

## **Faywood ABC Advisory Council Meeting**

Minutes for Meeting – Monday June 8, 2015

**In Attendance:** Courtney Weiner (co-chair), Suzanne Grant (co-chair), Elizabeth Schaeffer (Principal), Jordana Britt, Pina Perruccio, Shira Farber, Steve Weiner, Karen Gnat, Nicky Nathan, Steve Gould, Yanjin Zhang, Robyn Temins Sklar, Shelagh Durno, Michelle Diamond, Alana Gordon, Lindsay Hoffman, Elyse Sunshine, Mindy Caplan and Allison Sherman

- 1. Opening of meeting:** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm
- 2. Approval of the minutes from March's meeting:** Approved by Steve Gould and seconded by Nicky Nathan
- 3. Guest Speaker/Guest Report:**  
No guest speakers
- 4. Chairpersons' Report: (Courtney Weiner and Suzanne Grant)**
  - a. Thank you to everyone** – We would like to thank all the parents for attending the meetings and volunteering their time to benefit the school. It was a successful year and we appreciate all the support.
  - b. Positions for next year and September meeting** – The first meeting in September will be Monday September 21<sup>st</sup>. The current executive council will be disbanded. We would love new people to join and fill some positions. The more the merrier. If there are any questions then please just ask. A package will go out in the fall with nomination forms and description of the roles.
  - c. Gifts for teachers leaving** – There are 4 teachers leaving and traditionally we buy them a small gift. We need to approve \$80 (\$20 each) for the teachers who are leaving. The amount of \$80 was approved by Karen Gnat and seconded by Steve Gould. Voted on and approved. Motion passed.
  - d. Teacher appreciation lunch** – The teacher appreciation lunch is June 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be bringing bagels and salads, fruits and dessert. Please let us know if anyone is interested in helping out.
  - e. Play program** - Last Monday the Annex Theatre performed Peter Pan with the students in grades 2-6. It was very enjoyable. Kids had a blast being involved. All the children had an equal opportunity to perform and the costumes supplied were great. People seemed very pleased with the production. This is a new program so we would like feedback. Michelle Diamond feels that Act One and Annex are very different programs. She wonders what they did that a teacher

or group of teachers couldn't do? This question has been asked multiple times before and because this is a large project teachers are unable to commit at this time. If we want to have a play, we will need to bring in an external company to provide it. Michelle also felt that Act One's program provided more of a "musical" than the Annex Theatre. Suzanne agreed to contact Annex Theatre and find out if they can offer more singing and dancing in a future program. Communication from Annex was a bit lacking. An acting coach was brought in the last week which is a bit late in the process, and may have been more helpful earlier on in the preparations. Several parents complained about the cost of Act One (more specifically the tickets at \$20/ticket and costume costs). Parents have complained about this in the past as well. It was suggested they would prefer if Act One could offer their final performance in the school gym where there would be no additional ticket costs. It would be beneficial to perform at the school so that the kids are practicing in the same place as they are performing. Suzanne will contact Alex Moses and ask him to offer the final performance at the school. Parents agreed that if Alex Moses is willing to offer the Act One program without the additional ticket costs, then we should offer both programs (Act One and Annex Theatre) again next year.

## **5. Principal's Report June 8, 2015 (Elizabeth Schaeffer)**

### **1. Construction Update - Asphalt still to come**

- New project- middle school hallway. Doing some work over the next few weeks.
- Some painting that needs to be done, inside. We are in the queue to get solar panels on the outside, and there will be more info to come in September.

### **2. Caring, Safe and Accepting Schools**

- The new lunch routines have been very successful with 1-4 and 5-8 eating in the small gym in shifts.
- The students have more exercise time, and we have space for lunchtime clubs/sports in gym.

