

Rockway Public School Council

October 11, 2017

Present: Desiree Hinsperger, Alison Cass, Hala Muhssin, Ashley Gardner, Vadsana Kalavona, Shanna Hartman, Carlos Costa, Maritess Macdonald, Randi Livingston, Bobbie Chatha, Julianne Amaral

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bobbie welcomed everyone to council. Carlos made a motion to approve September minutes. Seconded by Ashley.

- Co-chair: Ashley Gardiner and Christine Lacelle
- Secretary: Desiree Hinsperger
- Fundraiser Representative: Shanna Hartman
- Staff Representatives: Amanda Davis & Alison Cass

Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Principal Report and School Updates

- Staff Updates - a new kindergarten teacher has been hired. Meghan Clifford will be covering a maternity leave starting in November.

- Math Updates: DreamBox, Math. UP - the WRDSB is diving deep into math and work will continue this year. Site based days allow some professional development for teachers while classrooms are covered by supply teachers. Math will be the focus of these days. Grade 4 teachers are part of a pilot program with a technology based math program that will help them plan lessons based on specific needs of students. Staff meetings and PD Days will always have a math component as well.

- SCIS Team - October. Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools team (members include Mrs. Ingram, Mrs. Cass, 2 Grade Six students, Mr. Klokoff, and hopefully 2 parents). The team will hopefully be meeting every month to discuss how to make our school a safe place for everyone. There was a survey completed last year and the results will come out in a couple of weeks and the work will continue from there.

- Nutrition Break Lunches - Mindful Eating - Rockway School Climate Committee has suggested that everyone try some mindful eating time each day and so that there is enough focus on eating, chewing and thinking about what they are eating and less time on talking.

- Process for Discipline/Bullying - Mrs. Chatha handed out a paper that explained the expectations for students during break, class time, etc. A reminder that parents can help students get to school on time - let the school know if you need any support around that.

There is a bullying prevention plan on Rockway's website - the SCIS team will also be reviewing it shortly. There are very few cases of bullying at Rockway(true to the definition of repeated actions - there is a great list that Mrs. Chatha will share next month that breaks down the differences).

3. **Staff Report** (Alison) - Lowes on Ira Needles Blvd. held a fundraising day for Rockway where they accepted donations . Those funds have been used to brighten up the outdoors and now our yard looks awesome. The Garden Build day was held with many students and staff involved - so many great changes and more to come. This helps all students feel at home and proud of their school.

- Terry Fox Day was held in September and Mr. Klokoff got everyone pumped for the event. The Foundation has contacted the school and they want to come and do a presentation in thanks for our participation and commitment.

4. **Fundraising by School Council**

- The Jersey Mike's fundraiser will be running October 25-30th. Each child will receive 2 tickets for a \$2 sub. Please pass them on to someone who will use them if you don't think you will use them. All money will be given back to Rockway.

- Shanna shared 2 potential fundraisers she has been investigating- Chocolate Bars (from Stratford) has offered their chocolate mint bars, Simply Delicious and Simply Mint . A motion to do the Minty Chocolate Bars from Stratford was made by Carlos and was seconded by Ashley.

5. **Volunteer Opportunities (Police Check)**

- Breakfast Club - is now running 5 days a week and we do have some volunteers from the University as well as some parents.

- Turkey Lunch (Susanne Akimov) – lots of volunteers will be needed to volunteer on December 8th.

- Pizza Lunch - we need people to help with pizza lunch - to help separate orders and deliver.

-Tuck Shop - we also need volunteers to run the tuck shop. This only takes about 10 minutes each time. This happens at 11am each day.

6. **Tools for Life** (Leslie Ingram) - this program is being used again at Rockway this year as this there has been a good response over the years. Leslie shared some of the strategies and how they work in real-life situations. This year the school would like to further encourage families to use the words from Tools for Life at home as well. We had a discussion about the possibility of having a family Tools for Life night or a take home resource available for families. More details to follow...

7. **Closing Remarks** - a motion to close the meeting was made by Carlos and seconded by Hala.

Next School Council meeting: Wednesday, November 8th, 2017 at 6pm