

Etobicoke Collegiate Institute

School Council Meeting – September 25, 2007

Minutes & Business Arising:

- Sandy welcomed the attending parents to the first meeting of the 2007-2008 school year. There was no business arising from the May minutes distributed prior to the end of last school year.

Student Council Report:

- General: SAC introduced themselves and gave an over view of the activities they will co-ordinate; Adam Springer (President) mentioned the Gr. 9 week which will include a scavenger hunt , dodge ball tournament and free pizza lunch
- Social : Robby Dart indicated committee members to be selected randomly from applications submitted
- Charity: same committee selection process as above; CN Tower Stair Climb scheduled for Oct. 18
- Athletic Executive: Meagan Brown (President) presented some of the current activities including intramural flag football; Oct. 13 ECI vs. Richview football game as well as Friday Night lights game Oct. 19; various sports teams have commenced; athletic clothing will be on sale pre-Christmas again this year
- Music Executive: Lawrence Kwok (President) mentioned the fundraiser for students of orange and cookie dough sales will commence soon; at the Holiday Concert Dec. 5 a silent auction will also be held; the Music Trip this year will be to Milan, Rome, Athens & Malta

School Council Chair Report: Sandy Brown

- Members for the School Council have submitted forms; additional members submitted at the first meeting; all acclaimed and confirmation of final group to be communicated at the next meeting
- E-mail distribution list forms were circulated to develop a new distribution list for minutes and other material from time to time; additional parents are welcome to be added to the list
- Budget available to offer financial support to the school; each dept. head has been asked to submit requests – disbursement TBD
- Some funds will be used to host a parent info night on Teenage drinking likely in January; similar event held a few years ago and time to present again in light of Richview student death; to be co-ordinated with other schools
- Criteria for grant money available for Parent outreach not to be pursued; very specific to challenges of schools connecting with parents; previous requests for suggestions from parents did not identify suitable topics

- Specific lock down drill to be held twice a year (Sam Iskandar shared procedure - see below) as per parent request and school requirement – very top of mind considering C.W. Jeffreys incident
- University Info night for parents to be held Nov. 14; Ontario University Fair to be held weekend of Sept. 28 – 30 at Metro Convention Centre
- Sandy to speak at Gr. 9 Parent Night Sept. 27 to encourage School Council participation
- Sandy to present School Council Award at Commencement Oct. 4th; School Council also supports Prefect Awards
- The concept of the MSIP (Multi Subject Instructional Period) schedule investigated last year was unable to be pursued as ECI was told it would not be a feasible option due to contractual obligations within the teachers collective agreement; considering there was significant interest by many teachers, students & parents, it was suggested last year that a parent sub-committee might be created to investigate further; parents with an interest should contact the School Council

Teacher Representative Report: Jim O'Reilly

- Jim O'Reilly was welcomed back for another year as the Teacher Representative
- Jim reported 19 new teachers on staff in most every dept.
- Teachers are receiving concerns/dialogue from the union regarding the upcoming election
- PLC (Professional Learning Centre) meetings have commenced on Wednesdays again this year
- Principal has requested feedback on what works and what doesn't to help develop go forward plans for Professional Development; key items: classroom management & student motivation

Principal & Vice-Principal Reports: Gordy Stefulic, Sam Iskandar & Jinah Park

Gordy Stefulic

- Gordy expressed her pleasure at being at ECI
- Staffing: many new teachers; still need a Dental Hygienist; some support staff challenges in Guidance due to illness but handled well; may lose 1 caretaker due to correction to approved allocation
- Enrolment at capacity although city-wide continues to drop
- Classroom cap size on track
- 3 board objectives shared: Safe & Caring Schools, Better Communication with Parents, improved EQAO scores
- School budget \$397K; dept heads asked for requirements
- Leadership Camp/White Pine: committed to on-going programme; goal to have all Gr. 10's attend; aspirations to have even more teachers involved for full or partial week
- ESP (Empowering Student Programme): in conjunction with Police Services; focus on empowering students re:handling safety issues

Sam Iskandar

- Commencement Oct. 4th; early dismissal at 11:45 am
- Early warning reports going out Oct. 17: identify students at risk in a particular subject
- Nov. 21st: Report Cards ; Nov. 29th Parent Teacher interviews
- Lock Down procedures shared; to be posted in every classroom; drills twice a year; Fire Drills 6 times a year

Jinah Park

- PLC meetings will also allow for a once a month full staff meeting plus a once a month dept. head meeting as well as the school wide meeting with the 8 teacher groups focusing on specific topics

New Business

- Web Site: concerned raised about the inaccuracy of school information; also School Council information was never resolved last year after a successful 1st year on the site; Administration to investigate

Next Meeting: scheduled for **Wednesday, October 24 at 7:30 pm** in the Library.