

DATE	Tuesday, October 24, 2017	START TIME	7:12 PM
MEETING #	2 (2017-2018 school year)	END TIME	8:31 PM
MEETING LOCATION	school library	# OF INDIVIDUALS PRESENT	12 (incl. principal)
NEXT MEETING	Tuesday, November 28, 2017	# VOTING	10 (quorum = 7)

NAME	ATTENDANCE	POSITION	RETURNING MEMBER	NEW MEMBER
PRINCE, Dane	PRESENT	Principal		n/a
SMITH, Tina	PRESENT	teacher		n/a
ASIMI, Adam	PRESENT	Treasurer	X	
CHAN, Elsa	PRESENT	Chair	X	
MAHALINGAM, Sancha	PRESENT	Secretary	X	
AKALJAN, Kirushanthy	ABSENT	Member		X
HO, Rita	PRESENT	Member	X	
KADAKIA, Bina	ABSENT	Member	X	
KANAGARATNAM, Akaljan	PRESENT	Member		X
KHERA, Manju	PRESENT	Member		X
KOMALAFE, Bola	ABSENT	Member	X	
MALIK, Faisal	ABSENT	Member		X
PATIL, Vishakha	PRESENT	Member	X	
SHAIKH, Anushka	PRESENT	Member		X
SHAIKH, Saquib	PRESENT	Member		X
THINAGARIPPILLAI, Nathan	PRESENT	Member	X	

WELCOME: CALL TO ORDER (7:12 PM)

- sign-in sheet circulated by Chair
- meeting called to order by Chair
- members introduced themselves again
- Chair is using Google Docs for Agenda, etc.
- adoption of previous Minutes
 - September 2017 Minutes are adopted
 - June 2017 Minutes adopted (typo noted)
 - March and April 2017 Minutes adopted

TREASURER'S REPORT

- report passed on for members to view
- currently, we have sitting in the bank (according to statement rec'd this morning by Treasurer): **\$4,131.63**
- current balance = **\$7,587.77**
- weekly cost of pizza = \$320.36 (delivery rate went up to \$3.75)
- right now, it'll probably take at least to this week to stabilize (**then we'll know, weekly, at the end of December how much is coming out of the account**)
- Principal purchase plates for pizza lunch
 - how long will the plates last? wo we can plan; enough to last one or two more lunches
 - Principal indicated he purchased 300 plates and we should last until November at least (he's aiming for December)

- Pizza Pizza always indicate plates will be provided, but it doesn't arrive (they said this is because they have to order the plates ahead of time b/c of the quantities)
- Principal is planning to get a larger quantity of plates; **he is planning to attend Costco to purchase more plates for lower price**
- question from Member Shaikh, S. – there are two deposits on the report, what are they?
 - **Principal to let SC know @ next meet what these deposits are (\$892.40, \$1,086.40, \$485.00)**
 - request from SC: can entries please be more descriptive
- this term, because it is 10 weeks, it works out to \$2/slice each - this includes the school cash online charge
- there is also extra pizza slices for sale
- Treasurer's Report approved

