

# Sir John A. Macdonald Public School School Council Meeting Agenda

January 31, 2017

Staff Room



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| A. | Call to Order   | Time: Meeting called to order by Lisa Zhou at 7:00pm   |   |
| B. | Roll Call and Regrets   | <p>Attendees:</p> <p><b>Co-Chairs:</b><br/>Lisa Zhou and Rahim Surani</p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b><br/>Amy Xie</p> <p><b>Communications Officers:</b><br/>Katharine Chen-Sy &amp; Katie Sears</p> <p><b>Parent Members and Participants:</b><br/>Brenda Meng, Christina Wong, Lisa Zografos, Sorin Maier, Alison Cheung, Elke Li, Jerica Lin</p> <p><b>School Representatives:</b><br/>Greig Black and Heather Zaitlin</p> |   |
| C. | Approval of minutes from last meeting   | Confirmation that minutes were approved by email   |   |
| D. | Discussion Carried Forward from Previous Meeting  | <p>ITEMS:</p> <p><b>1.Admin Profile</b></p>  | <p>ACTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rahim will send out email, asking for final suggestions and council will ratify at April meeting</li> </ul>  |
| E. | Financial Update  |  | <p>-Balance in account: \$15959.</p> <p>-.Amy: There is a discrepancy in the donations for IIE , \$820 Online and \$6721 in cash/cheque</p> <p>- Jerica commented that her kids other school, the IIE amount went down once they switched to only online rather than a cash/cheque option.</p>  |
| F. | New Business (as submitted to Council Chair and Approved for Discussion by Chair and Principal) | <p>ITEMS:</p> <p><b>1.Change in SJAMPS Leadership</b></p>  | <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- YRDSB schools do not have a set date when a principal/VP leaves a school. It can be related to circumstances at a school, needs at a specific school, etc.</li> <li>- Operating protocol is that the district looks to move admin every few years (VPs are moved more frequently than principals). At 4 years, it is likely that a principal will be moved. Mr. Black commented that he would like to stay at SJAM, since it is a special place for him but it is the choice of the board and he will transfer as requested. Superintendent and senior staff have sole control of the decision.</li> <li>- New principal is from William Berczy PS, Kathy Lott. She has been an educator for 27 years, at YRDSB for 13 years. She is excited to meet the staff and families of SJAM. She can be reached via her yrdsb.ca email and is active on Twitter.</li> <li>- Jerica expressed the concern that the parents, students and community were given very little</li> </ul> |

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|  |  |                                | <p>notice of his departure. Is there a way for us to have a voice in decisions like this? She expressed her appreciation for Mr. Black on behalf of the parents and community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Rahim expressed agreement with Jerica's concern. Suggested that we can reach out to the school trustee and asked if we wanted to do this as a council.</li> <li>- It was not decided to contact anyone regarding this as a council, but all parents have the right to contact the school superintendent and trustee to express concerns about anything.</li> <li>-Jerica will invite Billy Pang to a school Council Meeting.</li> <li>- Lisa Zhou presented a pen set and card to Mr. Black on behalf of the school council and expressed appreciation.</li> </ul>   |
|  |  | <p><b>2. IIE Follow Up</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rahim thanked the council for preparing the IIE form in Mandarin and English. We exceeded our target. Following up on the discrepancy (see above) this has been sorted out.</li> <li>- Rahim suggested sending out a thank you letter to the families in the school. Not just those who supported the campaign, but everyone.</li> <li>-Lisa Zhou pointed out that the newsletter announced the update on the IIE</li> <li>-Council agreed that Rahim will draft a letter and it will be sent out as a separate communication via email from the school.</li> <li>- Funding schedule for 2017: we have maxed out our technology cost sharing for this year. We can hold this over until next year.</li> <li>- Greig had a conversation with the parent who donated \$500 for a milk program. He explained that we do not have one and it would require staffing in addition to just cash. Parent agreed that the donation could be used for other needs in the school.</li> <li>- Discussions tabled: IPad and Musical Instrument purchases</li> <li>- Musical instruments funded as listed in the minutes of the Nov. 8, 2016 meeting.</li> </ul> |
|  |  | <p><b>3. Movie Night</b></p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-409 movie tickets sold (extras have been printed, if needed), 300 pizza/drink/popcorn combos, 37 pizza/drink combos. Greig will print the tickets for these meals.</li> <li>- Next year, we only need pizza/drink/popcorn combo.</li> <li>- We have a list of students who bought tickets, by class alphabetically.</li> <li>-L. Zhou will tell Grace she can pick up the tickets after 10AM</li> <li>-Grace will need to determine how to get the names connected to the tickets. Easiest might be a mail merge from Excel. Greig will send a soft copy to Rahim and L. Zhou.</li> <li>-L. Zografos and Rahim will plan tickets/food</li> <li>-4:30 arrival for volunteers, Katie will contact and organize volunteers.</li> </ul>   |

