

Minutes from Greensborough PS School Council Meeting

Date: September 20, 2013

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Greensborough PS Library

Attendance:

Leanne Tan, Arudchewan S., A. Tharsini, D. Burrell, Lascelle Myers, Janette Keene, Sucee Rajeswaran, Winston Stewart, Rob Alexander, Qudisia Shariff, Tina Sharma, Joel Sievers, Kehkashan Tanveer, J. Spiers, T. McFadden

Meeting began at 7:05 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review and approval of minutes from the School Council meeting held on June 20, 2013
 - Winston approved
 - Seconded by Janette
3. Lascelle suggested the need for more parents on council
4. Treasurer's Report (from Rob Alexander):
 - Balance in account to start the 2013-2014 school year is \$4962
5. Administration Report (from J. Spiers and T. McFadden)
 - 536 students currently registered at GPS
 - Reorganization was necessary so that we can be in compliance with Ministry Primary Cap because there were many new registrations in Grade 4,5,6 grades and some people left GPS from Grades K - 1
 - SK/1 class has been collapsed and a new Grade 4 class has been created along with new straight classes in Grades 4, 5, and 6
 - EQAO results for 2013 showed that when comparing Grade 6 cohort with their performance in Grade 3, reading and writing has improved but mathematics has dropped
 - This data, along with report card data will be discussed by staff and used to create School Improvement Goals
 - Winston asked question about breaking down the data to look at gap between boys and girls
 - Pizza program has changed from My Little Pizzeria to Regino's
 - Students seem happy with the change but it is more work for the staff and volunteers are requested for helping out on pizza days
 - Janette and Lascelle have volunteered to help

- Additionally, Curriculum Night 2012 included pizza dinner, volunteers required for that to happen again
- A fundraising subcommittee was created, led by Tina Sharma and Qudsia Shariff, to help on Curriculum Night 2013; first business is to create a flyer so that pizza can be pre-ordered
- Fundraising committee will also help to organize movie night
- GPS Healthy living school snacks program needs volunteers to buy cheese strings and yogurt tubes from Food Basics in Markham (contact person there is Dave Darling
- PRO grant secured for \$950 to run parent workshops for parents to be involved at school
- Dance-a-thon was suggested to replace Cookie Dough fundraiser, with Interactive DJ Trevor hired to run a dance-a-thon for each division in each literacy block
- A Teacher Incentive prize program would still be in effect in addition to the Mandarin Challenge for classes
- Currently there is a lot going on at GPS
- Sports include cross country, boys and girls volleyball tryouts
- Clubs included ECO team, student council
- WE Day excursion September 20
- Terry Fox Run on Thursday September 26
- First Gator Gathering Assembly September 30
- Curriculum night - October 3
- Markham Fair on October 4 Grades 2-8
- Internet Safety Presentation to students Grade 6-8 by YRP on October 10
- Right to Play October 17
- Take Me Outside Day October 24
- Grade 7 &8 to BOSS for concert on October 24
- Grade 7s to an outdoor education facility, possible Lake St. George but teachers are still working on date
- Remembrance Day Assembly November 11
- Progress Report Card go home on November 13

6. Lascelle spoke about the East School Council Forum on October 21 at Bur Oak Secondary School

- If anyone is interested contact Jim, Tim, Vincent, or Lascelle

7. Mr. Burrell's Music Report:

- The Trio Musica tradition (a partnership with Lincoln Alexander PS and Ashton Meadows PS) is being discussed/planned which consists of one day of music with a concert at night
- Music programs at GPS this year will include the Choir and the Intermediate Band, with the junior band starting later in the year
- There are more students than instruments right now and instruments are wearing out so some money is needed to purchase some instruments each year

- Lascelle asked for a list of instruments that are needed
- Discussion took place around dedicating one fundraiser to raising money for instruments or to charge admission at a holiday or seasonal concert

8. Fundraising

- Options were discussed and J. Spiers expressed a desire to not ask the community for money too often, therefore limit the number of fundraisers to:
 1. Movie nights (first one on Thursday October 10 before the October 11 PA day)
 2. Poinsettia drive in December
 3. Dance-a-thon in January
- Winston suggested a Movie day on October 11 PA day during the day, with council members and Grade 8 students supervising
- Discussion took place around a movie night aimed at a specific audience of K-6 students with intermediate students helping out

9. Nominations for executive positions on school council

- Lascelle nominated Vincent for chair of School Council
- Janette seconded
- Vincent accepted
- Arlene nominated Lascelle for Co-Chair
- Qudisia nominated Tina for Co-Chair
- Both accepted and therefore both will act as Co-Chairs
- Some discussion took place around who would be the secretary to take a record of meetings
- No one in attendance wanted to be the secretary on a full time basis but Tina volunteered to take notes next meeting with Qudisia helping
- Janette nominated Arlene to be treasurer
- Winston seconded
- Arlene accepted

10. Next Meeting

Scheduled for October 17

List of future meetings:

November 21, December 19, January 16, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Minutes were recorded by T. McFadden