



# MINUTES

*Monday May 2nd, 2016 | 6:30-8:30pm | Meeting called to order by Joanne Conte Casola*

**Council Norms** ◇ Agenda set by members and circulated in advance ◇ Meetings begin and end on time ◇ Consensus decision making ◇ All speakers and opinions are respected ◇ Individual students, parents and staff are not discussed ◇ Be open minded and objective ◇ Refer parent or student issues to the teacher or principal ◇ Council does not manage day to day operation of school ◇ Council does not govern the school or become involved with determining professional practice

## In Attendance

### Council Members

Alain Baradar  
Amir Mirshahi  
Andrew Browne (regrets)  
Anna Margitta  
Bridget Hijazi  
Cindy Galpin  
Dan Cipollone (regrets)  
Dima Berchalli  
Gina Celsie  
Jennifer Yan (regrets)  
Joanne Conte Casola  
Julie Romanovich  
Linda Muffit (regrets)  
Nereo Bonomo  
Simin Ghaderi  
Solmaz Baradar (regrets)  
Suzanne McWhinnie  
Teresa Stefanutti  
Vahid Danaee (regrets)  
Vivian Aitas

### Guests

Alla Koren  
Maria Pulsoni  
Nadia Dasilva

## Approval of Minutes

Agenda order of events changed. Motion to approve agenda by Joanne. Motion seconded. All in favor. Agenda approved.

Motion to approve February minutes by Amir. Motion seconded. All in favor. Minutes approved.

## Committee Reports

### Communications

- Nothing new to report

### Education

- May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 PRO-Grant seminar is booked and ready to go: “How to help your Child Mathematically.” Awaiting RSVP’s.
- Application for 2016/2017 required by May 29<sup>th</sup>. Amir to work on this application with a consideration for a speaker on mental health.
- Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Richmond Green, Mental Health Seminars to be held. Could prove useful for selecting speakers.

### French Ambassador

- Posters have been distributed to intermediate teachers with regards to the health benefits of French language education.
- May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Provincial Public Speaking festival at Glendon College.
- At the request of a few interested parents, Suzanne to provide council with more information on exchange students program.

### Fundraising

- Sushi to start on Wednesday. Council has received 120 orders as of today. Program runs for 6 weeks and will bring in to council \$1,464.
- Question as to whether these lunches will be introduced next year as a fixed item just like pizza. It was decided that they could be and forms would have be ready to go in beginning of year package (which is already in the works).
- Stressed the importance of communicating to Kids Kitchen fundraising initiatives for 2016/2017 so that they are aware of how this would impact their business and they can plan accordingly. In addition, they prefer not to run their programs the same day that we have other vendors providing lunches at the school.

- With respect to fundraising, only 25 cents a meal is made on Kids Kitchen orders whereas \$2 each meal is made on other vendors.

### **School Grants**

- Nutrition grant is being utilized at the school. Currently the school is working with \$1,300 and could actually use double.
- Currently creating half a class worth of fresh fruits and vegetables snacks to each class. Have moved away from Cheerios and crackers to apples, carrots, cheese strings, etc.
- There is a monthly tracking schedule being used to keep track of what is being distributed and what is being consumed on a daily basis.
- Note was made to include something in the weekly newsletter informing parents of this.
- Teachers have also been asked to educate the kids to choose from these snack bins for healthy alternatives as required.
- Objective to educate children that these healthy snacks can be fun and delicious too.

### **Student Programs**

- Paper Club is on hold until the print comes out.
- Lego Wedo is coming to an end
- You are the Chef will occur on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. \$800 approved by council to cover the costs.
- Choir is cancelled.
- Product Club started 2 weeks ago and there are 2 more weeks left.

### **Teachers' Rep**

- Mathematica contest completed
- Intermediates had a field trip to Waterloo for the 2016 Career. Exploration Showcase put on by Skills Ontario.
- Mme. Cowan is running the Science Club.
- Girls from grades 6, 7 and 8 will have an opportunity to participate in the "Fitness Club" to replace "Girls on the Run". There are 5 teacher reps for this. This program focuses on helping girls make healthy life choices and improving physical fitness.
- A concerned parent requested support for the Glee Club. Discussion followed.
- Parent request was made for more concerts in future years. Discussion followed.

### **Volunteers**

- Volunteer forms are being revised for 2016/2017. The form has been reviewed by the volunteer committee and changes have been made.
- The Board volunteer form is out too and comparisons can be made to improve on the current one.
- Classroom support was removed along with the students' field trips and library support making it reflect more council lead initiatives.
- This was done to reduce misunderstandings by parents as to what exactly they were signing up for. It was felt that any teachers that needed parents support, would reach out to their class parents directly.
- Concerns were raised with supply teachers being English speaking teachers only. Discussion followed. Administration to speak and confirm with Superintendent and Teacher's Union if this is possible.

## Treasurer's Report

### Treasurer's Report at a glance:

**Opening Balance:** \$20,767.91

**Net Fundraising Profit:** \$34,514.92

**Total disbursements:** (\$34,439.56)

Lice Checks and Yearbook (\$1,704.27)

School Programs and Supply Coverage (\$6,215.50)

Special Events (\$13,659.64)

Scientist in the School (\$3,467)

TECH/YRDSB Cost Sharing (\$4,579.70)

Library Books Purchase (\$3,200)

Science and Math Materials (\$1,613.45)

**Closing Balance:** \$20,843.27

## Council Initiative Report

### Back to School BBQ

- Committee has been created of parent volunteers. Anyone else who would like to be a part of this committee or help with the BBQ in September is asked to contact Nadia DaSilva at [nadia\\_garro@yahoo.ca](mailto:nadia_garro@yahoo.ca)
- Thursday night was decided would be the ideal night to have this in particular with regards to school permits. Decision was made to have the BBQ on Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 from 5-8:30.
- Activities being considered at the BBQ include: Food, DJ, Face painting, Airbrush Tattoos, Caricatures, Photobooth, Jumping Castles/Bouncers, Dunk tank, ice cream truck.
- Administration not comfortable with many of the costs associated with a lot of these activities as it was felt that these are short term experiences that do not enhance educational programming. Look into the possibility of having Grades 7/8 students leading on some activities such as tattoos, hula hoop contest, etc. Would need to create a student committee and have a teacher rep to make this happen.
- Concerns were raised as to whether these students should be enjoying the evening like the rest of the students or being engaged as such.
- Budget to be determined and not yet final but for now, start with \$1,000 and work within that.

## Next Meeting

Tuesday June 7th, 6:30-8:30pm