

MEETING DATE	Monday, March 21, 2016	START TIME	7:15 PM
MEETING #	7 (2015 – 2016 school year)	END TIME	8:41 PM
MEETING LOCATION	school library	# OF INDIVIDUALS PRESENT	8 (includes principal and Ms. Smith)
NEXT MEETING	Monday, April 11, 2016	# VOTING	6

NAME	ATTENDANCE	POSITION	RETURNING MEMBER	NEW MEMBER
PRINCE, Dane	PRESENT	Principal	X	
CHIN, Kurt	absent	Vice Principal		X
CHAN, Elsa	PRESENT	Chair		
KADAKIA, Bina	PRESENT	Treasurer	X	
MAHALINGAM, Sancha	PRESENT	Secretary		X
SMITH, Tina	PRESENT	Teacher	n/a	
ASIMI, Adam	absent	Member	X	
DEOL, Jaspal	absent	Member	X	
DOGRA, Nappinder	PRESENT	Member	X	
MITRA, Pranab	PRESENT	Member	X	
PANCHU, Bobby	PRESENT	Member	X	
PRASAD, Kashmira	absent	Member		X
SUBRAMANIAM, Suganthini and SURESH, Sara	absent	Member (one household)	X	
THINAGARIPPILLAI, Nathan	absent	Member	X	

WELCOME: CALL TO ORDER

- sign-in sheet circulated
- meeting called to order by Chair

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- Principal printed out copies of last month’s Minutes (February 22) for review
 - school jerseys:
 - Member Dogra: what have we decided to go with for school jerseys?
 - had samples here last meeting and we’ve decided to go with sleeveless jerseys
 - vendor has advised to go with sleeveless (thicker material)
 - per Chair:
 - should last long and covers various sizes
 - school is going to take stronger approach to making sure kids return jerseys
 - kids on teams will be wearing same jerseys (school pride)
 - Member Mitra: do we have enough jerseys? yes
 - Chair reached out to the Rouge Fairways Residents Association and they agreed to contribute \$500.00 (they will be cutting a cheque to Boxwood and this will go towards purchasing the jerseys)
 - per Chair: old jerseys are still good and can be used along with new jerseys
 - per Ms. Smith: yellow will be nice, there is a lot of blue

- School Cash Online:
 - Member Panchu: is the plan mentioned in the previous Minutes in the event of a strike? yes
 - when is next possible strike? earliest: in 2 years (based on contracts)
 - Member Dogra: regardless of SCO, will we still be able to fundraise during a strike?
 - Principal: we can; parents have to take a bigger role in counting of the funds now (to establish precedent)
 - Chair: we will need 2 signatures, keep records if we pay out, etc.
 - Principal: all schools will be on SCO eventually
 - Member Panchu: can we have the contingency process in writing? **Chair will look at this**
 - Member Panchu: can we deposit the funds received in the event of a strike?
 - Principal:
 - there were 2 strikes happening at the same time this Fall – it's rare for office staff to go on strike (especially at the same time as teaching staff)
 - Heather York does the deposits; if staff strike, deposits will be on hold
 - if we want to be able to continue to fundraise, parents MUST be involved in the counting now
 - Principal and VP don't deposit funds
 - NB: if the event of a strike, we will not be using SCO; parents will be asked to pay in cash and we can use these funds to make payments during the strike (with good record keeping, this is a feasible plan)
 - NB: fundraising items are itemized by particular term (i.e. Pizza Lunch Term 1 is one item, Pizza Lunch Term 2 is a separate item) – so the issue of applying surcharges will be moot (more or less)
- Grade 8 graduation
 - parent response has been very low (Principal sent out an email to Grade 8 parents)
 - Member Panchu volunteered to be on the committee
 - Ms. Smith: traditionally, it's been Grade 7 parents who volunteer → this frees up the Grade 8 parents to spend time with their children, take photos, etc.
 - Principal sent out emails requesting parent volunteers to Grade 8 parents – **Principal will send an email out to Grade 7 parents to recruit volunteers**
 - Principal: this year is going to require less prep than previous years (i.e. before, had to decorate gym but this year we are having graduation at Shangri La venue which didn't require much in the way of decoration); only a little decorating is required – i.e. centerpieces
 - Member Panchu: **can we itemize what we need and then recruit volunteers based on this information?**
 - Member Dogra: **what sort of time commitment are parent volunteers looking at?**
 - Member Mitra: what's the budget? 2-2500k (as per Principal)
 - parents are paying \$20/student (this will cover dinner)
 - food is being catered by the venue itself
 - there is a courtyard to take photos
- Minutes adopted

