

## ROBERT MUNSCH PUBLIC SCHOOL – PARENT COUNCIL

### September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**In Attendance:** Greg Collins, Crystal Mott, Jonathan Mitchell, Rhonda Pogue, Tanya Lewis, Janet Keall, Michael Neve, Jennifer Bolton, Kristina Iantria, Melodie Howard, Jan Vesna, Elaine Hunter, Heather Vaz, Doug Bolton (community member), Lori Little (community member), Will and Lisa De Villiers, Julie Freeman

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#### **Setting New Council**

- Some new members around the table
- Typically no need for elections unless several people interested in the same position
- Mr. Collins asked that everyone give what they can, how they can
- Positions (detailed descriptions can be found in the RMPS Parent Council constitution):
  - Treasurer (currently there is \$9800 in the council account)
  - Secretary
  - Chair/co-Chair
  - Members at large (voting members)
  - Additional roles? Communications? Fundraising? Volunteer Management
- New people elected:
  - Co-Chairs – Elaine Hunter, Jonathan Mitchell
  - Treasurer – Kristina Iantria
  - Secretary – Jan Vesna
  - Members at large – Will and Lisa De Villiers, Julie Freeman, Doug Bolton, Melodie Howard, Heather Vaz, Tanya Lewis, Rhonda Pogue, Janet Keall

#### **2015-2016 Council Meetings**

- Agreed to continue Thursday meetings
- All meetings will run 7-8:30
- On-site childcare will be provided (first night for it tonight – successful)

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 2015

Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### **Additional Roles**

- Communications – Facebook group, newsletter
  - Elaine and Melodie will continue to complete these tasks unless someone else is interested
  - Is the parent council Email address functional? Mr. Collins to follow up
- Fundraising subcommittee
  - Julie, Kristina – agreed to be part of one but not lead it

### **Playground Discussion**

Discussion of 'natural playground' and how expensive

- Could we look at the Mayor's golf tournament (usually provides \$5000)? Possibility of other grants? If this is something we want to undertake it is a long term project
- Question of how does Council money work? Doesn't it need to be used in the year it was raised and go directly to benefit the students? How does this work if we wanted to save money for a playground?
- Could we combine with the Eco Team – what are options out there where a small investment can make a big impact (maybe not a full playground)
- Discussion of the area around Vivian Creek being well utilized by outdoor classrooms
- Some playgrounds at other schools have been sponsored by companies – could we look at this?
- Network North community garden – where is this at (could it function as a step towards an outdoor play space?)
- Have we asked the students if they WANT a playground?
- Some outdoor classrooms have had success with building 'teepee' type structures – this might be a problem to maintain long term since community will have access as well
- Really we could look at anything to be used outside as an investment in an outdoor play space

### **Santa Claus Parade (December 5<sup>th</sup>)**

- November 11 is the deadline to apply
- Will need parent involvement – if your child wishes to participate you have to be with them
- What is the goal of participating? To have a presence in the community
- There are several potential floats for children to participate in – how do they decide?
- Proposed that we ask the community about interest in the parade (Elaine and Melodie to do a flyer to gauge interest and will also post on FB group)
- Participation in the parade is free but council makes a donation to the Lion's Club
- Can determine if we will walk or use a float

### **Other Items/Ideas/Events**

## Buddy Bench

- Haven't been able to ask Home Hardware about donating the supplies and/or labour yet
- Needs to be bolted to the ground (added expense)
- Can always approach Lowes as well since they are in East Gwillimbury
- "Elsa" of York Region is a big supporter of anti-bullying initiatives so we could approach her about attending an 'opening' of the bench
- Still aiming to have this complete by anti-bullying week in November (?)

## Ice Time

- All schools get 3 hours of free ice time
- We were tentatively booked for 5:30-6:30 on Sat. October 24<sup>th</sup> but opted to cancel since there was not enough time to promote the event – could we look at a later date? November? New year?
- Idea was to do an event that brought the community together since there was no meet-the-teacher BBQ this year due to labour dispute

## Movie Night

- Suggested as an alternate event
- Tentatively set for Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> pending permits
- The gym will hold a maximum of 480 people
- Council will have to do all set-up/clean-up due to CUPE labour dispute
- Elaine will approach Zucca's about providing pizza for sale as well as research pre-bagged popcorn (through the school's contact)
- Jonathan will look into the license for showing a movie (suggested movie – Dispicable Me)
- Melodie creating an information sheet which asks how many slices of pizza you would be interested in purchasing. To be distributed ASAP.

## Cookie orders & Poinsettia Sale

- Kristina brought forth a fundraising idea – Tasty Batters Cookie Dough (through QSP)
- This could potentially be done online (in light of the current labour dispute)
- Questions regarding how this fits into the spirit of the Healthy Schools initiative
- Suggestions that we do this and NOT poinsettias
- Due to the large amount of work already put into starting/organizing the poinsettia sale we will proceed this year for the moment and address concerns re: payment and remittance of forms closer to the time the forms have to be returned (in hopes that the labour disputes will be settled)

## **Questions from the Community**

- Why no pizza lunches?

- Due to the labour dispute and the fact that RMPS does not currently have the online ordering system that YRDSB is beginning to implement.
- Why do we not participate in the Terry Fox Run?
  - It hasn't been discussed by the staff team
  - Can be 'postponed' until the spring if they wanted to participate
- Kindie Pen vs. Out in the larger area
  - Why are the SKs out in the larger play area and the JKs still in the 'pen'?
  - Hope is to transition everyone out once routines are set and everyone has settled into school life
- Are there water issues at the school?
  - The water was discoloured at one point last year but tested, all systems flushed and the water deemed safe.
  - This happens throughout Mt. Albert at times.

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 7:00-8:30pm