

Minutes of Innisdale Secondary School Council Meeting

Monday, September 17, 2018

6:30 p.m. in the Library

Principal Brian MacIsaac began the evening welcoming the parents in attendance and introduced our Vice Principal Rob Poissant. We have over 1700 students (including over 400 grade 9 students) and over 100 staff – similar to last year. We are always wanting to build on clubs, teams, and activities throughout the school. Traditionally, school council has not been a fundraising body unless they wish to be.

Matt Torlette is the teacher representative this year. Tonight he is at Barrie City Council with a presentation for the Global Perspectives program, and he sends his regrets. Our three vice principals are Rob Poissant, Amanda Potter, and Anne Tervit, and either they or Brian will always be in attendance at the meetings.

Our student representative will attend beginning next meeting.

Principal MacIsaac provided an overview of the role of the council and the use of feedback from the parents. We did an introduction of those in attendance. He then outlined responsibilities of the chair position, and the function of council. Elections were held with the result that Lisa Robertson and Bob Jepson will be co-Chairs for the year and Beth Samra will be secretary with support from Jill Hynes as needed. Agenda items will be forwarded to Lisa prior to each council meeting.

If you subscribe to the daily announcements, newsletters, etc. through the ISS website, information is forthcoming on a regular basis. As an information item, the grade 9 Geo-science course has 120 students in its first year. All three specialist high skills majors proposed to the ministry were approved: hospitality and tourism, manufacturing, rec and outdoor ed, and construction are now offered. As well the Global Perspectives program welcomed 28 students from Germany to Innisdale. Innisdale has the high performance athlete program here supporting the Barrie Colts, Mariposa School of Skating, as well as gymnastics and dance students. Integrated Arts is a program that runs every second year, running next year. Aquatics instruction certification is a two-credit package offered. As well, music, drama, tech, life skills, and one of the biggest special ed programs are all offered.

The custodians did a phenomenal job clearing and cleaning the classrooms. Three stairwells were replaced over the summer. The building is in good shape. No additional portables will be needed. The property is being prepared for the new high school and over the next three years there will be discussion as to how this will affect Innisdale and the students who will be involved at the new school.

Online registration for parent/teacher night allows you to book your teacher time and then come at the appointed time. The night is October 11 and registration normally opens a week

ahead. The school action plan relies on the items from the Board. The primary focus for us is literacy and numeracy as we have one of the highest OSSLT scores. The mental health piece and the services that can be offered is another strong focus. A fourth part of the plan would be the equity of all learners that is moving forward over the years. The dynamics of our part of the city continue to change and will have new needs to address.

The student activity fee is a voluntary fee for a card that allows students to participate in events, clubs, music, sports, and other groups, with the funds gathered to offset some of the costs. Guest speakers are covered through the funds, sometimes in conjunction with other funding or other schools. Sport teams, music, and other groups have additional costs for busing, uniforms, equipment, etc. The Ministry of Ed pays only for classroom needs.

Lisa raised the question of the PRO grant application which is still pending, awaiting decisions from the provincial government.

Yearbooks are in and ready to be picked up. Extra copies are available for purchase.

Use of School Cash online is encouraged for efficiency and is available for the teachers to implement for costs.

Beth Samra moved and Lisa Robertson seconded that the meetings be moved to 6:00 p.m. for the rest of the year. The motion passed.

Our next meeting will take place on Monday, October 15, starting at 6:00 p.m. Please send any agenda items a week ahead of the meeting. You are welcome to send regrets if you are unable to attend. Please use this email address: [\[REDACTED\]](#)