

RCI School Council - Remote Meeting
Minutes for May 31, 2021(7:00 – 8:13pm)

Agenda Item	Lead	Details	Minutes
1. Call to Order & Welcome	Jackie		<p>Call to order at 7. 8 Attendees online: Melanie Boyd-Brown, Lucy Coyle, , Lisa Truant-Tan, Jackie Marie, Nicole Coker, Robynne Ostry, Admin: Paul Edwards, Leigh Thornton</p>
2. Approval of Past Minutes	Mel		<p>Motion to accept raised by Lisa Truant-Tan & seconded by Robynne Ostry</p>
3. Principal & VP's Report & Update	Admin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Update • VP Updates 	<p><u>Mr. Edwards (Principal):</u> Acknowledgement of the pain and challenges of the last few days building on top of a long and difficult year for most due to the pandemic. Thank everyone on school council for efforts this year, and our students and families, to our admin (Leigh Thornton, Rosalie Fine and former VP Kate Ferguson + clerical + care-taking teams), the ACL + program leads, guidance and all teaching staff. All have worked hard to be flexible and pivot as the year has unfolded. Scheduling of remainder of year + next Fall continues. Credit rescue starts June 23rd; Acknowledged the hard work done to support every student via guidance + specialized program. Messaging about delivery of report cards will be forthcoming – likely via email as in past quadesters; Almost completed hiring to backfill vacancies caused by retirements and 4/5 sabbaticals. Good range of applicants applying and pleased with results. Responding to parent question on ensuring integration across subjects for programs (such as Masters) – will continue to support this; Waiting to hear final count for VPs with Mountview (1 allocated to RCI). Current direction from Minster of Education is to schedule for quadesters starting in Sept 2021. A parent advised that there are petitions circulating in Ontario to request the Minster of Education return to normal school scheduling (semestered for RCI) in the Fall if health measures support this. Another parent provide links to surveys etc in the chat (and which can be accessed here): https://www.supportourschools.ca/?fbclid=IwAR3SuVot06YEB9JxmppeUI6QtAaWsDV3H7</p>

			<p>9AtI-kgvsP4Q4-qH3AUegkBSI and http://chnng.it/qrQcC5kHZC</p> <p><u>Ms. Thornton (VPs Report):</u> In June will be highlighting pride and national Indigenous month. Students have created a GSA (Gender / Sexuality Alliance) group for RCI + Mountview – teachers + students. Intent is to create a safe space for all + connect with students. Will be having workshops for grade 9/10 students with external TDSB approved provider to focus on educating students around homophobia, encouraging the creation of inclusive spaces, developing language that is supportive.</p> <p>In classes, in addition to the Land Acknowledgement Agreement, teachers will be encouraging moments of reflection.</p> <p>Organizing a speaker for the GSA who is a poet laureate and well-regarded spoken word artist – students feel a real connection with him; Reading for Explicit Change continues with the last meeting in 2 wks; During the last few meetings have focused on asking for, giving, accepting, and acting on feedback from peers/staff and RCI families.</p> <p>Mental health continues to be an issue for many, and the school staff are working hard to support students. If families notice students missing classes, or needing support please teach out to staff who are there to provide support and make sure no students slip through unsupported.</p> <p>Adin and ACLs and Guidance brainstorming on how they can create specialized programming for all students that is integrated across subjects so students can find connections with school that motivate them.</p>
<p>4. Financial Report</p>	<p>Robynne Ostry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update 	<p>\$1,223 available based on student seat funding last two years. Action: Robynne will provide more details in Sept.</p> <p>Recommending close extra account (School Council account) as it duplicates the non-board account the parent council already has (transfer \$91 into non board account). Scholarship discussion – unanimous agreement in meeting to donate \$500 as a scholarship for the 2021 Sky Nguyen Memorial Award, presented to a Runnymede Collegiate Institute (RCI) graduating student who has consistently displayed the positive & inclusive values that are celebrated at RCI. Action: Ms. Thornton to follow up with Sky’s family about this award.</p>

			<p>Proposal to provide \$2 per 110 graduating students, to a total of \$220, to help fund grad sweatshirts.</p> <p>Action: Robynne to confirm that it is within parent council permissions to do so.</p>
5. Ward 7 Update	Mel Boyd-Brown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update 	<p>Mages absent.</p> <p>No update.</p>
6. Mountview Update	Lucy Coyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update 	<p>Grade 8 grade virtual celebration during school hours on June 18th.</p> <p>Council is targeting mid-end of June for Pro Grant funded event and has secured 500 seats so will be sending out invite to RCI community via RCI communication channels.</p>
7. Community Update	Nicole Coker (Toronto Public Library) + Lisa Truant-Tan (Robotic)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toronto Public Library Updates Robotic 	<p><u>Nicole Coker – Toronto Public Library, Jane & Dundas branch</u></p> <p>Library opening June 7th – which means allowing people into building to use computers, scanner and photocopier; still able to call and request + pick up holds, and “Grab and Go” bags. Online Programming available via the Toronto Public Library website (https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca) in support of Pride Month, National Indigenous History Month and many other programs. Poetry Saved Lives program is re-starting too. Youth Hub remains closed for now. Summer reading club (ages 0-12) starts online June 14th (can come in to get reading logbooks).</p> <p>A reminder, if you don’t have a physical library card, virtual cards are available for those with a Toronto based telephone number, and provide access to the digital collection, including e-books.</p> <p>For teachers needing to organize physical library cards for students, please reach out directly to the library.</p> <p><u>Lisa Truant-Tan - Robotics</u></p> <p>Robotics is in holding pattern until next year. Patiently waiting.</p> <p>Organizing a reunion of sorts with past mentors and students. More details to follow.</p>
8. Other			<p>Parent Council would like to send another thank you note to all staff (teaching, admin, clerical, caretaking etc).</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Robynne to draft language.</p>

			<p>Jackie to create Kudoboard and send to Paul who will distribute via messenger to parents to sign.</p> <p>Plan is to present to all RCI staff on June 28th which is the virtual celebration meeting for those staff retiring/leaving RCI.</p> <p>Next Meeting September 27th @ 7 pm. More details to follow in September.</p> <p>Have a safe summer everyone.</p>
9. Adjournment (8:05 pm)			