

Minutes of 3rd RCHK Council Meeting 2015 / 2016
4 pm on Monday 11 January 2016

Present:

Chairman	Anne Choi (AC)
Principal	Harry Brown (HB)
ESF Representative	Belinda Greer (BG)
Community Representative	Yat Kin Sin (YK)
Community Representative	Shirley Ma (SM)
Parent Representative	Jack Ng (JN)
Parent Representative	Kathleen Ahrens (KA)
Parent Representative	Whymont Lee (WL)
Staff Representative	Concettina Ventura (CV)
Staff Representative	Lesley Harrison (LH)
Staff Representative	Katherine Evans (KE)
Secretary	Lucia Lam (LL)

Apologies:

Community Representative	Allan Li (AL)
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In attendance:

Business Manager	Samuel Hureau (SH)
Vice Principal – Secondary	Stewart Redden (SR)
Vice Principal – Primary	Jason Doucette (JD)
Head of Primary	Jamie Schmitz (JS)
Student Council Representative	Ike Park (IP)
Student Council Representative	Cherry Wu (CW)

1. Welcome

AC welcomed all members back to the Council meeting and wished everyone Happy New Year.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were confirmed.

3. Matters Arising

- a. Para 3 a – Gender distribution in certain subjects –
SR presented Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics data from examination results in 2014 and 2015. Most HL Maths and Physics students were male and Most HL Biology students were female, with Chemistry somewhere in the middle. Value-added analysis conducted by Durham University generally showed girls outperforming boys, except in Physics. He also pointed out that in other subjects like Visual Arts, girls dominate.

HB pointed out that across the whole of the IB, Visual Arts and Physics were the most extreme subjects in terms of uptake, with 75% girls in VA and 75% boys in Physics. He added that in HL Maths and Physics, globally there were no differences in performance between boys and girls on the DP exams, which is quite different from perceptions commonly held. Perhaps RCHK has some work to do locally, including recruitment of more females to teach Maths and Physics. He stated that at RCHK there were no glass ceilings for girls or boys in any subject. Finding teachers who were equally effective at teaching Diploma and MYP was the key challenge; such teachers provided rigour in the MYP and also could motivate MYP students to take up their subjects at Diploma level.

Discussion followed. AC concluded that there should be an annual update, and members should feel free to bring the issue to Council in future.

- b. Para 3 b – Additional financing for Primary Block Extension – AC invited members to propose new ideas on financing each time Council meets.

4. Primary Block Extension Update

HB and SH reported. The first of three pilings is due to be done by this month. There have been few complaints about noise. Backup plan to move students not needed.

5. Principal's Report

2014 – 15 Primary Student Achievement – JS and JD spoke to the report and powerpoint they presented. PIPS, INCAS and ISA standardized test results were presented. PIPS will not be continued and ESF is looking for a suitable replacement. KA asked for gender breakdown for the ISA results; JD will follow up and report to Council in March.

HB reported on primary enrolment in 2015 – 16, showing the breakdown by year and by gender.

Year 1 Admissions 2016 – 17 – progress report was given by JS. Out of around 800 applications, 600 will be interviewed this year.

Staffing - Interviews for Primary Vice Principal to succeed Tania Martin on 12th January 2016. JN will be on the interview panel to represent the Council. HB has returned from the Search Bangkok Fair and will attend the London Fair later this month.

BM Report – SH spoke to his report previously circulated. AC asked and SH replied that the feasibility study report on heating system will be available at the next meeting.

- SH confirmed that ESF Finance Department will come to the next Council meeting to present the draft budget for 2016/17 and the proposed tuition fee increase.
- 2051 students forecasted in 2016/17.
- Two new staff proposed for 2016/17

- One fulltime College Counsellor
- One fulltime Communication Officer
- One TLR 3 (Teaching & Learning Responsibility) – IBCP Coordinator

6. Committee Reports

AC informed Council that SM will remain as convenor of finance committee but step down from staffing committee; YK would join Staffing Committee.

7. School Council Report

BG spoke briefly on the most recent report which is in final draft stage and will be later circulated to ESF schools.

8. A.O.B.

None

9. Date of next meeting – Monday 14 March 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm