

# YORKHILL E.S. - SCHOOL COUNCIL

## Nov 5th, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Time	Item	Purpose	Responsibility	Time	Notes
7:00	Welcome & Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review and accept the minutes of October's meeting</li> <li>- recap of the voting members and appointment of a community lead</li> </ul>	Alan/Kim	5	<p>Minutes accepted.</p> <p>Voting members, executive, and teacher representatives positions discussed. Teacher representative still outstanding – Nereo requested that teachers determine the designated teacher representative/voting member before the next School Council meeting.</p> <p>Community lead position is still to be filled. The individual is usually someone in the community who is not directly connected to the school such as a parent or teacher, and is a voting member. Potentially Robbie – To be confirmed.</p> <p>Voting members: Louise Lewis, Kim Sparks, Liv Corriero, Janice Niss, Sharon Rosenzweig, Lina Vaxman, Twefik Zitouni, Natasha Parsotam, Ellen Bosco, Shakufe Virani, Jennifer Liu, Robyn Badner, Alan Morris, Community lead (vacant), Teacher representative (to be confirmed.)</p>
7:05	Principal's Report	<p>EQAO update and developing Y.E.S's school improvement plan</p> <p>Update on Parent Engagement Evenings</p>	Nereo/Karen	20	<p>Parent Engagement – Last meeting planning Parent Engagement events, beyond curriculum night, was discussed. Options include parent workshops, and in addition there will be two evenings in early December where students will put on a concert showcasing what they do/learn in class. Some classes may use technology, pre-record their performance or incorporate technology in to their performance/presentation.</p>

					<p>EQAO – Staff have reviewed the responses and determined that children performed better in multiple-choice questions than open questions where they have to demonstrate the process that they used to achieve their answer. These results were consistent in both grade 3 and 6 students. Students also did not perform as well on multiple-choice questions that involved multiple steps. Staff are trying to determine the reason for these results– are the children feeling rushed? Is it the pressure of a test? Teachers are addressing this by teaching students to work through problems in steps. More learning is taking place around the approach to working through a multi-layered problem. One of the possible challenges is that students work together, collaboratively in the classroom, and the EQAO testing is individual which is quite different to the way students are accustomed to working.</p> <p>Question was raised on the provincial testing/evaluation of the schools – do they provide direction for improvement? Yes – the ministry will provide reports on trends across all schools. Nereo has reached out to consultants from the board/ministry to work on the areas requiring improvement.</p> <p>Question on the adjustment made for students who require accommodation skewing the scores – there is no discussion on removing these numbers to adjust.</p> <p>Nereo described the Tour for Humanity, which was coordinated by Ms. Meldung. The presentation aligns well with holocaust education week, and bullying prevention month. Students had the opportunity to go on the Tour for Humanity bus for a 40-minute</p>
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					presentation about subjects including bullying, genocide, multiculturalism, intolerance, appropriate to the age group of the students and from grades 3-8. Simon Weisenthal. The cost was approximately \$700 for the entire day.
7:25	Culturefest	Assess the interest of undertaking culturefest this year	Alan	15	Steve W. is no longer heading the Culturefest event.
7:40	PRO Grant	- review of last year's proposal	Alan/Nereo	15	<p>Another PRO grant application was submitted for a multi-cultural themed event that will be connected to the Pan-American games. Discussed plans for an activity later in the year to benefit from better weather, and access to outdoor activities. The event could be a wellness evening – with multi-cultural twist introducing sports and activities from around the world, such as yoga, tai chi, cricket.</p> <p>Volunteers to form a sub-committee: Shakufe and Jennifer S. will lead, Alan, Marjan, Jennifer, Louise, and a teacher volunteer to be confirmed</p> <p>Can PRO Grant be carried over? To be confirmed by the committee.</p>
7:55	Fundraising Report	-	Robyn	15	<p>The Halloween Dance was a great success. \$600 profit. Turnout keeps increasing with these events.</p> <p>The next movie night will be held on November 20<sup>th</sup> and feature the film “Bedtime stories.”</p> <p>MacMillan’s fundraising campaign will launch in mid-November.</p>

					<p>Pizza and Subway forms will go out again in January – each term we raise about \$5,000. The grade 8 students help out once per month and receive the proceeds from that weeks pizza sales towards their graduation fund.</p> <p>Next meeting the Wish list will be discussed. Some of the ideas brought forward were enhancing the outdoor playground area (long term project), technology purchases, chess club, and scientists in the school.</p> <p>Bags for indoor recess: Each classroom will have a budget to purchase these items \$50 per class - \$950 total – motion passed In addition we will canvas the school community to donate board games that they are no longer using.</p> <p>Computer cost-sharing \$12,500 total budget – we contribute \$5000 to benefit from the matching.</p> <p>Jewish Family and Child Services - \$4000 towards their programming.</p> <p>Crochet club – purchase materials for this, and again send home a request for any materials that can be donated.</p> <p>\$2,000 to run the scientists in the school program this year.</p>
8:10	AOB	Future meeting dates?	Kim	10	<p>Next meeting: January 14, 2015</p> <p>Future meetings first Wednesday of every month except December and March: February 4 April 1</p>

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