TREASURER'S REPORT

- \$462.47 balance (after all the pending transactions for Subway, pizza, one more set of laptops, graduation and jerseys)
 - \$4,748.17 – that's what in the account now
 - 2 subway orders and 4 pizza lunches remaining

- total 10 weeks sub left; order forms for the first 5 weeks have gone out (dividing the 10 weeks into 2 makes it easier on parents in terms of payment)
- Treasurer's Report adopted

FUNDRAISING ITEMS MENTIONED AT LAST MEETING

- speakers:
 - what kinds of speakers are we looking for? all kinds (i.e. someone to come and discuss internet safety, motivational speakers, etc.)
 - per Principal: most speakers request fees for speaking
- fieldtrips bus
 - in addition to funds for destination/venue itself, school buses need to be paid for to take students to and from field trips (IOW: school buses are an additional cost attached to field trips)
 - the Board has never funded school buses
 - currently, parents cover the cost of the school buses
 - for example, the Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes will be going to Ripley's Aquarium and parents will be paying for the aquarium entry fee + school bus cost
 - Grade 7s and 8s field trips happening – again, parents covering costs
 - in the past, however, School Council has been able to fund school buses; however, it has become increasingly more expensive (SC was able to fund approx. 2 trips/class - approx. 20 buses)
 - so, at the present moment, parents are taking care of costs for field trips (vs. before when SC used to be able to give parents a break)
 - Member Dogra: may be a good idea for SC to take on cost of venue/destination itself and school cover bus costs (make it clear to parents)
 - Principal: **field trips (buses) are something we should discuss in June** (for the 2016-2017 school year)

PAST ACTION ITEMS

- school jerseys (DONE)
 - Chair sent out email re: funding jerseys and SC voted in favour (\$500 contribution was approved)
 - **now to get cheque cut by RFRA so that jerseys can be ordered**
- Chair was to provide snippet to Principal for newsletter (DONE)
- SCO description
 - question by Treasurer: can Heather York put cash online surcharge within the description of each transaction – principal was to look @ this last meeting discussed
 - **working towards a solution**
- Chair: did SC discuss purchasing games for Math Night during last meeting?
 - Principal doesn't think so
 - the 1k grant is being used to purchase games, too, and Principal thinks it should be enough
 - **Principal will let SC know if school requires any financial support for Math Night**

ADMIN UPDATE

- Spring Cost Sharing
 - teachers are very happy with the new computer purchases
 - school has ordered 5 regular laptops and 2 Chromebooks through the SCSP, before the break (**we are still waiting on them**)
 - we ordered an additional 4 Chromebooks at regular price (we rec'd the Chromebooks today, March 21)
- Boxwood Math Games Night

