

Subject: Parent Council update and meeting

Hello WL Mackenzie CI Parents!

Your 2018-2019 Parent Council has been VERY busy since our first meeting last month. So far, we've accomplished:

- Setting up a Parent Council Facebook group at <https://tinyurl.com/ParentCouncilFacebook>
- Met as an executive team to set our objectives and priorities
- Met with the new principal, Mr. Johnson, to discuss issues and priorities
- Participated in PART meetings to get our voices heard
- Scheduled additional Parent Council meetings and identified important committee positions that need to be filled
- Established TDSB email accounts for the co-chairs
- Received commitment from local businesses to provide free refreshments (e.g., coffee and donuts) at upcoming Parent Council meetings.

Parent Council Priorities

We heard you loud and clear! As a result of your feedback at the first meeting, as well as discussions with the exec and the principal, we established the following priorities:

1. Improved communication between the school, Parent Council members, and parents in general
2. Better engagement and involvement
3. Stronger governance and accountability

Parent Council Facebook Group Established

As part of the way we are addressing the 3 priorities above, we've created a Facebook group just for you! Please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/ParentCouncilFacebook> to learn what's going on at the school, access important information (such as meeting summaries and upcoming events), and most importantly... participate! We want to build a community that takes into account YOUR voice.

Parent Council Meeting November 27 at 6:30 pm

The turnout at the first Parent Council meeting was great, and we want to build on the momentum! Please refer to the attached agenda for details. Refreshments will be served!

PART (Program Area Review)

Some executive members participated at the recent PART (Program Area Review) meetings. This process encourages public input through the establishment of a school committee along with an opportunity for general community participation. Some very important issues are being discussed at the PART meetings, including school boundaries, overcrowding, optional attendance, and the future intake for programs like MACS. This will be a key topic at our next Parent Council meeting.

Committees need you!

We need you to lead or join a committee. We'll be setting up a Communication Committee (to help improve communication), a Fundraising Committee (to establish fundraising goals and activities), and other committees you feel passionate about.

We will discuss these issues in more detail at our next Parent Council meeting and on the [WL Mackenzie CI Parent Council Facebook group](#).

What's next?

We wanted you to be first to know about the exciting activities we have planned and the progress we've made to date. That said:

1. Please visit and participate in the Facebook group
2. Come to the next Parent Council meeting Nov. 27
3. Encourage other parents to get involved in their children's future at the school

Sincerely, you 2018-2019 Parent Council Executive Team,

Jeff Pekar and Nina Phan, Co-Chairs; Stacea Campbell and Marsha Rosenberg, Co-Secretaries; Lisa Feldman, Treasurer; Beth Karstadt, Community Representative.