusson, Lucy Guo, Bal Sidhu, Susan Ness, Christin Loy, Leanne Asante, Sissi Liu

**Administration in attendance:** Principal Neil Kamide, Vice Principal Mike Whittingham

Meeting started 7:05pm

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Minutes from May 2017 were adopted by Sheryl Jerstad and seconded by Leanne Asante. All in favor.
- 3) School Administration Report
  - a. Principal Kamide shared his first positive perceptions of students, staff and the school.
  - b. The Supreme Court ruling on class size and composition has impacted the start of school. F/T Librarian, P/T social studies/math and F/T Spanish/French positions should be filled by next week.
  - c. The new curriculum will be fully implemented for grades 8-11 by the end of the year. It is unknown how different grading system will affect post-secondary entry.
  - d. Discussed parent involvement in learning:
    - i. Parents encouraged to stay as involved as possible to help their child's learning. Stress from school should be shared with the school so staff can help.
    - ii. Discussed the concept that "Silence equals Acceptance". Parent and students should speak up if they disagree with behavior/attitudes.
    - iii. Social media is a major issue for teens so parents are encouraged to have conversations with their children about social media use.
  - e. Parents reminded athletics in high school is competitive so not all who try-out make the team.
  - f. Grade 11 and 12 parents are encouraged to attend the Canadian Universities Night at McMath.
  - g. There is increased school communication via a weekly newsletter with lots of pictures. The school Instagram account will be taken over by one of the other Administrators since Ms. Kwon has left

#### 4) Dates

September 14 – School Photo Day  
September 18 – Collaboration #1  
September 19 – Collaboration #2  
September 20 - 22 – Rosh Hashanah  
September 21 – Grade 12 Post-Secondary Meeting / Grade 12 Parent Information Night / Meet the Teacher Night  
September 22 – Pro-D Day  
September 26 – Terry Fox Run / Canadian Universities Event @ McMath  
September 29 – Yom Kippur  
October 2 - 6 – Walk to School Week  
October 11 – Photo Re-Takes  
October 16 – Collaboration #3  
October 17 – Collaboration #4  
October 18 – PAC Meeting

#### 5) Committee Reports

- a. Treasurer Update
    - i. Miwa explained how PAC needed to get government Gaming Funds, and what Gaming Funds used for. This year's Gaming Fund application has not gone in yet.
    - ii. The Gaming Account currently has \$20,525.99. It is unknown if all of the receipts from last years purchases have been accounted for yet.
    - iii. The General Account has \$4,408.41
  - b. Secretary Report
    - i. Thank-you letters from last year's PAC Scholarship winners have been received.
  - c. Dry Grad – parents can volunteer for this committee that will meet soon.
- 6) Open Forum
- a. PAC functioning:
    - i. Hugo assured new parents that high school PACs are about getting info and sharing feedback. There is no fundraising.
    - ii. PAC Executive elections were held in May, but interested parents are welcome to join the Executive, especially in the Treasurer position as Miwa will be leaving PAC in 2018/19.
  - b. PAC Constitution and Bylaws:
    - i. Hugo proposed a subcommittee to review and revise the PAC Constitution and Bylaws which were last amended in 1997. Asad Zahir and Susan Ness volunteered for the subcommittee.
  - c. Grade 8 Camp:
    - i. Parents were thankful for the camp, which all students seemed to enjoy. Unfortunately the food was not as good as usual as the camp chef quit with little notice.
  - d. Grad Dinner and Dance
    - i. Parents asked why they are not able to stay at the Grad Dinner and Dance. Administration feel it is due to the size of the venue. Parents request a Red Carpet Event be held at the school prior to grads taking the bus to the event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10PM