

**ECOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
Minutes 2019 October 10 - 12:00 pm**

Attendees: Abby Thompson (student), Sue Zettler, Audra Donison (minute taker), Dean MacInnis, Terry Brookes

Parents thank the school and cafeteria for providing a lovely lunch.

- 1. Agenda-** Dean added “Parent Meetings” to the agenda
- 2. September 12, 2019 minutes** – approved as circulated
- 3. Standing reports**
 - a) **Anaphylaxis Committee** - There are posters posted around school about anaphylaxis, there are new EpiPens in 3 locations (staff room, main office, library). New RN to start soon and will do training on a variety of topics incl anaphylaxis.
A parent requested a copy of the document Peter shared with PAC
Action: Dean will get an ecopy that he will send to Audra to distribute to parents.
 - b) **Grad Council-** There is a water pong contest Wednesday after school and the annual grad pumpkin carving for Halloween. The committee includes Gr 12 students and 2 staff (Trimble, Lauder). Grad theme will be announced at the Christmas assembly, and hoodie plans are being discussed.
 - c) **Student Council** -Abby Thompson shared that there will be a bake sale for breast cancer awareness on October 23, and a Fear Factor competition with 5 gross foods, and a Costume Contest with prizes on Oct 31.
 - d) **YK1 Trustee Report** - Terry reported the Board approved the South Africa trip at the meeting last Tuesday. A number of policies were approved incl PAC and a new committee structure policy. Enrolment is up. The Sissons plans continue and there is a plan to present to parents soon, stay tuned for more information.
 - e) **Principal’s Report** - Dean included a number of articles in his documents this month. School refusal is becoming more common, where young children are refusing to go to school and schools can help with this. There will be a Grad Parent meeting soon, and ECE and SFA will be there.

Scholarships- In school scholarships are done in the spring, and outside scholarships are posted on the YK Community Foundation website, deadlines are usually in the spring. For university scholarships, you can look at these after you have been conditionally accepted.

Indigenous Language PD day is tomorrow.

f) **PAC Chairs Report** - At the last PAC Chairs meeting there was a discussion about the Climate Change, which resulted in the School board distributing a letter to parents, and the Board will keep parents informed re the Sissons school project as info becomes available.

4. Topics for open discussion: High risk students, ESL students, special needs students, gifted students, students with unique talents/interests, Knowledge & Employability (K&E) student issues.

Parking Lot Items: Keys to Success, Screens and Teens

5. Old Business

a) **November meeting date/time** – Audra is not available Thursday evenings. It was agreed that Wednesday Nov 13, 7 pm would be the next meeting time. Attendance records of day/evening meetings will be noted this year in order to evaluate benefits of evening meetings. Front door and NACC doors will be open.

b) **Parent Meetings** – Dean would like to have more opportunities to share information with parents, so that the school and parents are working together to build characteristics in teens – such as resiliency, collaboration, self-advocacy, etc. School is not about just knowing “information” but is about preparing them for the world. Often difficult situations or challenges help to prepare students and are not necessarily negative. Dean has a desire to gather parents together for discussions on teens that would be topic-based. The articles in the supporting documents are an example of what these discussions might involve. Questions for consideration: Could PAC meetings be the avenue to hold these discussions, ie set apart 30 min each meeting for a topic? Would online discussions be better attended? How do we prevent “preaching to the choir” and reach the parents who most need these discussions?

Action: Dean is open to parent input on this issue and best methods. Will continue discussions at future PAC meetings. Contact Dean to discuss further, or Audra as an alternative.

Next meeting: Nov 13, 7:00 pm, usual location: office area boardroom