



**MINUTES**  
**Thursday, March 21, 2013**

## **1. York Region Police Presentation**

Officer Christopher VandenBos spoke about drug use. The following are some points from his presentation.

Drugs are more dangerous now than they were in the past:

- Stronger now, more potent
- They often contain additives, possibly dangerous ones, e.g. household cleaners
- Cocaine is cut with household products as filler. Usually they are harmless, but not always, e.g. Drano

Drugs also include cough syrup, which can be easily found in household cupboards.

Worst/Most addictive drug: methamphetamine. Can become addicted after first use, stay addicted for life. Cheap and easy to make from products readily available in grocery/pharmacy.

Marijuana is not actually a 'safe' drug – using it opens the user up to experimenting with drugs in general and makes them more likely to switch.

Farm Party: Kids all bring drugs to a party - whatever (legal/prescription) they could find at home. They take random mixtures of drugs, usually with alcohol – can be very dangerous.

Approximate Prices

Weed: 1 g = \$10

Percoset: 80 mg = \$200 (one pill)

Steroids – common but dangerous because high school kids are still growing, they're injected and the drugs aren't pure.

## **2. Review of November Minutes**

Request for approval of minutes. Andy proposed acceptance, Shirley seconded. Minutes accepted.

Followup from last meeting

– Presentation on “Raising Sexually Healthy Children” – Shirley Porjes-Gupta followed up, but the presentation is intended for younger students.

– Roles of the executive – postponed until next meeting



### 3. Treasurer's Report

As of March 20<sup>th</sup>, \$4785 has been raised through fundraising. This includes \$1025 received in the last month. This is still below our goal of \$6500, so requests for donations will continue to be sent out with newsletters. A new form letter should be created to generate more interest.

Note that some funds (\$650) need to be put aside to be carried over for the next school year. This is normally used to send out fundraising letters.

**Recommendation** for next year's council – send out the letter with the first midterm report card to save on mailing costs.

Votes were taken re allocating funds and the followed were agreed on unanimously:

- carry forward \$650 for next year's council
- \$300 for student awards
- \$175 for staff appreciation breakfast (Thur, June 27, Andy will try to get donations)
- remainder (\$1828.30) for technology (we will get the matching technology grant)

Other expenditures:

- \$300 – Isabelle's bench (money has already been committed)
- \$2700 – technology in semester 1

Note, the annual \$500 grant from YRDSB can be only use for certain items, such as the bench and the student awards (not food or technology).

### 4. Community Report – Adam Saperia

Adam unable to come, but Melissa provided the following read an email from him.

- Planning is underway for the school's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which will take place during 2014 and will be a city-wide celebration
- May 9<sup>th</sup> is the Alumni Golf Day at Silver Lakes Golf & Country Club. It is open to all alumni and their guests. Registration at [www.thornhillalumni.com/events](http://www.thornhillalumni.com/events).
- May 10<sup>th</sup> is the Half Century Club Luncheon to honour alumni who started at Thornhill SS 50 years ago. The class of 1963 is being inducted into the club. Details at [www.thornhillalumni.com/events](http://www.thornhillalumni.com/events).
- The Alumni Association is hosting a student contest to design a new logo for the TSSAA. Details are available online at [www.thornhillalumni.com/logocontest](http://www.thornhillalumni.com/logocontest). The winning student will receive a prize and will be featured on the website.

### 5. Administration Report – David McAdam

#### Ms. Smullen

Reported on the March Break trip to China – they walked Great Wall, Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, Terra Cotta warriors, World Financial Centre, silk-making factory, etc. Very successful and educational.



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## **Mr. Lim**

- Emergency Preparedness – Held the first fire drill for semester 2 on Thursday. Refined process such that students had to report to their own teachers once they got out to the field. Important to quickly ascertain who is accounted for.  
April – will hold a lockdown drill (once per semester, if danger is inside the school) and hold-and-secure drill (once a year, if danger is outside the school)

A question was raised regarding a pandemic plan. There was a strategy during SARS and H1N1, but not currently. If such a situation occurred, school would take direction from the board.

- Earth hour will be observed on Friday at 10:30-11:30 at school. Earth week is Apr 22-26, during which time, the school will go thru eco-certification process
- May 7-10 is mental health week – school social worker will speak at staff meeting in May and at an assembly for the students
- School website is switching over to the board template. For an example of the new design, see the websites for Dr. G. W. Williams (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/drqwwilliams.ss/Pages/default.aspx>) or Maple (<http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/maple.hs/Pages/default.aspx>), which have already switched.

Includes a link to a parents section, so we need to figure out what will go there. Need a parent from council to help with this section – Shirley offered to help out.

## **Mr. McAdam**

On April 18, there will be a company from Asia, 18fortyeight, filming a documentary at the school on education in Canada. The documentary will include both secondary and post secondary education and will film at Markham as well. Includes filming of the math contest and a tour of the school.

Some extra-curricular activities have restarted, such as the school play and the astronomy club (who will hold an open house at the end of parents night).

Interim report going out on Friday (with appointment forms for interviews).

Attendance/engaged – school will start acknowledging students with perfect attendance

School Council Forum – takes place on April 17 at Maple High School – for area council chairs. Melissa and Shirley will attend, but if anyone else wants to go in place of Melissa, please let her know.

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## **6. BOSS Report**

Working on prom planning right now, to be held May 23<sup>rd</sup> at Le Parc.

Trying to plan some larger events, such as Open Mic Night (April)

Working with school website to contain more BOSS content

Changing the constitution to change the number of senators and to have elections before the end of the year, instead of the start of the year.

Working with alumni association to create a video

### **Future Meeting Dates:-**

- **Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 – Presentation by CMHA on signs of mental illness**
- June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Note: Meetings start at 7:15 pm