

RCI School Council Executive Meeting Minutes
November 25, 2019
7:00 pm

1. **Call to Order, Welcome.** In attendance: Paul Edwards (Principal), Michelle Robinson (VP), Parents: Ayub Uddin, Mages Palany, Kimberly de Witte, Jackie Marrie, Laura Pillsworth, Melanie Boyd-Brown, Lucy Coyle.
2. **Approval of October 28 minutes** – Melanie motioned, Jackie seconded.

3. Updates:

- a. **Uniform Policy** – Michelle & Paul representing Maya, Baxter and Ms. Lovell from RUSTCO. Schoolwide Assembly for students to debate the Uniform Policy was held on November 20. Assembly included opening statements, pro and con discussion, then students were allowed to ask questions. They were told what the ballots would look like and they had the vote today in homeroom. 86% of the student population voted, even without the Grade 12 votes. Overwhelming response of no uniform. When will it be effective? It's realistically in effect now, given the new TDSB dress policy, but officially in September. We will communicate this at the Grade 8 Information Night, and to the teachers, students, and parents this week as well. We have until next week to let McCarthy know. Students can wear hoodies, hats, etc. Just need to see their face on camera.
Discussion around cell phone in the classroom and how the TDSB policy is being enforced. Some teachers have shoe organizers, boxes, etc., to store phones away from students, but it's a big liability if they go missing. Since it is the student's personal property, taking them away is very contentious. Overall, there's not a big cell phone issue at RCI.
- b. **Admin Update** (Paul/Michelle) – Grade 8 Info Night is happening on Thursday, Nov 28th. We spoke with the Union Rep, and teachers know how important this is, so they will be here that night. Grade 8s from Humbercrest and Islington Public school toured RCI last week.
The Info Night will be held completely on the main floor – robots, music, clubs, etc. There will be a short video (updated from last year) and presentation right at 7pm. Based on the feedback forms from last year, the presentation will be brief so there is more time to converse with staff, students and parents.
ACTION: School Council will have a table set up under the Council bulletin board with members available to answer parent questions. Kimberly to send Laura any literature we had from last year for interested parents to take.
Also refreshed the Information Night literature, updating the Masters to go through Grade 12 instead of Grade 11. Years back, we tried offering AP courses for Grade 12, but they weren't a huge success.
This time we are trying to do a lot more STEM integration, linking projects in all three sections of Science, Technology and Mathematics. And add more opportunities for the non-Masters Grade 9s to see if they might be able to handle the academic rigor and join the Masters program in Grade 10.

Melanie: Will the Masters Program numbers be higher? Paul: Selection process for Masters is being revamped this year; not just an entrance exam, but include an interview process and video project. The goal is two classes of 25, 50 students in total.

Ayub: Is there any option to have Robotics included into the Masters curriculum? It takes up so much of the students' time and then they don't have time to study. Paul: I can't tell you how beneficial the experiences are in the Robotics program; mentors from industry, time with teachers, competition, etc.

RCI has offered the TER (Robotics) credited course in the past and the students didn't chose it. Western offers Robotics as a credit course, but it the students enrolled only represent about 1/10 of the students in their Robotics Team.

The very heart of FRC is community – gracious professionalism – they need more than a school credit in order to compete. Robotics Community Day this past Saturday was a grand success, bringing so many people together, and that provides invaluable skills for our students.

- c. **Treasurer/Fundraising** (Jackie) – No change to checking account from last meeting; no spending has occurred. The fundraising literature has been finalized and with the updated Teacher Wishlist (see attached), and we can move forward. Wasn't available in time for interim report cards, so we will include with Term 1 Report Cards at end of January. Other communication includes:

- added to school website, social media and Bulletin (Mrs. B.)
- RCI app: Push notification for Notification, and static notice in the News section (Ms. C.). Shorter version, with link to school website
- Office can send direct email push to all subscribers, along with School Cash Online link (Marlea)

ACTION: Kimberly to include on January 15 Agenda to determine deadlines for donations. Jackie to provide final hard copy by January 28 so Kimberly can ensure it is included with Report Card mailing on January 30.

- d. **Ward 7** (Melanie, Laura) – nothing to report to date.
- e. **Communications** (Kimberly) – Ms. B is working with the TDSB Help Desk to get all student contact email addresses downloaded to a file that can be imported for the weekly Principal's Bulletin. Hoping to have this resolved for next week. Meanwhile, the Fall Newsletter was emailed out to all contacts today. Discussion around getting a new email address set up for School Council. The previous one was Khaleel.mohamed@tdsb.on.ca. Unanimous decision to have a more generic email that can be passed down.
ACTION: Kimberly to connect with Marlea to set up new email as RCI-school-council@tdsb.on.ca or something similar.
- f. **Mountview** (Lucy)
Mountview has many activities going on over the next few months and they have many parent volunteers to implement. MV's Holiday Show and Auction is December 10 and RCI's Arts Night is December 11; potential for some overlap.

