



Oscar Peterson School Council Meeting

October 17th, 2016. 7:00 pm.

MINUTES

Attending: Melanie Wright, Amanda Dimilta, Mary Kambanis, Dallas James, Brigitte Aresenault, Cathy Parmer, Jessica Tran, Jo-Anne Jessup, Kate LoPresti, Melissa Kalmbach, Pauline Tam, Rebecca Holohan, Sally Darwish, Tina Day (arrived at 8pm), Sarah Tan, Hina Shamim, Fotini Mantas, Tania Papaikonomou, Nicole Doucas, Victoria Janaski, Christine Nikolovski, Kamalesh Tonse, Kiran Mamman

Staff: Farooq Shabbar, Susan Durfy, Sabrina Itwarie

Welcome and Introduction (Dallas)

- Attendance, and rules of being a voting member
- What it means to “accept minutes”
- Punctuality is important, may close items that are not resolvable in the meeting
- Kids are welcome
- Voting process on paper, passed in at end and tallied
- Sometimes we need to vote on something via email (rare)
- Thanks for attending

Approval of previous minutes:

- Motion to accept the minutes from the September 19, 2016 council meeting put forward by Kate, Melanie seconded. Carried.

Principal's report

School canopy

Total of tent was \$830, and weights will be more, so rounds off at \$900. Admin will pick up balance owing.

EQAO results

How to address the gaps. Results were sent via email to parents.

Meeting standards at or above Ministry standard, except for Gr 6 math. Is a concern. Getting support by the province. Math strategy being implemented by all schools. Morning of next PA Day will be spent reviewing math area. Math is school priority until we see a definitive improvement. Only 1 measure, it's a snap shot. Teacher assessment and report card data is more important.

[5 minute video about Ontario's province-wide tests shown.]

We will be looking at the 5 strands to see where we're doing really well, and which strands we're not.

Consultant came in last year to work with grades 3-6 math programming. Real life applications for better understanding.

This year will consult grade 1 and 2, and 7 and 8. Also touched every PA Day. Great sense of urgency, and we are on it. How to involve parents as well.

Question from Jo-Anne about keeping balance between math and literacy. Farooq responds we never forget the fundamentals. Will be integrating all together. Jo-Anne also asks about grade 7 and 8s who may have gaps? It's a long term plan, will help teachers support those individual students who are lagging.

Question from Rebecca that OPPS was below York Region numbers, any discussion on that? Will be meeting as a staff to discuss. Human nature to compare. We look at ourselves, to see how we can do better.

Question from Mary about PD, what are they being taught? Teachers are teaching to new curriculum, not really "to the test". Will set the kids up to understand math, to think "why", not just rote.

Question from parent: how do we compare to other Stouffville schools? We don't know and we are more concerned with our own school. We don't coach parents regarding the test, but we want parents to understand so they can support their kids at home.

Question from Christine about how to support homework when parents don't know the math? Frustrating. What goes home should never be new, it's an extension of class work. Constant communication with teacher. Websites that are resources for parents. Admin will look into sharing some online resources with parents.

Question from Sally if child is flagged as scoring lower. Parents are given scores, student will be supported.

Kiran mentions IXL website for practice.

Cathy raises issue of anxiety over test, will we do better to support them? Getting better each year. Be normal about it. Melissa responds that the first year it was done at her school, the whole school shut down. Has come a long way. Sabrina comments about the stress coming from parents.

Terry Fox Results

Campaign raised over \$6000. Highly successful.

Jaylen Memorial

No updates. Application has been submitted. Committee will decide and we will move forward in next 2-3 weeks.

School Boundary Changes

We will become bigger slowly. North of main is a big complex that will generate students. Also west of Glad Park, about 15 kids before end of June. Looking at portables. One is vacant right now. Might ask for more or remain status quo. French immersion students will stay at Glad Park.

Eco by Sabrina Itwarie

We Scare Hunger is starting.

