



## **PHILIP POCOCK SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**

**OCTOBER 16, 2023**

### **APPROVED MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Catherine Rivera, Rocio Valenzuela-Smolén, Tanya Escoffery, Eileen Tesoro, Stephano Pascucci, Marija Burazin

**REGRETS:** Mario Pascucci, Laura Coulson

The meeting was called to order by acting Principal Marija Burazin—acknowledging First Nations Sacred Territory and opening prayer.

**Welcome:** Introduction of Acting Principal and introduction of attendees.

Minutes for May 24, 2023, were not available for approval. The last meeting for the school year 2022-2023 was held at Father Michael Goetz C. S. S. at 6:30 pm, followed by Parent Council Engagement Night at 7:00 pm. The event had the motivational speaker and founder of MTC Life Miguel Martinez. Students from grades 7 and 8 from our feeder schools were also invited to this event. (Parenting post-pandemic, Mental Health, body and spirit, and Conflict Resolution)

**Trustees:** Mario Pascucci (Mississauga Ward 1, 3)

- Regrets

Stefano Pascucci (Mississauga Ward 4)

- Brought greetings and gratitude to the parents for their participation.
- Information regarding losing one student trustee but gaining the participation of a student representing the Indigenous community.
- Decrease in the number of students registered for the new school year across all boards.
- EQAO numbers released and good results for the DPCDSB.
- The DPCDSB looking to hire new Principals and Vice Principals. The need is high for these positions across the board. Calling retired Principals for short-term assignments.
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving

## Overview of School Council Positions and Responsibilities. Followed by Election of Officers:

<b>Chair:</b>	Catherine Rivera
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Open
<b>Secretary:</b>	Eileen Tesoro
<b>Parish Representative:</b>	Rocio Valenzuela-Smolen
<b>OAPCE Representative:</b>	Tanya Escoffery

## Principals Report:

- Presently school is reorganizing some classes to create new classes.
- Open house for grade 8 students on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Pocock Idol October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- College and University Fair November 2023.
- No civics or spirit days scheduled for the new school year because of safety concerns.
- Christmas concert scheduled 2 dates for the music department and for Dance/Drama department in December.
- School expected to welcome permanent Principal in January 2024.
- **Enrolment** - Poock has seen a significant increase in enrolment since April 2023; following final enrolment numbers at the end of September and a Board-wide staffing review, the increase at Pocock will result in the hiring of 2 additional full-time staff members (which means 6 additional sections in each semester); the courses to be added will be based on needs/demand/teacher qualifications; these new sections will be decided following consultation with Department Heads, Guidance, and SAAC (Staff Allocation Advisory Committee)
- **Clubs/Sports** – activities have been up and running since the start of the school year; students have many opportunities to get involved (both in sports and in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities)
  - The Student Council Prime Minister will attend future, regularly-scheduled School Council Meetings to share and update re school events, activities, and initiatives
  - If students wish to see certain activities/clubs/sports at the school that do not currently exist, they just simply need to submit a proposal for consideration to the Principal; the proposal must include the support of at least one staff member who would be the advisor for that activity
- **Communications** – regular emails with updates will continue to go out to the parent community regarding upcoming important dates and events
- **School Uniform** – there was a brief discussion regarding changing the school pants to a darker colour (but not black since the uniform would then be almost identical to one of the neighbouring schools); this was proposed by a couple of parents last year; after a discussion with current Council members, it was agreed that there is no interest to alter the existing uniform at this time

**School Council Meeting dates:**

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023,

Other dates are to be discussed at the next meeting.

- Closing Prayer
- Meeting adjourned and ended at 7:30 pm