- flyer has gone out
- Thursday, March 31st, 6:30 – 8:00 PM
- will have different areas talking about math
- math comprehensive program – what’s involved and what’s our goal
- how can games support math concepts?
- math is something that Principal hears parents talk about often (how to teach their children, understanding math concepts, new ways of learning, etc.)
- parents asked to RSVP by March 23
- dice/cards/tangrams ordered for giveaways
- format of night
 - there will be 3 rotations: families will rotate through 3 different rooms, spending 20 minutes in each area (areas: gym, library, classrooms - haven’t fully decided locations yet)
- types of games: all different levels
- so far, 20 something households have responded to Math Night
- parents will be told where to go next (will be given a card at the start of the night to start them off)
- schedule
 - 6:30 PM welcome and introduction
 - 6:45 PM 1st rotation
 - 7:05 PM transition time (5 minutes)
 - 7:10 PM 2nd rotation
 - 7:30 PM transition time (5 minutes)
 - 7:35 PM 3rd rotation
 - 7:55 PM lucky draws in all 3 rooms
 - 8:00 PM end
- Chair: we can auction off/give away prizes (Bingo Night)
 - **Principal will let Student Council and VP know about the prizes**
 - however, Principal wants math-focused prizes
 - Treasurer: then maybe we can auction off the non-math prizes
- Math Games Night funding
 - we are purchasing materials for the evening (i.e. math games and refreshments)
 - to cover the cost of these items we are using funds from Parents Reaching Out Grants
 - **deadline for PRO this year is on May 29**
- School Council booth
 - Chair proposed idea of setting up a booth at Games Night
 - she can do quick Google form and talk about School Council
 - get parents email to help recruit more parents to School Council
 - **Principal to tell her where to set up (most strategic place)**
- 2015 health and physical education curriculum
 - open house presentation in April
 - purpose: to provide information to parents on the changes to the health and physical curriculum (HPE)
 - help parents understand the role of educators and parents in supporting student learning
 - share resources available to support parents
 - Principal and teachers (Ms. Smith for primary health and Ms. Fitzgerald for intermediate health) attended presentation (Principal wanted to get representatives from different levels so they can support teachers)
 - Principal thinks the new health curriculum would be a great way to bring parents into School Council – this could be a topic of interest for parents in April
 - discussed formats (which order to go in to maximize parent participation – SC meeting first or the presentation)
 - curriculum handout (Grade 3)

- relationships (i.e. one between child and parent, one between students and teachers) and respect and different types of relationships
- Chair: do parents still have the option to opt their child out or not?
 - Principal
 - no option to opt out – only alternative is to take child out of school (if you don't want your child to be part of the lesson, parents will have to keep them out of school on that day)
 - school will send a letter with students advising parents of the upcoming health lessons
- Treasurer: what's changed? before, parents could opt out of these lessons
 - Principal: while a permission form was done in the past, it won't be done going forward
 - Principal: there is a new curriculum in place and what is being taught is based on human rights – this curriculum is effective from this year
- **Member Panchu: can we have an FAQ for the health curriculum open house?**
- Principal: Board decided schools wouldn't begin teaching the new curriculum until Spring
 - the last time that this would've been taught was last year; however, last year this new curriculum wasn't implemented and, therefore, the exemption/permission was allowed (if you didn't want your child to participate in the growth and development lesson then you could exempt student before but now can't exempt)
- School Council: **that parents do not need to give permission should be clearly communicated to parents**
- the new curriculum is provincial – every Board has started (every Board has the policy that students must participate in the lesson if they are present)
- Treasurer: how does the school plan to teach the kids who are uncomfortable learning this – how are teachers going to cope with these kids?
 - Principal: lessons are fact based – we provide students with information; these are not “how to” lessons
- important to highlight that each grade is going to get different lessons
- parents will know what their children are learning before the lessons are taught (information will be sent home)
- can let parents know at Math Night that we are going to have this health curriculum discussion
- Member Mitra: there seems to be confusion regarding what's being taught at what age/grade – **Principal should make it clear what each grade will be learning, to avoid assumptions**
- Boxwood calendar
 - concert was a success
 - junior girls and boys basketball teams have begun
 - Easter break coming up
 - in class Character Matters presentations on March 31
 - Family Math Games Night
 - Grade 3 Swim to Survive begins April 1
 - Grade 8 grad photos
 - Grade 3 trip to Scanlon Creek
 - Grade 7 trip to Claremont Outdoor centre (overnight trip) in April
 - Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes will be heading to Ripley's Aquarium on April 11
 - Art Carousel on April 28
 - an open house
 - the school is set up like an art gallery
 - every student has at least one piece of art on display
 - drama and music presentations also in the gym

- very popular
- week ending April 28 is book fair

CURRENT FUNDRAISING

- pizza Term 2 and Subway Term 2 executed this week
- everything going smoothly

PARENTS MATTERS

- Secretary: we haven't had a general concert – is this because of the earlier strike and/or because of the lack of room in the gym?
 - Principal: school was trying to get one together before the Winter break but it didn't work out because of the lack of gym space
 - Principal: usually, there is a concert for the younger grades – but nothing this year
 - hope to have a concert next year

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- adjourned @ 8:41 PM