### **3. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)**

- We will be STEM focus school for one more year with coach assigned

### **4. Grade 8 End of Year**

- Montecasino Tuesday June 23, 2015 Ceremony 6pm
- dinner and DJ fun from 7-9:45

### **5. Website**

- our new website is live- check it out
- supporting our goals to be more paperless
- more communication will be through website and by email next year

- 30 Google Chrome books and new cart were purchased. We have 60 laptops on lease that are going back. Hope to buy another 30 books. Connect directly to Google- all loaded to the Cloud, google account.
- Home Reading carts and books- thank you to SAC for helping purchase. Some more books that need to be ordered. Leveled guided reading with a focus on Math. Math and language integrated together. Goal is to have a home reading program with a take home book.

## **6. THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

- Big Thank you - great to have a parent community that is engaged and involved.
- No update on Report cards. No information on any teacher's action.

## **Looking Ahead & Planning for Upcoming Events**

- June 8 - Gr 2/3 and 3 Harbourfront Trip
- June 8 - SAC Meeting
- June 10 - Volunteer Luncheon
- June 16 - Teacher Appreciation Lunch
- June 16 - Forest Valley – Neves, Jennifer and Shawna's classes
- June 19 - Character Assembly
- June 23 - Grade 8 Grad at Montecasino 5:45 pm
- June 24 - Talent Show
- June 25 - Reports go home

## **6. Fundraising Report:**

**a. Fun Fair update** – We did as well as we could with fun fair considering the rainy weather. Pre- order sheets for food ended up being a great idea and the food was donated. Thanks to all who helped out, Karen, Jordy, Pina, Robyn, Steve, etc. We had great high school volunteers as well. Now we have the formula if we ever need to have it inside again. There was decent feedback and some people liked having some of it inside. We should have over \$7000 profit.

**b. Playground** – Steve Weiner gave everyone a playground update. He met with members of the TDSB with regards to costs for installing. There is no money coming from the TDSB, and the TDSB won't give us the cost to install until we tell them how much we want to spend. We currently have \$110,000 allocated to us from the city and about \$4,500 was previously raised and allocated in our account. We do not need to completely demolish what we have, we can just add more components to revitalize it. We need to decide together as a parent council what is a reasonable amount to spend. Another school raised \$150,000 and they tore down and re-built. What do we want to set as a goal? Steve proposed that we allocate \$5,000 from this year and an additional \$10,000 next year for a total of \$130,000. If we give this to the TDSB as a number, they can get us a design

and some ideas so that we can proceed next year. We need to have a final number before we get a designer started because it will cost us money every time we change the amount or the design. Shira is not comfortable with allocating the money without announcing in advance that this will be discussed and having more parents here to vote. Robyn mentioned that parents are always invited to attend the meetings but no other parents seem interested and we do have enough members present to vote. Steve mentioned that pizza lunches alone raise more than \$10,000, so we won't have any issue raising the money next year. Many parents are interested in seeing the playground built since we have been discussing it for several years now. Shira suggested the idea of corporate sponsors? Can we launch a campaign? Funfair and playground are the only areas where we can ask for corporate sponsorship. This is definitely possible. We need to agree now on an amount and then if we can make up some of the money from corporate sponsors, we will need to allocate less funds from our fundraising budget next year.

The parents present agreed that our goal is to spend \$130,000 in total. We are at about 115,000. The amount of \$130,000 was approved by Allison Sherman and seconded by Robyn Temins Sklar. Voted on and approved. Motion passed.

We would like to allocate \$5000 this year towards the playground. The amount of \$5000 was approved by Robyn Temins Sklar and seconded by Steve Gould. Voted on and approved. Motion passed.

The playground account currently has \$4755.95 so we will round that account to \$5000, (by adding \$244.05) and close the playground account.

We would like to allocate an additional \$10,000 next year from fundraising or sponsorship. The amount of \$10,000 was approved by Steve Gould and seconded by Steve Weiner. Voted on and approved. Motion passed.

#### **7. Treasurer's Report: (Steve Gould, Nicole Nathan, Yanjin Zhang)**

- All is well (see report).

#### **8. New Business**

- Wednesday is volunteer lunch
- No tax receipts for sponsorships or advertising will be offered. Goods or Services will not get a tax receipt. Can split the sponsorship for a partial taxable deduction.

#### **9. Good and Welfare: none**

#### **10. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.