

Verdun Adult and Career Centre

Governing Board Minutes

February 26th, 2020

Attendance: Ashlea Paxton, Prashanth Menon, Andrew Henry, Michael Sehn, Kara Woods, Ross Mckay, Catalin Farcas, Alex Weinstein

Absent: Ben Levine, Benedetta Castiglione

1.0 Welcome – Director

Kara welcomed everyone at 4:05pm

2.0 Approval of the Agenda

Ross motioned to accept the agenda. Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was passed.

3.0 Approval of the minutes of the last meeting (December 4th, 2019)

Catalin motioned to accept the minutes from last meeting. Prashanth seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion was passed.

4.0 Business Arising

4.1 Educational Project

See report. Vision mission statement. Partner up with Beurling and the Verdun community. Getting to know the students as well as helping them. For them to leave here with fulfillment and to empower them. Once we gain space we are hoping to get more locals applying. Graduation rate is 96%.

GBM had 12 student but we lost 2 so we now have 10.

RCD has 75 students

PL has 100 students

PS has 31 students

CS has 200 students.

Locals and international students get along, they help each other and give each other tips.

We have 51 teachers, we gained 10 since July, 9 support staff.

4.2 Principals Criteria

Looking for input to benefit. See selection criteria for Centre Director. Email Ben personal opinions to add or remove.

4.3 Video Surveillance Policy

We are not permitted to check video footage unless theft. You can go about your business; you're not being watched. Only check for something serious. Once something is found, must be given to HR and they take care of it.

5.0 Reports

Competition withdrawn for CS Olympics. They are held every 2 years.

5.1 Director

(See Director's detailed report)

Includes: Need to train the students in order to prepare for Olympics.

Couple of groups are now on stage, always good feedback.

Looking for more computing support teachers.

GBM has competent students. Mike is now teaching them along with Catalin. Hoping to have a bigger group for GBM in September.

5.2 Teachers

Catalin- going well, only issue is not enough space. They have been working on plumbing, carpentry, ceramics, and electricity to build a cabana. They built it and then took it down. They will have to rebuild it again for the following module. Would like more space to keep the cabanas up to continue working on them.

Prashanth- We have a lot of cohorts going, everything is going well. Need to update the computer systems. Students seem to be happy and working hard.

Kara- Plumbing Olympics – 1 for Plumbing and the other for Heating. We have 5 students training but will only be taking 2 students to QC. Two new groups have started since the last meeting and one will be finishing in a week.

Mike- For the gas module they have some new kitchen appliances. The graduating groups would like to have a BBQ using the new equipment. Olympic students have been in at 7am for practice and have been working hard.

Pro Sales is offering some competencies online. Many students live in Brampton and travel to Montreal every weekend. Student Maria is interested in the Olympic competition. Andrew said the newest cohort #'s were low so VACC was able to integrate them into the September 2019 group and then they will continue until the end.

RCD has 2 graduating classes, a couple of students are doing projects for the board for stage. They have been helping out PACC on updating kitchens and pharmacy labs. Faranak and Saman competed in Madrid, Spain and they also spoke at the Adult Learners Week.

December (last day) celebration – We had a door decorating competition for the prize of a pizza party. We had a canned food drive. We celebrated the Chinese New Year.

Kara traveled to Spain with Veronique Marin to recruit students, great experience and even greater appreciation of the work that our International sector does.

Expect some students from Spain in the future.

Last PED days were January 6th and February 14th. We worked on creating new exams as well as updating them. A breakfast was served to all staff on the 14th.

Working on moving controls and computers to another area, would like to have PL and GBM on 1st floor, RCD on the 2nd and CS on the 3rd.

We had a flood at the end of January. P&H teachers helped along with the GBM students who helped clean. We had a pizza lunch for all the staff and the students who helped out.

6.0 Correspondence

Mary Ann resigned. Ardis says hello and that she misses everyone.

7.0 Public Question Period

N/A

8.0 Date and time of next meeting

April 22nd in staff cafeteria at 4:00pm

9.0 Good and welfare

Prashanth's father had a stroke, he is finally back home. Andrew's father-in-law passed away. Staff appreciation month has been a busy one...lots to appreciate.

10.0 Adjournment

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Catalin. All were in favor. Motion was passed.