ACTION: Lucy to connect with Ms. Lambert around putting up RCI Artwork a day early and possibly donating items for MV's auction (splitting the proceeds between the two schools).

MV is now offering a Robotics course that some RCI students are helping with. The RCI students are unable to use this time towards their community service hours since it's during the school day – is there anything that can be done?

ACTION: Paul to look into ways that donated time can be counted as community service hours (eg., spares, lunch hours).

4. Future Meetings (June 1) Topic

ACTION: Jackie to connect with her psychologist contact at Sick Kids' before January 13 meeting.

Another option is the film, *Angst*, focusing on anxiety in today's society. The intended audience is 10 years and up, parents, students, and teachers together and includes a moderator guide, tips for Q&A, and marketing materials with the one screening for US\$650. Can be sent electronically and immediately upon payment. There is also a Trilogy option that includes *LIKE*, around social media, and *Upstanders*, around bullying. The cost is US\$1,800 and includes classroom materials and more screening options that could spill over into the 20/21 school year. This could be done as a joint effort between MV and RCI to help shoulder the cost.

ACTION: Kimberly to get more information and send the link to RCI & MV School Councils and administration.

5. Other Business

Prom Committee is holding a Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 14th. The Vex IQ Robotics Tournament is also being held at RCI that day, so the hope is to have lots of interest. The fundraiser is based on selling tables to craft merchants as well as a raffle of donated items.

ACTION: Kimberly to forward the flyer to School Council parents so it can be printed and distributed to places around the community, on Facebook pages, etc.

A journalism student contacted RCI about speaking with parents regarding the role of School Councils in fundraising and where funds go. Jackie recommended Runnymede Public School might have more to offer since their Council is so robust.

ACTION: Jackie to forward email to Runnymede Public School's School Council chair.

6. Adjournment 8:45 – Jackie motioned, Laura seconded.

**Teacher Wish List for School Council 2019-2020
As of November 25, 2019**

Item	Requested By	Cost
Aquaponics System	Science	\$100 (x 4 classrooms) = \$400
Proper Door Window Coverings for lockdown procedures	Staff	\$350
Motivational Speaker	Staff/ACLS/Equity	\$2000
Portable Large Speaker for school events	Arts/Tech Crew/Events	\$400
Paint/Art Supplies to help student groups revitalize cafeteria/washrooms and hallways with new artwork	Equity/Wellness	\$500
Ipad & cart for classrooms	Staff General Request	10 pack of ipads = \$3830 Cart for 30 ipads = \$2381
	TOTAL (approx.)	\$10,000

SHORT COMMUNICATION:

Your donation will help Runnymede Collegiate students thrive and succeed!

With your donation, Runnymede can continue to strengthen its programs and the opportunities offered to our wonderful students. <INSERT 2-3 KEY ITEMS THAT ARE ON THE WISH LIST>

Parent Council is asking RCI families to make a voluntary, tax-deductible donation. We have heard from families that it is a better use of time and money to run a yearly Direct Donation campaign rather than organize multiple, small fundraisers that often require more time, cost families more and raise less money.

Our goal is to raise \$7500. This money will enrich the wonderful programs being run by dedicated RCI staff and give our students resources and opportunities to thrive. <INSERT ANOTHER 2-3 EXAMPLES OF WHAT \$ WILL BE USED FOR>

There are two easy ways to donate.

1. Donate online through School Cash Online or
2. Donate by cheque. (Drop off your donation in the school office.)

Please see detailed instructions on the school website: (LINK HERE)

Thank you for believing in RCI students!

LONG INSTRUCTIONS:

**Please help support Runnymede Collegiate Institute students!
Direct Donation Campaign**

Parent Council is asking RCI families to make a voluntary, tax-deductible, donation to the school in support of our children's education. Rather than having multiple fundraisers, the Direct Donation Campaign allows families to donate ***one time per year*** to fund Parent Council enrichment programs.

This year, Parent Council is looking to make a major investment of **\$23,000** across programs in Arts, Music, Technology, English, Library and Thrive/Equity and Wellness, to help fund many "extras" that will complement the great programs that RCI already has.

