
Legacy School Council Meeting

Monday, 05.02.2016

Attendees

Nandita Bhatia, Sanjay Bhatia, Jeff Demacio, Irene Dimov, Francine Mathai, Sara Mercone, Tricia Mohammed, Lori Nickerson, Nimisha Patel, Zahra Premji, Michelle Probert, Simone Reali, Laura Ryckman, Marjorie Sacco, Sylvia Vocino, Anusha Uthayakumaran

Absent Members

Sonia Babra, Teddy Kardaras, Adela Pinnock, Vinay Puri, Saumea Thayalan

Minutes taken by: Nandita Bhatia

Agenda

1. Review and vote on March, 2016 Meeting Minutes (7:00-7:05)
2. Presenter **Mr.Ramy Ghattas from STEM - Potential event for the PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grant, for the School Year 2016-17** (7:05-7:20)
3. PRO Grant Vote - Irene & Nandita (7:20-7:25)
4. Annual Fundraiser (Read a thon) update - Lori (7:25-7:30)
5. Treasurer's update - Michelle (7:30-7:35)
6. Vote on finalized LSC By-Laws - Sanjay (7:35-7:45)
7. Addressing Playground boundaries - Tricia (7:45-7:55)
8. School Budget Presentation- Laura (7:55-8:05)
9. School Updates - Laura & Jeff (8:05-8:15)
 - Health and Physical Education (incl. Sex Ed.) Curriculum update
 - Process for Class placements
10. Outdoor Classroom Project update - Francine (8:15-8:30)
11. Open Forum

****PRO - Parents Reaching Out Grant.** This is a grant which needs approval from the YRDSB for a maximum of \$1000 per school year. We used the last grant for the Parents Athletics Night at Legacy Public.

Meeting Minutes

1. **Review and vote on March, 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Minutes were voted on by Irene, Sanjay, Lori, Nandita, Simone, Tricia
2. **Presenter Mr. Ramy Ghattas from STEM - Potential event for the PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grant, for the School Year 2016-17:**
 - a. **STEM Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics:** is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics — in an interdisciplinary and applied approach.
 - b. The company Logics Academy has worked with over 79 school boards and they work directly in the classroom with teachers.
 - c. Programming is usually considered a career for a small group of people.
 - d. In Canada, there has been a significant decline in interest in Science, Math, and Technology.
 - e. Therefore a need to start kids early on Programming skills. Canada is trailing behind Asia and Europe etc. STEM engages kids in a hands on fashion.
 - f. STEM offers unique hands-on activities, Robotics, Lego mechanics, teaches electricity/conductivity and so on.
 - g. The session will be done in two nights dividing Grades K-3, 4-8 including a small session for parents.
3. **PRO Grant Vote - Irene & Nandita:** STEM was voted as the event that we will be using the PRO Grant for in the school year 2016-17. **Voted by: Irene, Lori, Nandita, Sanjay, Simone, Tricia,**
4. **Annual Fundraiser (Read a thon) update - Lori:** In the first day the Read-a-thon has raised \$1900. It is going well. Kids are in a rush to deposit their envelopes. At the next announcement we can say you can still bring in more pledges even if you have submitted your envelope. Projecting daily winners on TV will create more excitement.
5. **Treasurer's update - Michelle:** \$5,310 is left in the LSC cash account. \$5,000 is earmarked for the Outdoor Classroom Project. This leaves us with a balance of \$310.
6. **Vote on finalized LSC By-Laws - Sanjay:** The By-laws are finalized and ready to be passed. Previously there was some confusion regarding the "Election procedures" such as defining the day of the election, having an election committee, keeping the process transparent. These have all been updated as per the YRDSB handbook. **The By-laws were voted on by: Simone, Irene, Tricia, Michelle, Lori, Sanjay, Nandita, Ms. Sacco**
7. **Addressing Playground boundaries - Tricia:** There is a concern about the safety of Grade 1s in the playground during recess. The school needs to work to find a

safe way to play during recess. Laura said that they are working on it and that a couple of Grade 1s have been put on a “safety plan” as they try to leave the school zone during recess.

8. School Budget Presentation- Laura: The following points were covered:

- a. Ministry assigns a set amount based on no. of kids in the school.
- b. YRDSB has allocated \$146 per child
- c. The school budget does not cover heating and lighting.
- d. The money comes in late October, early November during the school year.
- e. The budget is mainly used for technology, class supplies, posters, books.
- f. Our principal Mrs. Laura Ryckman gets a monthly report.
- g. The money has to be used in the same school year or allocated ahead of time to new projects for the next school year or we lose it to YRDSB.
- h. Extra grants for Community classes, Outdoor education are applied separately and not covered by the school budget.
- i. There is an Internal audit that happens in schools every five years.
- j. The new housing development in Boxgrove will impact the budget if they are built after Sep. 2017.

9. School Updates - Laura & Jeff

- a. Health and Physical Education (incl. Sex Ed.) Curriculum update: Everyone should have received a description of new curriculum. This time there is no permission form required. A small no. of parents have asked for religious accommodation,
- b. Process for Class placements: The school is in the process of creation of classes for the school year 2016-17 and the notice is out requesting parent input. The kids are asked to make a class list and the school tries to put them with at least one friend of their choice. Laura and Jeff make decisions together. Teacher input is very important too. Class dynamic is based on personalities, behaviour and abilities. Placements should start by Friday -Jun 03 (PA day).

10. Outdoor Classroom Project update - Francine: Francine shared the design that is ready for approval. The design is a mimicry of nature. We missed the deadline to submit the plan to YRDSB as the Superintendent of Maintenance has to approve the design. The first phase is the yellow brick road which will cost approximately \$25,000. We need to fundraise or the project is stalled till we have the funds. The second phase includes planters, landscaping etc. We now have more time to focus on fundraising. We will now have to sent it to tender as the cost is over \$10,000. More things need to be organized such as retaining wall, no mow zone. Tricia suggested that we have a basic package at the school open house parents can choose what they would like to support. LSC will brainstorm ideas to fundraise this summer.



11. **Open Forum:** Planning for the Legacy Annual Teachers' Luncheon was discussed.

***Next and Final Meeting Date: June 06, 2016**