

# YORKHILL E.S. - SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

April 13, 2016

Minutes taken by: Lina Vaxman

**Attendees:** Catarina Burisch, Karen Birnie, Lina Vaxman, Brooke Jacobs, Alan Morris, Natasha Parsotam, Corinne Szulansky, Catherine Hall, Paul Pijawka, Danielle DeLestard, Kim Sparks, Jen Stemerding

Time	Item	Purpose	Responsibility	Notes	Action/Motion
7:00	Welcome/Adoption of March School Council Meeting Minutes		Natasha	Minutes from the previous council meeting were reviewed.	accepted by Catherine & Brooke.
7:05	Principal Report		Catarina & Karen	<p>A lot of professional learning has been going on in the school. A diagram was shown to reflect the focus – equity, leadership and innovation within three main areas of modern learning, mental health and mathematics.</p> <p>Mental health – Michelle Cassidy was a guest speaker; resources are available through the school and school board.</p> <p>Mathematics – support in teaching with use of manipulatives. The grade 7 and 8 teachers involved in transitioning to grade 9. Grade 8s are going to Seneca College. Algebra is the most difficult strand to transition from grade 8 to 9. All grade 3s planning together. There is a requirement of 60 minutes a day of math that is already in place here. EQAO has shown that there can be room for improvement. Teachers are encouraged to make connections and integrate math in other subject areas.</p> <p>Modern Learning workshop – how can we be responsive to the learning in the present time? What are the needs and how can we respond to them? Technology is part of this and a tool to enhance learning. This concept emphasizes collaboration, inquiry, critical thinking, deciphering information, perspective and audience. The emphasis in learning has shifted from the <i>what</i> to the <i>how</i> and <i>why</i>. This is promoting life skills.</p> <p>Mental health – it is about the mindset – it is not static. Self-talk is very powerful. Changing that path, as Michelle Cassidy explained, is involved. Restorative practice is done with the students around issues that occur (e.g., at recess). It's looking at the impact of behaviour.</p>	

				<p>Staff meetings include discussion on this. Students have different learning styles and needs (video clips were shown to staff).</p> <p>Happening at school:</p> <p>Scientist in the school – every grade has had an opportunity</p> <p>Goose Girl – presentation</p> <p>Grades 4 and 5 students are going to the ROM</p> <p>Grade 3 students went to Pioneer Village</p> <p>Eco school students are active – litterless lunches</p> <p>Mr. Wallenberg – offered musical presentations for grades k – 6 students (he is a violinist with TSO and a parent here)</p> <p>Intermediate grade students (7 and 8) will have a one hour each of drumming thanks to council support.</p> <p>Autism awareness month</p> <p>Pink shirt day</p> <p>School musical Instruments have been repaired and stored.</p>	
7:20	Acorn cards fundraiser		Brooke	<p>Acorns deadline – art work needs to be sent home on April 18 for parents to place an order if they wish.</p> <p>It is a fundraiser. Students were given an art project and an order form. Parents can order it to be printed in various ways (e.g., postcards, calendars...).</p>	
7:25	Treasurer's report		Natasha	<p><u>Profits:</u></p> <p>Dance-A-Thon \$2, 887.70</p> <p>Drama \$3,239.00</p> <p>Pizza lunches \$12,743.37</p> <p>Movie Night January \$185.36</p> <p>Subway lunches had a loss of \$622.01</p> <p>Opening balance was \$6,893.95</p> <p>End balance is \$21,205.81</p> <p>Going into next year with about \$5000.</p>	
7:35	School Cash On Line - feedback		Brooke	<p>School Cash on line orders have dropped significantly: Pizza is 45% less, subs are 44% down</p> <p>It was suggested that during an evening event like the Spring Concert coming up – we can have volunteers on hand at computers offering parents assistance to register for cash on line.</p> <p>Book of forms can include the cash on line registration.</p> <p>How about another promo for parents to sign up for the cash-on-line?</p> <p>First and last newsletters of the year are sent as hard copy. The rest are through email.</p> <p>Registration lab to be set up. – any volunteers?</p>	Natasha, Brooke and Corinne volunteered to assist with registering.

7:45	PRO Grant application		Natasha	<p>Deadline is end of May. Special consideration given to applications that have a focus on math. Teachers can be part of that.</p> <p>Speakers can come in to speak. There can be a speaker on modern learning, one on mental health and one on math with babysitting provided.</p> <p>We could have people in from the community and do a wellness night. Oksana will help Natasha with the proposal and grant application.</p> <p>A date will be set for the fall - Royal Astronomical science RASC will be coming to the school to set up telescopes for students to use. (maybe on an evening in June).</p> <p>May 6 is a PA day</p> <p>May 5 is the spring concert</p> <p>There is no movie night next week.</p> <p>May 17 - volunteer tea in the morning at 9:00</p>	
8:00	Culturefest proposal		Natasha	It will not be happening this year because there is not much time to plan for it. No one has volunteered.	
8:10	Parent Engagement Symposium		Kim	<p>The theme was self-regulation for students. The presentation was good. It was helpful to get other people's perspectives (teachers, principals and parents).</p> <p>Parents were sharing and helping each other. There were many different options.</p> <p>One area was about different technology uses – careers, how pervasive it can be – parents need to be on top of their kids.</p> <p>Teacher appreciation will be on the last day of school at lunch.</p> <p>What extra programs are in the school?</p> <p>Checkers, chess and Rubics cube, choir, sports (junior basketball).</p> <p>These are extra curricular activities – voluntary and done by the teachers – can council somehow support outside people to come in to do programs? It's possible.</p>	Brooke will organize the sign up for luncheon volunteers (food, set up and clean up)
	Added item for next meeting			Afternoon pick up – parents – safety zone – bus loop for traffic	
8:50	Adjournment			Council meeting was adjourned.	

- Next council meeting is on May 18 at 7:00