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

- upcoming dates
 - October 31: Halloween at Boxwood
 - plan activities that allow for, and value, multiple options for participation
 - for example, wearing orange and black or Autumn colours (other themes beyond ghouls and ghosts) that do not require students to be segregated from their peers
 - consider highlighting the traditional time of year and reasons why people celebrate in the Fall (giving thanks, etc.)
 - connections made to Halloween shouldn't overemphasize the scary aspects, even if it is in jest
 - avoid competitions that privilege those of greater economic means over disadvantaged families who may not have the resources to dress their children in costumes
 - communicate expectations that costumes should be respectful of others (for example, if something is representative of a person's culture or religious beliefs, then it shouldn't be worn as a costumes
 - don't want costumes that appropriate cultures (no cultural appropriation)
 - no weapons, masks, scary stuff or candy (healthy school)
 - teacher are encouraged to take this opportunity to once again get to know the students that are in your class (socioemotional data) who may not celebrate Halloween and/or who may be fearful of Halloween
 - note to teachers: you may not know who the students are and please be sensitive in acquiring that information (we don't want a student to feel that b/c he/she doesn't celebrate, the class won't celebrate - this is key!)
 - specific Halloween plans @ Boxwood
 - Boxwood will have a Halloween Parade at 9:15 AM - from youngest to oldest
 - whole school DPA (Daily Physical Activity); any time kids don't have gym, school does its best to have 20 minutes of physical activity (Ministry mandated) – Monster Mash
 - there will be classroom activities
 - Intermediate Dance from 1:45 PM to 3 PM (Grade 7 and 8); NB: all songs will be vetted by Principal
 - November 1: School Council Forum @ Unionville High School
 - Principal and Secretary provided feedback on previous forums they attended
 - there will be sessions (collaboration and networking, parent engagement, effectiveness of School Councils, recruitment of new SC members/volunteers)
 - November 7: dental screening
 - Principal sent out an email re: screening recently
 - if any issues are found, then York Region Public Health will contact the family about this
 - who performs the screenings? staff for the York Regions (dental hygienists)

- November 8: photo retake day (only for students that want another photo)
- November 22: area boys' volleyball tournament
- November 23: area girls' volleyball tournament
- November 23: parent-teacher interviews (PM)
- November 24: parent-teacher interviews (AM up to lunchtime)
- November 22: report cards go home so parents have it a day in advance of interviews
- November 123-15: JK observations (not interviews for JK)
- Canadian Islamic History Month
 - in 2007 the Government of Canada declared the month of October as the Canadian Islamic History Month
 - Ontario passed the Islamic Heritage Month Act (2016) to recognize and affirm the important contributions that Muslims make in Ontario as part of the vibrant social, economic, political and cultural fabric of our province
 - school obtained a document which outlines some information on Islam (created by the TDSB)
 - Principal has taken some of the information contained in this document and has put them in the daily announcements
 - **Principal will share the document with SC**
 - purpose
 - to make students feel comfortable that they have a place here; create an inclusive space where people feel that there is a contribution being made (regardless of race, religion, etc.)
 - knowledge/information is provided to combat stereotypes
 - provide students with information regarding the contribution of Muslims to our society
 - the information shared with students does not get into doctrine, theology or beliefs
- Grade 8 students are going to Markham District High School
 - Grade 9 students won't be in school on this day (they are encouraged to go out to the workforce) – since the Grade 9 students will be away, Grade 8 students are invited to attend the high school)
 - students will get a tour of sports teams and clubs
 - students will experience two elective courses
 - student panel
- pizza lunch
 - Boxwood had the complimentary pizza lunch previously decided on by SC
 - we ended up having enough funds in our Club 11 11 “pizza bank” (loyalty points program) and, therefore, no email was sent out regarding a need for funds
 - feedback was positive with no issues whatsoever
 - after the complimentary pizza day, we kicked off our paid pizza lunch program; this week will be week two
 - work with Ms. York who also helps with the budget as well
 - by next week, we will get a sense of weekly habits so we can stabilize the order for the rest of the term (once we do this, Treasurer can do weekly rolled up into monthly payout for the rest of the year)
 - **will send out order form for Term 2 pizza in December (before holiday break)** so that it is all set up and we can kick off the pizza program immediately once students return from their break
 - term break downs: Term 1 = 10 week , Term 2 = 11 weeks, Term 3 = 12 week
 - you will see the cost of pizza going up in small amounts per order term
 - feedback from SC : gratitude for the school, staff for the pizza program
 - some other schools (i.e. in Pickering, TDSB) have struggled to have a long term, established pizza lunch program (teachers resisting with giving out and collecting forms, dealing with the handing out

of pizza, collecting funds etc. – some schools find the logistics of maintaining such a program to be too onerous)

