

# Erindale School Council

January 15, 2019

## Minutes

1. Attendance: Sandra Trupp, Tammy Vinesky-Kwok, Razia Quddus, Melanie Nicholson, Susan Kolempar, Denise Whitlow, Shondie MacKenzie, Kimberly Hicks-Ruttan

Regrets: Theresa Edwards, Sandra Parise, SAC

2. Presentation by Ms. Vinesky-Kwok about co-op opportunities, including dual-credit co-operative education.
3. Approved minutes from October 24, 2018
4. Principal's Report

I don't know where to begin as I am still playing catch up from being off. We have an excellent school year underway. Hard to believe that we are almost to exams.

Our SAC team is preparing for exams, I will be sure to have them here next time.

Prior to the break our students were very involved in supporting a variety of events. We hosted the kindergarten and grade 1 students in Project Santa, the Erin Mills and Homeland Band students in our first ever "Bandaploosa" where they played with the Erindale band at their "Sounds of the Seasons" concert. We collected food for the food drive, and toys for Toy Mountain. In addition we dressed in "ugly sweaters" our PJs and watched Christmas movies during the last week before the break.

On Thursday and Friday of this week we are trying something new to support our math students writing the EQAO test. At 8:15 Thursday grade 9 math students will write the booklet one of the math test, all other grade 9 students will write the first booklet of a practice literacy test. All grade 10 and those other students who have to write the literacy test will write a mock test. On Friday, grade 9 math students will complete booklet two and all other grade 9s will complete the literacy practice and take up their work to identify areas to improve. Grade 10s who need additional time can come in to complete the Mock Literacy test, otherwise they will be here at 9:30 to begin period 1 of the day.

Grade 11 and 12 students who have already written the OSSLT can stay home to study for an hour (or sleep in) and then be here for 9:30 to begin their day.

I want to take you through a quick overview of our school goals for this year. Power Point was shared about School Success Planning. Board's four goals for student success are based on the

“flower” and are: High Expectations for achievement; Parent, community and staff engagement; Equity and Inclusion; Safe, positive, healthy climate/well-being. The focus for this year are the three Es: Engage Math, Empowering Modern Learners, and Equity and Inclusion, especially for: Black Male Youth (We Rise Together), First Nations, LGBTQ, and Students living in Poverty. Erindale has goals for improving Literacy, Numeracy, School climate thru Reducing Bullying and increasing support for Mental Health. These are posted on our School Success Site. Erindale will continue to use the following theory of action to direct the work:

*If we use professional inquiries that challenge our understanding and practice of teaching and assessing through the use of critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and innovation and communication, then we will increase our students’ 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.*

5. Upcoming Events:

- a. EQAO – Jan 17 and 18 – see above
- b. Exams – January 23 – 31
- c. Semester Two – February 1
- d. PL Day – February 8
- e. School Council Meeting - February 12
- f. Grade 9 Collaborative Day – Social Action in the Community – February 13
- g. Mark your calendars: Drama Production April 11 and 12 “Shades of Shakespeare”

6. Items to Discuss

- a. Parking Letter received from neighbour community – discussed the difficulties with the Kiss and Ride during drop off and pick up. Principal will continue making announcements to students about safety in the parking lot and good citizenship in the community. Synervoice will be sent again to families about being patient and safe while in the parking area. Principal will speak to Communication Department to get advice about drafting letter in response.
- b. Grade 9 math concerns were discussed. Principal will follow up about a student who was unable to get support in the afterschool Counting On You. Discussed the large gap between grade 8 and grade 9 and the push for completing things quickly which is different when earning credits.
- c. Discussed funding for things like band. Principal explained the way non-board funds were dispersed to the teams and clubs. Parents expressed concern especially about support for band as the band is large and has an excellent reputation. Principal explained that it could not be a regional program.
- d. Discussed topic for speaker, Dr. Karyn Gordon’s visit to Erindale March 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m. Two topics were of special interest, “Building Confidence” and “Inspiring your Teen’s Dream Career”. Consensus was to request second topic and ask her to include some confidence building strategies as well. Principal will complete the application package.
- e. School council complete the VP and Principal Consultation forms  
Next Meetings: February 12, March 25 (Dr. Karyn Gordon), May 14