

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Public School
Parent Council Meeting #02 Minutes
November 9th, 2016 @ 7pm, School Library

Attendance:

Billy Pang (Trustee)	Houri Awedikian (Co Chair)	Sadaf Siddiqui*	Syed Hussaini
Peter Tse (Superintendent)	Mymi Huynh (Co Chair)	Jenine LaFayette*	Ruth Hong
Ghada Sadaka (Principal)	Joyce Alimonos (Treasurer)	Ashraf Patel	Doris Tang
Kathryn Gravill (Vice Principal)	Sufia Khan-Hussaini (Secretary)	Charity Stappas*	Yang Yang
Lena Sadaka (Teacher Rep)	Juliann Ng*	Dorothy Tong	
Beth Rinne (Caretaking)	Pu (Angela) Wang*	Peter Wang	
Francis Hamelin (Teacher/Librarian)	Diana Yau*	Gianluca Arcari	

* Voting Member on Council

Voting Members absent: Wendy Cheung & Nazish Hussain

	Items	Minute Notes
1.	Welcome	Houri welcomed all in attendance and reminded everyone that the purpose this parent council meeting was fundraising.
2.	Principals Report - November 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal Sadaka introduced and welcomed our School Trustee, Billy Pang, the Superintendent of Schools, Peter Tse, and the School Librarian, Francis Hamelin as a visiting member. • Principal Sadaka shared a 4 minute "Modern Learning" PowerPoint from a workshop she attended which she hopes to share with the student council and teachers to inspire them to implement the different ways of learning and thinking at SWL. • Principal Sadaka shared her Principals Report (full report included at the end of the minutes) <p>Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ "Curriculum Expectations", student's strengths and needs and moving students from Level 3 to Level 4. Looking at and analysing data as to HOW we can move them. How to meet student needs together. Team of 7 working with EQAO Advisor to analyse data. Looking at different forms of assessment (i.e. conversations and gathering observations) looking at the different way students learn ○ "Parental, Family and Community Engagement", during assemblies' students are sitting in groups with their house colours, not classes. Instead of awarding Character Traits awarding Global Citizenship awarded which encompasses all traits. ○ Invitation to all parents to attend Remembrance Day assembly at the school in the gym. ○ Discussed "School Climate" and "Miscellaneous Items" may be found in the report. ○ Resource link that teachers receive periodically might be useful for parents as well. Principal Sadaka will look into whether it is possible to forward the link to parents as well.

<p>3. Fundraising Report and Ideas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mymi discussed the goal for fundraising as being 25K, and provided an update that we are currently at 20K and hope to exceed the target of the 5K we need. <p>Question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mymi asked if others wanted to share their fundraising ideas before she shared her own or those that were sent to her to be shared at council. • Mymi also encouraged everyone to think about how many fundraising activities we would like to have throughout the year and how many we could handle as a parent council. <p>Discussion around Lunches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centered around adding or substituting the sub days (Fridays) or pizza days (Wednesdays) which are currently set until the end of January. • Joyce explained that the orders were placed until January to avoid mix up with new meals or schedules in the new year when everyone is coming back from holidays. She was open to changing the menu for lunches at school or adding another day but also expressed that having too many options may become confusing. She sited profit margins from lunches this year to last year and explained that they aren't comparable because we went from pizza slices to individual pizzas. • Houri stated that lunches were set to 2 days a week because anymore may have been more distracting and 2 was manageable, we may not have enough man power to handle any more lunches. • Charity contacted two different vendors for a healthier option that would include protein. She distributed two handouts outlining the menus and prices for each vendor. • Mymi stated that while she would support another lunch day she would not like to substitute the pizza or sub days. Mymi also stated that we should not offer food (i.e. Greek) that is made available through Kids Kitchen • Sufia also seconded Mymi and expressed concerns that by substituting a better-quality meat lunch students who were vegetarian or ate halal or kosher could not buy in. • Another point was made around the amount of garbage adding a lunch would create, and in the spirit of being eco-friendly this is a problem we should keep in mind <p>Action Item: A consensus was not reached, but it was determined that a Subcommittee for Food would be struck and the members who expressed interest would meet before the next parent council meeting to discussion further. The members were: Houri, Joyce, Juliann, Jennine, Charity, Yang, Lena, Mymi</p>
	<p>Discussion around other fundraising options, food related:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mymi discussed Kernels Popcorn (she contacted them and had the information we would need if we decided to go ahead with them), which was very popular at SJAM. She explained that students have the option of buying one bag of popcorn for \$2 that we buy for \$1 + tax. There are 10 different flavours to choose from and the school buys the different flavours by the case with a 2-