There are two easy ways to donate, more details below:

1. Donate online

- <https://www.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn>
- Choose "Runnymede Collegiate Institute"
- There is an option to "Donate".
- Please put in the Comment section: "Direct Donation Campaign".

OR

2. Donate by cheque

- Bring your cheque to the main office.
- If you require a tax receipt, your cheque must have your home address on it or add it in a note attached with the cheque.
- The cheque should be made payable to: **Runnymede Collegiate Institute PS Council.**

Your donation will directly fund these priority requests identified by teachers and students, totaling **\$23,000**:

Arts

New printmaking press.

Silk screen Kit to make t-shirts.

English

Books for the 2 new English Classes that are integrating the JETS reading program

Library

12 library computers to be updated.

New books focused on equity and inclusion.

Technology

8 Charging carts for multiple Chrome Books, called “Hubs”.

Replacing 23 old computers.

Thrive/Equity and Wellness

Small fridge for Raven’s Retreat, to hold water and ice packs, where students have a quiet place to rest, if needed.

An update will be provided by school year end with the amount raised and requests which were funded.

Each fall, during our Direct Donation Campaign we will ask you to make your family’s contribution to these valuable RCI programs.

<http://www.runnymedecollegiate.com/>

Visit our Web Site <http://www.runnymedecollegiate.com/parents/>

INSTRUCTIONS for School Cash Online:

<https://www.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn>

Charitable receipts are issued for all donations over \$15.

Step 1: Sign in to School Cash Online

[Home](#) > [Sign In](#)

Sign In

Email

Password

[Forgot your password?](#)

Remember me?

Sign In

New to School Cash Online?

[Click here to register now](#)

Step 2: Choose "Make a Donation"

IMPORTANT: Please click [here](#) to read information from the Toronto District School Board regarding the collection of your personal information.

[Home](#) > [Items](#)

Items

Search

Make A Donation

Add Student

Step 3: Choose an amount from the Gift Information section.

Then under "Fund Destination", choose "Runnymede Collegiate Institute" from the drop-down menu.

Then in "Message", add the comment "Direction Donation Campaign".

Finally, click on "Add to Cart".

Gift Information

I would like to make a donation of: \$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1000

Other Amount:

Fund Destination

Tribute Information

This gift is:

Name of honoree:

Message to School Board

Message: *(Optional)*

Tax Receipt

A donation receipt will be emailed to you upon completion of your cart checkout.

[Back](#)

[Add To Cart](#)

Step 4: Confirm your name, the Item Name and then click "Continue".

IMPORTANT: Please click [here](#) to read information from the Toronto District School Board regarding the collection of your personal information

[Home](#) > [Checkout](#)

What's In Your Cart?

Name

Toronto District School Board

Item Name	Qty	Price	
Board Donation - Runnymede Collegiate Institute (1451)	1	\$15.00	Edit Remove

Total

\$15.00 CAD

Select More Items

Continue

Step 5: Choose your payment method. Fill in the details, then press "Continue".

[Home](#) > [Checkout](#) > [Checkout](#)

Select Payment Method

eCheck MasterCard **VISA**  Online

Card Type *

Card Number *

Expiry Date mm / yy *

Security Code * [What is this?](#)

Name on Card *

Your Order

Jackie Marrie
[Board Donation](#), Qty: 1

Total **\$15.00 CAD**

Back

Continue

Step 6: Confirm your billing address and click “Continue”.

[Home](#) > [Checkout](#) > [Checkout](#)

Confirm Your Billing Address

* field is required

Address Line 1 *

Address Line 2

City *

Country *

Province *

Postal Code *

Back

Continue

Your Order

Jackie Marrie
[Board Donation](#) Qty: 1

Total **\$15.00 CAD**

Step 7: Confirm your order and click “Complete Your Order”.

[Home](#) > [Checkout](#) > [Checkout](#)

Review Your Order

Name

Toronto District School Board

Item Name	Qty	Price	
Board Donation - Runnymede Collegiate Institute (1451)	1	\$15.00	Edit Remove

Total **\$15.00 CAD**


Back

Complete Your Order

Address Information [Change](#)

Jackie Marrie
499 Beresford Ave
Toronto
M6S 3E1

Payment Information [Change](#)



Card Type VISA

Step 8: You may print your receipt. If you entered your email address when you signed up, you will receive an email confirmation of your payment.

[Home](#) > [Checkout](#) > [Checkout](#)

Thank You For Your Order

Your payment request has been received

This has been added to your [Payment History](#)

Receipts:

Name	
Toronto District School Board	Print Receipt