Eco Team – waste reduction week. Compost bins in classes. So everything is either compost or blue box. Wrappers will come home but leftover food will not.

October 26 to be an outside day. Outdoor tables are appreciated.

Extra Curriculars by Sabrina

Lots happening. Cross country meet Wednesday. Volleyball is starting. Student Leadership Team. Games Club grades 3-4 (Tues) and grades 5-6 (Thurs). Brigitte needs volunteers for Tuesdays. Eco Team has started. Healthy Schools has started. Intramural sports. Primary choir has started.

Any way to post items? Teachers volunteer and don't want to ask more of them. Newsletter maybe. Admin to consider, will speak with staff.

Investment in Education letter

Will go out in November to support 2-3 areas.

Open House

Successful event. Need more notice for planning food but a great event.

Pro Grant

Melissa and Amanda to meet with Farooq this week. Stay tuned.

Family Services York Region

Parenting tools, stress management, watch for flyer.

November council meeting

Spec Ed 101. Emergency Procedures and Protocols.

Financial Report by Rebecca

Pizza and subs estimated. Leaves \$589 of non-allocated funds. Number will change once order details have been factored in.

Outdoor Update – Melanie

Keeping \$500 for stone and \$2000 for maintenance. Keep tables that we built? How to spend refunded table money? Consider for next meeting. Thanks to Randy Payne and Scott Duncan who helped Dallas and Amanda with tables. Consider something in the primary area. Send ideas to Melanie or Cheryl.

Question re: maintenance of outdoor classroom, trimming. Caretakers and students are responsible. Families assist in summer. Plan for cleaning out the boxes? [See Addendum to minutes.]

Event Dates by Tina

February Games Night, community event: January 27, or February 10 (Feb 3 a PA Day). **January 27 is decided.**

Fun Fair fundraiser June 3 or 10. PA Day June 2. **June 3 is decided.**

PR item by Kate:

Different ways to communicate. Council FB page maintained by council. Contest to get new members to join the page. Join e-newsletter. School calendar on school website not maintained. Litterless lunch contest tied to FB.

New Business:

Council dates

Nov 22, Jan 16, Feb 13, April 18, May 15, June 19.

Jo-Anne raises issue of conflicts with highschool council dates. Will try to consider next year.

Lice check

For September 2017, will be moved into first week of September. Will be booked now. Another check has not been booked for this school year.

November meeting

“Supporting Students with Exceptionalities”. Testing anxiety. How to get help. Emergency procedures.

Jazz clothing

Deadline to order is next Monday. Clarify for parents that this is school wear/spirit wear for all students, not just music students.

Class trip question by Mary: Field trips are decided by teacher. Parent comments that her son has never been outside of Stouffville. Her workplace will pay for a school visit to their location. Sabrina mentions her son’s school council contributes \$10/student to help fund field trips. Farooq will share feedback with teachers.

Motion to adjourn at 835pm by Mary, seconded by Mel. Carried.

Next meeting is on November 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Future dates are January 16, February 13, April 18, May 15 and June 19.

Addendum to Minutes

From Cheryl Warrener, re: outdoor garden

The garden club (2 staff, 15 students) meets once every cycle and we currently have about 8 to-do items on our action plan. We have had 4 at - work sessions after our initial seed harvest session.

1. Harvest kale (done)
2. Harvest, dry and store spinach, lettuce, radish, dill, other seeds (done),
3. Pull bolted plants and weeds (in progress) and turn over soil
4. Create garden debris "compost" (in progress)
5. Empty remaining 60l soil (done) and return bags (awaiting pickup)
6. Harvest parsley and oregano
7. Make taboleh salad for members
8. Dry and store oregano for distribution to members

We would love to have any adult volunteers join the club as its a lot of time consuming work. The kids are Sooo cute harvesting seeds though..even your rough and tumble boys are so gentle with them!