		<p>month shelf life. In the past she has found it a problem that there were no reminders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-paying through Cash Online was discussed as maybe a possible option, limiting the flavours and/or pre-selecting them, the rush at recess over 20 minutes, the congestion in a small space was brought up and it was suggested that maybe it should be done once a month instead of on a weekly basis, a member brought up the ingredients (preservatives) being an unhealthy option, another member as popcorn not being recommended for students with braces. • Mr. Hamelin provided an example from a previous school where the popcorn was a very popular seller, added excitement for the students and funded the student's graduation. • Principal Sadaka discussed that there are 10 days that the school gets to have unhealthy food/food that is not PPM150 compliant, so popcorn every week seems a bit too much she recommended this discussion to continue in the food subcommittee. She also expressed that the ministry would offer healthy food choices/options if the subcommittee were to contact them. • Mymi also brought information for Terra Cotta Cookies, as an option. The margarine ingredient was discussed as being extremely unhealthy. <p>Discussions around other fundraising options that are health conscious:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myko Toys? Little return. Joyce stated last year the program started late into the holiday season and many families may have already completed the shopping > profit \$27 and the year before about \$100. Maybe not worth the effort. • Food items that were tabled: Florida Oranges, maple syrup, coco powder, poinsettia sale around the holidays (this had been done in the past), coffee (did not work well in the past), gift cards (which give the school a certain %), Movie Night where popcorn and juice is sold • Principal Sadaka suggested a community building, game night where you can come in your pajamas and play games (i.e. board games, cup stacking activities, something in the dark (glow in the dark), karaoke, etc.) • Jennine had heard of a Pajama Jam where parents and their children attend a dance/social with their parents- for the younger grades • Lena discussed an Origami Club at lunch that students could buy into, the cost would be for supplies and fundraising. <p>Action Item:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the Food Subcommittee to include Social to have one group with two purposes. Houri asked all of those that wanted to volunteer for the Subcommittee to come forward, some members of the Food Committee came forward. • Email subcommittee with ideas you would like them to discuss
4.	Candygrams for the Holidays	Lena explained a fundraising event initiated by the student council for around the holidays, a candygram exchange where students purchase candygrams and write a message to a friend and have it delivered with a candy cane or small mint candy individually wrapped.

5.	Pen Pal Writing	<p>Joyce was requested to share an idea for around the holidays, posed by a parent that could not attend the meeting. The parent suggested to have students write to their old teachers at SJAM in French, to thank them/update them on themselves. This would be a one-way exchange.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What if the teacher was no longer there or if students felt disconnected from their Grade One teachers in the higher grades? Suggestions were that they could also write to another teacher or the principal at SJAM. This suggestion was going to be passed on.
	Closing	<p>Principal Sadaka thanked everyone for their contributions. She also mentioned that the next meeting on Dec. 7th we would be discussing the Pro-Grant and ideas for a Math Night.</p>
	Message from School Trustee	<p>Billy Pang introduced himself as the School Trustee, an elected official of Markham West. He referenced the Three M's stated in the Principals Report as a mandate passed and approved at School Board which he is responsible for overseeing the implementation of at the 19 schools he is responsible for. He also expressed that he is only an Email or phone call away and if you do miss him just leave him a detailed message and he will try to get back to you within 2 working days, but if he doesn't try him again. He stated that he speaks Mandarin and Cantonese and that he is there to support the teachers and staff on the front lines but him or Peter Tse, the Superintendent are there if parents need them to look into any concerns. Mr. Pang helps coordinate the Nov 21st York Region School Council meeting. Each School Principal is permitted to bring 3 School Council members, including the Vice Principal. Mr. Pang encourages all Council Chair(s) to attend.</p>

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Next Meetings: Dec. 7, Feb 1, Apr 5, May 24.... Fun Fair June 1st (rain date 8th)

ADDENDUM:

- Holiday Cookies for fundraising was approved shortly after the meeting via email given the tight deadline for the initiative as the Holidays is in 6 weeks. Council will sell cookies for \$1 each via online cash to raise the Holiday Spirit. This also give kids something to look forward to and have something tangible in their hands. The cookies are PPM150 compliant, with no preservatives, nut-free and are individually wrapped.