- per Principal: it's all a partnership between teachers, volunteers and SC (specific appreciation for the teachers of Boxwood who take the time to hand out the forms and collect them, parent volunteers like Suda, who help hand out pizza and handle the front line end of the program, Ms. York who helps with keeping everything organized and the SC Chair, Elsa Chan, who has streamlined the process to allow for a smooth run of the program every year)
 - Principal: everything we do goes back to help our students with the funds raised
- Swiss Chalet lunch option
 - Principal was approached by the restaurant
 - menu options
 - ¼ chicken meal dark meat (drug and thigh) or white meat (breast)
 - chicken strips (3 pcs)
 - either meal has the option of choice of fries, mashed potatoes, sweet kernel corn, steamed vegetable medley (broccoli, cauliflower and carrots)
 - price per meal is \$7.00 (tax included)
 - the ordering process can be either through email or fax
 - **Chair is going to reach out to the restaurant (from \$7.00 to at least \$6.50) so that the school can request \$8/meal in order to fundraise \$1.50/meal**
 - **Treasurer will reach out to his contact at the restaurant to try to negotiate a lower price**
 - feedback from SC
 - if we can get a lower price, then we can do a test
 - feedback from other parents to SC Members: not more than \$3-\$4/meal (especially for parents with more than one child who attends the school)
 - the menu is considered acceptable under the Healthy Schools guideline (as per Principal)
 - Treasurer checked online: kids meal of chicken strips with fresh cut fries = \$6.99
- other food fundraising options
 - Subway subs – while we can look into this, the process of ordering is more onerous on parents
 - Lunch Lady
 - can we have Lunch Lady on an additional day? if so, perhaps we can negotiate a lower price
 - **Principal has to look into this**
 - **Member Khera to follow-up with SC on the name of another company**
 - there seems to be a big deal with brands and foods (for example, when we ordered from a smaller pizza place last year it wasn't as popular as the well-known Pizza Pizza we currently order from)
 - **per Teacher Smith: we can explore other companies (i.e. Boston Pizza's pasta, etc.)**
- funding priorities
 - **this will happen at the November staff meeting** (the previous staff meeting was jam packed and matter was discussed)
 - some funding priorities that we do know of:
 - bussing: funding for buses for field trips
 - bussing can end up costing more than the actual field trip itself (i.e. the Markham Fair field trip – the entrance fee was \$2.00 but cost \$6 or more with bussing costs)
 - the YRDSB does not provide funding for transportation
 - Treasurer has a teacher friend in the TDSB who takes class on many field trips a year – **Treasurer will reach out to friend to get some feedback**

- comment from SC members: students of the TDSB get free public transportation, so perhaps this is why?
- if the trip is Board generated, then there is no fee; if it's a school generated trip, then transportation costs are to be handled by the school
- we want to be able to let teachers know that there is funding available if they want to take students on a trip (vs. funding specific trips)
- chartering a bus is very expensive
- lots of things affect bus price: # of students, distance, etc. (looking for a ballpark)
- question raised: how does school go about giving bus contracts? school books buses that are Board approved and accredited (don't work with just one bus company); booking depends on availability (calls are made, availability and pricing notes and final booking made – usually done very much in advance due to the limit of buses available)
 - the earlier we book, the better the rate
- as always, technology is a funding priority
- funding avenues
 - Rate Payers Association has given us \$500.00 a year before
 - **Chair needs to show them our new funding priorities in order to continuing support this year**
 - the other fundraising tactic is the donation letter
 - obviously, this is not mandatory
 - last year, we laid out some of the things we used the funds for, who we are and why we are raising money
 - we raised \$1,200.00

STREET SAFETY

- Chair asked Principal about narrow poles on the road
 - she has seen these up to Bill Crothers school
 - why do other schools have it and we don't – who has to initiate it?
 - per Principal: we have speed bumps
 - the poles in front of the nearby Catholic school have been removed
- Principal mentioned the speed signs
 - portable and are only done at certain times (they are moved to different locations)
- other
 - drop off area is doing well with no issues
 - per Chair: year over year it has improved and more parents are aware when they are dropping their kids off
 - in previous years, there was an issue of speeding, kids getting out of cars on road, etc.
 - crossing guard is great on the road (@ Boxwood and Havelock)
 - if we see unsafe practices, bring it up with the school so that it can be addressed

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- meeting adjourned @ 8:31 PM