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|  |  |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greig has coordinated with Jason Marino (SJAM student) to run the movie.</li> <li>- Council/Volunteers will dress Hawaiian</li> <li>- We need to cover the buzzer on front door, so it doesn't ring during movie.</li> <li>-Greig will request fans from teachers to use in gym.</li> </ul>   |
|  |  | <b>4. Parent- Requested Discussion (Jerica)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jerica is concerned with the cultural negativity and would like to do something to work against this by celebrating being Canadian and living in Canada. She has previously initiated a SJAM letter writing campaign at Sir. Wilfred Laurier to the kids at SJAM. She recently presented to SWL a project to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada. Wants to know if SJAM is planning anything and wants to encourage us to do something</li> <li>-Greig: The school board has no plans, there has been passing conversations with some staff members. Perhaps a Canada 150 Assembly.</li> <li>-Lisa Zografos. Suggested we could adjust the theme of the Year -End BBQ to a Canada 150 celebration? We could have poetry/picture submission celebrating Canada 150.</li> <li>-Rahim: We could have a collection of maple leaves put together to make a giant maple leaf with works about Canada from the kids on them.</li> <li>- Council agreed that having a Canada 150 theme for the year end BBQ is a good idea and will move in that direction when working out the details.</li> <li>- Jerica: March is the month for the Elimination of Racism (3<sup>rd</sup> week of March) she is pulling together a multi-cultural event at SWL. Different dancers, speakers, cultural centres. The community centre is willing to come to both schools due to proximity. Programs are booked the entire week. School admin is taking the lead at SWL and Jerica is organizing the speakers, etc.</li> <li>- Due to the PRO Grant being the same week, council will not be taking on any of these projects, although all are in agreement that this sounds like good ideas. Perhaps SJAM can have some of these events during the school day?</li> <li>- Heather will connect with the admin at SWL to discuss scheduling and planning. Will update council who will update Jerica.</li> </ul> |
|  |  | <b>5. PRO Grant</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Our speaker backed out, so now what do we do.</li> <li>- Katie presented the option of having Sarah Galsworthy, from Sport for Life. She recently spoke at a similar event at another school in Markham. Katie will follow up with Sarah and update council.</li> <li>- Sub-committee teleconference will be planned to finalize the event once the speaker is planned. (tentative date, February 16<sup>th</sup>—after the Movie Night)</li> <li>- Jerica: Recommends Markham Cycle Path to come in for free bike tune ups.</li> <li>- Check Google Share for list of groups we want to approach</li> </ul>  |

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|    |             | <b>6. BBQ</b>  | -Thursday, May 25<br>- We need to start booking in early March, but most can be done after the March event<br>-Do we want to do food trucks instead of BBQ?<br>To be discussed later.   |
|    |             | <b>7 Other Business</b>  | Re; New Principal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rahim: Can we send a formal email to Kathy Lott from SC?</li> <li>- Do we need an other meeting prior to April 4<sup>th</sup> to introduce her to SC? It was suggested that we try to meet with her during the movie for 10 minutes</li> </ul> Re: Recent News about YRDSB (Rahim) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are these issues prevalent in this school? We need to be informed on the issues that are prevalent in our board. We are fortunate that we are at a school where these issues are not prevalent.</li> <li>- Are there any issues of governance, equity and racism at SJAM? Heather says she is not aware of any of these issues at SJAM. We as individuals on council can encourage other parents to be open with the admin at SJAM.</li> <li>- We should discuss with Kathy about how we would appreciate open dialogue with her and that we have traditionally done this with our principal.</li> <li>- SC at SJAM has always been open with each other and transparent.</li> <li>- The YRDSB investigation is ongoing, so SC will not be sending any updates out to the school until things are finalized and there is official communication</li> </ul> |
| G. | Adjournment | Motion to Adjourn by: Lisa Zhou<br>Seconded: Rahim Surani<br>Time: 9:25 pm |   |

Next FULL COUNCIL Meeting: Tuesday, January 31, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m. – SJAM Staffroom