

## **Byrne Creek Virtual Community Council Meeting**

**October 04, 2021**

*Attendance : Samantha Nelson (Chair), Sanjay Grover, Maria Ferrarresso, Sandra Medeiros , Effie Aadland (Principal), Sara LaBrash (Meeting Coordinator and Teacher's Representative), Laurent Scaligine (Vice Principal), Moreno Stefanon ( Athletics Director), Phil Dutton (Safe School Specialist), Maria, Elena + 11 participants ( on-line )*

Meeting was called to order at 7.08 pm

### **1. Approval of Agenda (Sam):**

Introduction of the group, the executive and the teachers. Agenda approved.

### **2. Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2021 Meeting:**

Sam introduced motion to adopt the minutes from September 13, 2021 which was seconded and adopted by the group.

### **3. Safe School Specialist Report (Phil):**

- Explained his role in the school and his involvement with students.
- Emphasized on solving small problems of students before they become big, be it in school or outside school.
- He emphasized on solving issues of students on social media.
- Sam raised the issue of vaping in the school which was replied to her satisfaction by Phil. Phil was of the opinion that the problem has reduced / died off a little bit, over the year.
- One parent asked Phil about providing a presentation about drugs etc. which could be shared with the students and parents. Phil assured that the same will be discussed with the students including details of the social media perils during the school year. This begins with grade 8, who are new to the school. Asked the parents to be in touch with him through phone/ email as per their requirements.
- Another parent asked about Phil's involvement in the feeder schools in Burnaby. Phil explained that he has been mentoring students in the elementary schools in Burnaby on various issues, particularly the grade 7 as to what should, they expect when they get into Grade 8 in the secondary school.

### **4. Student Council Update (Kai):**

- Sam welcomed the student council representative Kai to make the presentation to the group. He updated the group the Terry Fox Run. He told about the amount raised for the event. He talked about the other events in the school which will happen soon and how exciting they would be.

## **5. Principal's Report (Effie Aadland):**

Principal briefed about the following:

- Terry Fox Run and how enthusiastically the students and staff participated in that.
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation activities were talked about.
- BARC event for Grade 8's : Building a Respectful Community.
- Student Learning Conferences details were provided to the parents. The modalities of the Parent Teacher interviews were explained to the parents.
- Sam asked about the numeracy and literacy assessments. The vice principal replied to this on behalf of the principal. The assessment was discussed in detail. Further questions were raised about this by the parents and they were replied to satisfaction.
- Gave the details of the upcoming holidays to the group.
- Briefed the measures taken and being maintained by the school for Covid-19 prevention. Assured the parents that in case the student is not well he/ she should not attend the school and the teachers will take care of his learning needs.
- One parent raised a question about meeting the teachers after 3 PM. She was advised to email the teacher for an appointment and was told that it was workable.
- Another question was raised about the timings of the student parent conferences and Effie explained the parents that there are 2 sessions one in the afternoon and one in the evening so as to suit the requirements of all parents.

## **6. Chair's Report (Sam):**

Sam briefed the group that gaming grants had not yet been received. Otherwise, no Chair's report for the meeting.

## **7. Teacher's Representative (Sara LaBrash):**

- Briefed about the Clubs day and talked about the various clubs which are happening this year.
- Questions were raised by parents which was replied to their satisfaction by Sara LaBrash.
- Sara talked about the message left by Athletics coordinator Moreno who had leave for some urgent work. Sara talked about the update given by Moreno to her so that the group is aware on the recent developments in the athletics in Byrne.

## **8. Treasurer's Report (Elena):**

- The treasurer reported the change in the signing authority in view of the changed executive council. Report for month of Sept was provided. 5 cheques were processed. Gaming Account Balance: \$ 17860. She talked about account reconciliation and assured that she would be providing an update on the same soon before the deadline

of 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021. She said that the new gaming grant would arrive by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October. She promised to reduce the turnaround time for cheques.

#### **9. DPAC Meeting Update (Maria & Sam) :**

- Sam updated the group about the happenings in the DPAC meeting, the presentations made, people attending the meeting etc. Questions were asked by the parents and were replied to satisfaction.

With no new business to report the meeting was called off at 7.58 pm

**Next Meeting: November 1, 2021, 7 PM**