

Legacy P.S. School Council

Meeting Minutes: meeting held in Legacy P.s. Library

November 5, 2013

Present: Lori Nickerson, Tricia Ali-Mohammed, Sylvia Vocino, Adela Pinnock, Nandita Bhatia, Day Babalola, Al Mainprize, Laura Ryckman, Michelle Probert, Joginder Kaur, Nanda Bharat, Teddy Kardaras

Regrets: Saqib Qureshi, Mike Michalos

Special Guest: Arturo DeMarchi, Daniel Carson (from GROW)

NEXT MEETING: December 2, 2013

1. Welcome & Approval of previous meeting minutes

Motion made to approve minutes from Sept 30, 2013 School Council Meeting: **APPROVED**

Minutes Taker: [Teddy Kardaras](#)

2. Treasurer's update

Michelle Probert will remain Treasurer for the year.

- Michelle overviewed Income Statement (see handout: finance excel sheet): **Fun Fair** continues to be key fundraiser activity. Year to year have been depleting carry forward. See attachment provided in meeting.
- Fun Fair needs parent volunteers on the organization committee. Tricia will try to influence further engagement leveraging her corporate function leadership role experience.
- **Movie Night** needs replacement volunteer and/or potential move to a Thursday night
- **Read-a-thon event** recommended by Laura as a suggestion
- **Pending FINANCE issue:** outstanding around Bins payment

3. GROW Interactive Presentation

Daniel Carson presentation around Character Building & Bully Prevention Program.

- Proposal to go ahead with program if we are interested starting beginning of Jan 2014 and we should hold dates tentatively; short video presented as well
- Program is delivered by "younger" generation to "relate" with youth
- Program is organized in series of interactive program activities (see handout: GROW) from Kindergarten-Gr8; align by like grades/division; inclusive program customizable to school needs
- GROW provides everything as well as clean up crew at end of event
- Discussed how teaching staff needs to reinforce messaging post event within school environment
- 1-2 year –priced per program; # of students + # of programs in a given year
- \$6-\$9 per student per program

4. Principal Update

Laura updated council on school work organization and SIP, EQAO Data Results

- **School Plan** will be completed by end of November; it will be a 1 yr plan with set goals, some going over a couple of years; the current 6 page plan with 18 objectives needed to be modified in order to make it effective and achievable. Three areas of focus have been identified:

- **Student Achievement:**
 - boys to girls data discrepancy in EQAO
 - level 4 discrepancy primarily
 - kids are not good at answering open ended questions
- **School Climate**
 - 5% of kids on average are late for school → unacceptable, need to understand why and brainstorm around solutions
 - ❖ Average late time is around 10-15 min
 - Student questionnaire completed previously is highlighting only 49% of kids are comfortable talking to teachers about problems
- **Parent community engagement**
 - Opportunities to get community people into schools to speak to classes
 - Special Ed is not clearly understood in the community and the value it brings
- **EQAO Results**
 - Laura is reviewing trends year over year and there have been fluctuating results that is a bit concerning (see handout: EQAO School Report Summary)
 - GR 3- same group of kids achieving consistently
 - GR 6- different trends; focus has always been on reading and writing and kids are now scoring lower in math; need to address that

5. School Rink Needs- Arturo presented his ask for 2014; \$350 with around ½ to be covered by school; council paid around \$180 last year; Arturo promoted rink to be promoted as part of daily DPA; Laura raised concern around liability issues potentially; logistics around obtaining and storing skates etc. Laura to take back and evaluate.

6. Vice Principal Update – AI

- Grade 8 staggered entry pilot is working well and students are helping teachers during the early arrival times. - needs coordination and cooperation and many schools are promoting this to prepare for high schools; AI spoke to kids in Gr 8 as well.
- Kiss and Ride- a success and working well with 115 Pink passes in place; less traffic issues in the morning.
- Mr. Bull will be off until December 2013.

7. Forest of Reading – Mr.B

Mr. B presented for Ms. Bloom/Ms. W.; program for K-8 and based on kids choice of books to read and then vote for winning books (see handout: The Forest of Reading Award Programs))

- Canadian Book Focus that is very positive for students and school
- Funding; Laura will support;
- 5-8 book club focus (6-8 per title); clarity is required around how many books do you get in a kit? Lori to follow up with Patty for structure and cost
- Possible to create a book club around it
- ASAP start date

8. School Council Forum YRDSB Update –

- Nandita and Joginder attended meeting and commented how productive this forum was (see handout: YRDSB-School Council Forum 2013)

9. Safety Concern- Nandita/Teddy

- Issue of bullying from a personal perspective was raised from last year and question of why recommendation implemented by Mr. Bull for bathroom sign out process was stopped.
- Teddy brought up concern around portables and lack of buddy system(value of card swipe process) in place for bathroom/school entry;
- Laura to review security overall for portables and school as a whole.

10. Holiday Initiative:

- Lori would like to work with student council to decide on event that will give back to community and give students a positive learning experience
- Holiday "event" is being evaluated by Lori, Laura and the student council.

11. OTHER: TOP Priorities for council focus: FUN FAIR and Computers

VOTING Summary:

A) Topic: FOREST of READING

Amount for Funding by council: half of final cost ~ \$1200

(other half to be funded by School)

✓ YES Voting Members:

- ✓ Tricia Ali- Mohammed
- ✓ Lori Nickerson
- ✓ Adela Pinnock
- ✓ Nandita Bhatia
- ✓ Dayo Babalola
- ✓ Michelle Probert
- ✓ Nanda Bharat
- ✓ Teddy Kardaras

B) Topic: GROW

Amount for Funding by council: half of final cost ~ \$4320

(Other half to be funded by School)

✓ YES Voting Members:

- ✓ Tricia Ali- Mohammed
- ✓ Lori Nickerson
- ✓ Adela Pinnock
- ✓ Nandita Bhatia
- ✓ Dayo Babalola
- ✓ Michelle Probert
- ✓ Nanda Bharat
- ✓ Teddy Kardaras

Next meeting: Decembert 2nd, 2013 @ Legacy P.S. Library