



Central Toronto Academy School Council Meeting Minutes Tuesday November 21, 2017

1. Attendees:

Iwona Kurman (Principal, CTA)
Robertha Alvarez (student Grade 11, CTA)
Carmen B Cheekock (parent Grade 12)
Kevin D'Souza (Teacher, CTA)
Eunice O'Mahony (Teacher, CTA)
Ed Van Hooydonk (School Council Co-Chair, parent Grade 12)
David Wong (School Council Co-Chair, parent Grade 9)

2. Approval of CTA School Council November 21 Agenda (all)

Meeting started at 6:13 pm

3. Approval of October 25 CTA School Council minutes (all)

- Changes to the drafted minutes:
 - Correct spelling of Oma's name (from Oman) on for Agenda Item #1 attendance
 - Correct spelling of Ed Van Hoodonk's name (from Vanhoodonk) and child's Grade (to 12 from 11) for Agenda Item # 1 attendance
 - Correct spelling of Eco Club (from Equal Club) for Agenda Item # 5 Teacher's Report

4. Social Entrepreneurship "Wolf Pack" project (Ms. Alvarez and Mr D'Souza)

- December 7 Lookbook event :
 - Will include a focus on fashion, photography and Native arts & culture
 - Will be a show within a show within a show format (i.e. different concurrent events within)
 - CTA students will work with professional, Jason Berg
 - CTA students will work with professions photographers for displays for the event
 - Lots of visual presentations

- Will be a pop up shop selling CTA's Success merchandise
- New skirtline focusing on art and denim
- Will showcase CTA's new Success line
- Will be a fashion show of CTA students with CTA's Success merchandise
- First Nations DJ featuring techno house music
- Requesting help with the different stations within the event, hair & makeup artists help, takedown after event, and driving materials back to the school afterwards
- Requesting help with donations of desserts
- Event will have pizza from Pizza Libretto
- Two public relations firms have committed to working with CTA students for this event

5. Principal Report (Ms. Kurman)

- Grade 8 open house is next week, November 30
- Montreal multi-Grade trip occurred last week and went very well. It was well participated by CTA students and a great experience for all involved
- Focus on promoting CTA – There are two Grade 8 sessions scheduled during the day on December 8 where potential students can see the school. Currently there are over 800 signed up for these sessions
- There was a Hackathon sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada and hosted by CTA for 177 Grade 7 students. Some received an impromptu mini-tour of the school
- Ms Kurman has visited some elementary feeder schools to promote CTA
- There will be a post-secondary education fair on November 23 at CTA
- Question from Ms Kurman if School Council is interested in speaking at the Grade 8 Open House on November 30. Dave Wong accepted the offer and will attend. Dave will also send an email to some Grade 9 parents or caregivers to obtain some feedback about CTA .
- Equity workshop on December 1 for staff to have focus discussions on strategies for students to have access to any TDSB specialized programs or supports that they need

6. Teachers Report (Ms O'Mahony)

- Envision conference occurred last Thursday:
 - 15 students from CTA attended with Ms O'Mahony
 - The students represented CTA very well as they were engaged, were knowledgeable on the subjects and actively participating in the sessions

- As mentioned by Ms Kurman in her report, the Hackathon occurred this morning and the presenters made comments about how accommodating CTA's staff were in helping to facilitate the event
- Upcoming is a "My Clothes My World" day for CTA where the Fashion Takes Action non-profit group will present and hold 4 workshops with the CTA students to discuss:
 - The politics of clothes around labour rights, consumerism and environmental degradation
 - Where clothes come from and the ethical debate
 - Social justice of clothes and the clothing industry
 - Distribution of clothes

CTA applied for this session and has been granted for the 2017/ 2018 school year. A date is yet to be determined

7. Grade 8 Open House (all)

- A postcard has been developed and distributed by Ms Kurman to the visiting Grade 7 and 8 students
- Mr Gleeson has saved the postcard digitally and has emailed the CTA School Council. Dave Wong has forwarded the postcard to School Trustee Ausma Malik to cascade to the area schools and the members of the Ward 10 School Council
- As mentioned above, Dave Wong will speak on behalf of CTA School Council at the event and will send emails to Grade 9 families that have attended one of the School Council meetings this year to ask for feedback materials

8. PRO Grant (Ed Van Hooydonk)

- CTA School Council has been approached by Horizon's School Council to propose a joint showing of Screenagers that focuses on the mental health of teenagers and social media
- CTA School Council has agreed to use a portion of the PRO Grant funds to pay for the video and will liaise with Horizon's School Council to co-ordinate other activities during that night and to determine a showing night. February 22 was suggested by CTA School Council
- CTA School Council has suggested that this will be a good opportunity for CTA students to set up a table to sell the CTA Success merchandise and possible other initiatives for CTA

9. School Council Committees (all)

- Outreach Committee – discussion deferred to next meeting
- Fundraising Committee – discussion deferred to next meeting

10. Ideas, Objectives, Concerns, Issues, and Other Items for School Council (all)

- None presented

18. Next School Council Meeting (all)

- The attending participants agreed that the next CTA School Council meeting will be held (at CTA) on Wednesday January 17, 2018 @ 6pm

19. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.