



## THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



### AGENDA & Minutes - Thursday October 10, 2013

#### 1. Welcome

SP – welcomed the group. Invited Ms Coady to introduce the guest speaker  
Invited interested parents to attend school council forum Oct 30<sup>th</sup> – to contact Shirley

#### 2. Speaker: Suzanne Lanthier, (10 min)

Tennis Canada - Milos Raonic Foundation

- Purpose of foundation = to support disadvantaged kids interesting in playing tennis by removing economic, physical & other barriers that might prevent them from becoming active
- Kids Agility Clinic
- Thornhill Teachers Team = participating in the raonicrace 2013
- November 19 @ 6:30pm – 9:30 pm
- Inviting support/sponsorship
- \$20 event tickets, \$100 VIP tickets and/or volunteers to support teams

#### 3. Review of Sept 2013 Minutes - Shirley (5 min)

Introduce Hayley as co-chair.

Housekeeping:

Reuse name cards, attendance sheets, receipt of agenda update email

Motion to approve Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup> Angela – passed

#### 4. BOSS Report - Eric Choi, Hannah Schneider (10 min)

##### Update on BOSS activities including

Carnival a success

Social

##### Upcoming events

Open mike night – scheduled for December

Semi -formal in November

Club Day - Sept 18

##### Club Update

48 clubs currently running at the school

5 clubs have applied for funding

Meeting with club leaders to review funding guidelines

**BOSS video** prepared for Grade 9's shown (excellent)

#### 5. Teachers' Report (30 min)

EQAO Math results

(Mark Gatti, Head of Mathematics)

##### ACADEMIC RESULTS

- Reviewed background & format of EQAO testing
- Counts 5% towards grade 9 mark – not a graduating requirement

**Thornhill Secondary School Council**



## THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



- 92% met provincial standard +3
- School results higher than Board & Provincial
- Results by gender = the same
- Applied Math Results 50% met the Provincial standard
- Results higher than Board & Province
- Steady increase in results over past 5 years
- Gender bias toward female = 67% meeting standard (Males @ 42%) –
- Gender bias results not consistent with Board or province.
- Will be explored/addressed going forward

### ACTION ITEMS

- Improvement focus on applied program
- Address female bias of results in the applied program
- Overall focus on geometry and metrics
- School wide numeracy focus
- Partnership with Grade 8 feeder schools

### EQAO Literacy Results

Paula Borges (head of English)

Martha Bazos (head of ESL, literacy teacher)

Advised that resources = available for parents to support the EQAO test at home for 2013

- 95% vs Board @ 94%
- Multiple choice & short answer results = good
- Improvement needed in summarizing, inferring & making connections

### ACTION ITEMS

- Whole school approach – to address areas for improvement (above)
- Also focus on critical thinking & problem solving to be integrated in teaching across all subjects
- Literacy room – operates during lunch hours Rm 138
- Using similar/same terminology in testing in other subjects to increase familiarity with testing structure
- At home support could include:
  1. Tracking your child's progress
  2. Assist with homework
  3. Encourage agenda/organizer use

### 6. Administration Report – David McAdam (10 min)

Mr. Lim

Safety week – fire drill (1<sup>st</sup> of 3 annual drills)

**Thornhill Secondary School Council**



## THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



Lockdown drill completed – successful & compliant with requirements

Ms. Smullen

PC visited Grade 9's to address safety issues

Featured on Thornhill Liberal paper

Oct 24 – Junior Awards for students from 2012/2013 Grade 9-11 Honours

Mr. McAdam

Students positively engaged in leadership

Interim reports (level only)

Parents night (and bake sale) next week Thursday

School improvement plan needs review (next meeting)

Anticipating council support for technology 1<sup>st</sup> window = open until December

### 7. Community Report – Adam Saperia (5 min)

60 Anniversary next spring

Students engaged in celebration

Follow us on line

### 8. Fundraising Letter – Hayley Morris (10 min)

Sending letter out with report cards

Include envelopes for easy return

Weekly bulletin distribution through emails

Explore - “reward” concept for second wave funding request

Parent suggested school wide reward to achievement of goal

The school priority – technology = confirmed

### 9. College / University Application Process - Elyse Blicher (25 min)

Reviewed presentation given to Grade 11's & 12's related to post secondary options.

#### **COLLEGE:**

College requirements based on Grade 11&12 marks (65% and above)

Joint College/University (applied degree programs) - e.g. Seneca & York – Communications joint program

Pathway for students with university credits with 65% + marks in Grade 12

Nov 7 – Post Secondary Fair – open to students and parents

Ontario College Website reviewed including Application process, fees, deadlines (Feb 1)

**Thornhill Secondary School Council**



## THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



### UNIVERSITY:

Grade requirements = 70-75% in 6 U or M level courses including prerequisites

Cut-offs = university specific

ELECTRONICINFO.CA

Searchable scholarships by school available

Dates & deadlines

Campus visits

Open houses at university

Repeated courses & out of day school courses may be treated differently

All offers = conditional

[www.ouac.onn.ca](http://www.ouac.onn.ca)

PIN #'s assigned to all Grade 12 students to apply online ouac-101

Get program codes in preparation for application

Deadline = January 15, 2014

\$130 = application fee for 3 programs

Strategy for Dream School – Plan A, Competitive schools Plan B and Safe schools Plan C

Supplemental information required by some universities

References & proof readers

Nov 8 – TSS uploads student data to OUAC

Feb 4 – deadline for edits

Feb 13 – TSS uploads Grade 12 marks 1<sup>st</sup> semester

April 24 – TSS submits 2<sup>nd</sup> semester mid term marks

May 28 – Student responses

June – Final answer

### Out of province applications

U.S. Colleges & Universities – Mr. Belman is resource teacher

### Early Admission Information:

Some universities look at Grade 11 marks – and send early offer (exceptional – not standard practice)

Queens – Early application with PSE due December 1

### FINANCE:

OSAP presentation in May

Private School Credits – ensure marks & transcripts get sent to OUAC (not TSS)

Oct 22 – McGill presentation

TSS has a Grade 12 twitter account @tssguidance

**Thornhill Secondary School Council**



## THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL

167 Dudley Avenue, Thornhill ON L3T 2E5

Tel: 905-889-5453 Fax: 905-889-0360



10. PRO Grant (Speaker Series topic confirmation) – Shirley Porjes  
(deferred to next meeting)

**Upcoming Dates:-**

Next Council Meeting: **Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

- January 9
- February 6
- March 20
- May 8
- June 5