

Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

Agenda Item	Lead	Minutes	Action
1. Call to Order & Welcome	Jackie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order at 7. • 15 Attendees online: Dawn Crandell, Lisa Truant-Tan, Jackie Marie, Krishna Gummaluru, Laura Pillsworth, Leslie Ambedian, Lucy Coyle, , Robynne Ostry, Seif Elsheikh, Melanie Boyd-Brown Admin: Paul Edwards, Katie Ferguson, Leigh Thornton, Guest: Kara Miley (Toronto Public Library) 	
2. Approval of Minutes from Oct 21, 2020 Mtg	Mel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to accept raised by Lucy Coyle and seconded by Robynne Ostry. 	
3. Follow-up & Updates from Oct 21 Mtg (10 min)	Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EQAO</u>: Waiting confirmation of EQAO – grade 9 math assessment is open for schools to administer online however Minster has indicated it is up to each school to decide if to administer and when and to whom (can administer on student by student basis); RCI will likely not administer it in Q2 but possibly Q3. Concern is how to administer it equitably and safely to all students. Admin will advise parents, guardians & students when they have a decision. • <u>Volunteer Hours</u>: have been reduced to 20 hours this year for graduating students. • <u>2020 grad & year end awards</u>: moving ahead with commencement online on January 8th- more info coming out shortly. • <u>Meeting Schedule for remainder of year for Student Advisory Council / School Parent Council</u>: Rule of thumb is 4 to 5 official meetings over year ~ guideline one per month as typically Dec/Jan/June they are not held; Suggested dates: last Monday of every month; Skip Dec; Go with monthly; Feb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent School Council meeting dates are Jan 25, March 29, May 31 • Executive Parent School Council Meeting Dates: Feb 22 & April 26 • Mel will arrange posting on website, social media channels and via email communication

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		<p>& April with executive only; meetings; Dates are: Jan 25, Feb 22, March 29, April 26, May 31</p> <p>Motion to accept raised by Lisa Truant-Tan first and Lucy Coyle seconded these dates;</p>	
<p>4. Principal & VPs's Report & Update</p> <p>(20 min)</p>	<p>Admin</p>	<p><i>Mr. Edwards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huge thank you to family community for continuing patience and understanding through these challenging times and also to all teaching, office, support staff and our VPs. They are demonstrating such commitment and bravery in doing the work that must be done in these challenging times of COVID coupled with online learning and adapted learning models while also juggling their own personal circumstances. • Currently have 23 teachers deployed at RCI in a mix of online and adapted models. • COVID update – there have been 4 distinct, isolated cases of COVID within the RCI building and there is no evidence of linkages between these cases within the school environments. TPH was involved in all cases and is comfortable with the approach that RCI administration has been taking. RCI will continue to take every precaution to limit exposures as it oversees administration and staffing jointly of RCI and Mountview environments which include the nursery school and before/after school programs. • One of the new TPH protocols is to offer controlled testing to any school group that has an exposure and needs to isolate. This means that the exposed group can have access a controlled testing cycle at a controlled time. This is a TPH process not a TDSB process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mel to book Ms. Thornton for a SAC meeting on Staff initiative “Reading for Explicit Change”

Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

	<p><i>Ms. Thornton:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spearheaded the inclusion of RCI in a virtual school-based delivery model (the RCI Virtual School Learning Hub) that involves RCI and ~ 20 other high schools. Approximately 25% of RCI opted to move to virtual at the end of Q1 but the TDSB virtual high school could no longer accommodate the volume of students wishing to enrol so schools needed to find solutions within their own environments. This new virtual school-based model offers RCI students the option of taking classes taught by RCI teachers as well as other schools. The impetus was to give as many students as possible the ability to get the courses they wanted and needed virtually. Next steps is to survey current families in this new model to find out how it is going and whether they anticipate staying in the RCI Virtual School Learning Hub. Communication will go out before the Winter Break first to students and families in the RCI Virtual School Learning Hub and then to RCI wide. A risk if many more students opt into virtual learning school hub is that the entire RCI schedule will need to be revisited. Currently specialized classes for specific programs such as the Masters program cannot be offered online in the RCI Virtual School Learning Hub. This would change if all of the TDSB was mandated to go online.• Over Q2 there will be a few extra early dismissal as staff are participating in a variety of sessions (2x/mth) called “Reading for Explicit Change: A staff initiative to meet regularly to discuss and challenge racism at Runnymede. The focus is on anti-black and anti-indigenous readings to help staff learn how they can better support the student populations of RCI. All staff are meeting to talk about this issue including how to improve the curriculum and better serve students.	
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Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question – would this be a topic that Ms. Thornton would present to a future SAC meeting? Ms. Thornton agreed she would. The school is very open to parent and student feedback and is taking a lot of feedback from RCI’s Black Student Alliance. <p><i>Ms. Ferguson:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report cards went out this week so families should be receiving them if they have not already. In Q1, RCI students registered for 681 secondary credits and 682 were earned – which is a 92% success rate! There were only 53 failures and credit recovery for quad 2 is being introduced. • In response to a parent question/comment – grade 11 marks have always been important as universities often don’t have enough information to make a decision about early admission in January / February of the graduating year without the grade 11 marks. Given COVID, grade 11 marks will be more important and this should be emphasized to students and families. • Masters open House – Dec 2 – held virtually. Admission requirements and information are available on the website https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/runnymede-ci-masters-program/home. • Optional attendance: link for the fillable Optional Attendance form http://ppf.tdsb.on.ca/uploads/files/live/98/455.pdf 	
<p>5. SSON</p>	<p>Lucy Coyle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy Coyle updated to reflect relevant issues related to COVID (safety, wellness & remote learning). A big thank you to Lucy for leading this work last year and then updating it this year. Document accepted as submitted. Motion to accept raised by Jackie Marie and Mel Boyd-Brown seconded; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy to sign for Jackie and will submit to TDSB on behalf of the school tonight.

Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

<p>6. Financial Report (5 min)</p>	<p>Robynne Ostry</p>	<p>Welcome to Robynne as the new treasurer;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new to report since October’s minutes; 	
<p>7. Ward 7 Update (5 min)</p>	<p>Mages Palany</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mages was unable to attend this evening. • Mel Boyd-Brown provided brief update. Meeting did discuss the Virtual School Hub that RCI is part of. • Ward 7 meeting minutes will be available on the RCI website when they are issued. Expect to be issued later this week. 	
<p>8. Mountview Update (10 min)</p>	<p>Lucy Coyle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last year’s SCA chairs, Melanie and Diane stepped down as chairs; • New chairs are Diana and Theresa. • Nov 10th was initial SAC meeting with new executives. Council is planning subsequent meeting dates & pulling together budgets & submitted SSON as well. Have a virtual social gathering planned for mid Dec. • Mr. Edwards/Ms. Thornton: Carla (ACL – Head of Guidance) presented to the grade 8s about the Masters Program and RCI and this was also covered in the newsletter; 	
<p>9. Community Update (10 min)</p>	<p>Kara Miley (Toronto Public Library) + Lisa Truant-Tan (Robotics)</p>	<p>Kara Miley: Is the children and youth librarian for the Dundas branch. TPL has limited services because of lockdown – limited to people coming in for holds and one-hour computer session;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Hub initiative: talks started last year and the launch at Jane/Dundas branch was delayed earlier this year due to COVID. Initiated a soft launch in October. Went well. Youth Hub is dedicated space within the library for students available from 3:30-7 pm. Students can access the space and get homework help, have a snack, do activity or play a game and have a safe space to hang out;. Youth Hubs will offer programming that reflects the needs and requests of the youth in that community – programs such as DJ Music mixing, 	<p>Mel to Distribute Flyer with Meeting Minutes & Post on Website/ Media Channels</p>

Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

nutrition classes, dance etc. It is the role of the Youth Hub librarian to work with the students to develop and deliver programming. Currently due to COVID the limit is 5 students at a time following the TPH guidelines around distancing and best practices. Students can currently use the space for studying (solo) or if they need a laptop (in library use only). There are no snacks or programming for the duration of the pandemic.

- Library cards – if student needs a library card – can come in and register – will need address ID (can use a recent report card if home address is listed). If don't have this then can apply for a digital access card which gives a student access to all of TPL's digital resources online. ·
- Tutoring is available via Brainfuse – online from 2-11 pm. Will need library card to access resource.
- Presto Cards – in a partnership between the TPL and the TTC, students can get an unloaded Presto Card at the Jane/Dundas library (a \$6 savings). There is a limit of 2 per person. Students would need to load the card themselves at an appropriate location (like a Shoppers Drug Mart or appropriate TTC location).
- Kara can also work with teachers to set students up with physical library cards and provide an overview of the resources available online to students. Please email her at kmiley@tpl.ca

Lisa Truant-Tan

- Waiting for an announcement the first week in January to determine if will be a be scaled down in person Robotics competition or virtual Robotics competition. Lisa will let the

Minutes for November 30th RCI Parent School Council Meeting

		council know when she has more information. For now, First Canada hosts a live online event on Tuesdays where people can see what others are doing as it relates to Robotics. The team is registered for First Canada and does not need to build a new robot	
10. Other Items (10 min)		Nothing	
11. Q & A (10 min)		Nothing. Meeting adjourned at 8:30. Best wishes to all for a restful and healthy winter break.	
12. Adjournment (8:30 pm)			