### École Publique John Fisher

**School Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday May 30, 2017**

**In attendance:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Allison Lewis | Erika Boone | Liane Downs | Sandra Kwon | Taylor Roberts  |
| Annette Harkness  | Clint Kooger | Lesya Tate | Rita Rusu | Tanya Razek |
| Christina Thomas | Julia Norman | Meredith Weir | Shari Dworkin | Vanessa Silver |
| Ana SerinoMarlee Peppiatt | Jaqueline SiklosMireille Landry | Mary MoworacyNicole Stevenson | Rupali UpponiShoko Kakuro | Vlad UruvovSogol Zumanian |

**Principal:** Marlene Harroun

**Vice Principal:** Lee-Anne Maier

**Teachers:** None

1. Welcome

Tanya Razek, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion: For approval of the April 4, 2017 Parent Council meeting minutes.

Moved.

Seconded.

Motion carried. The approved minutes will be posted the Parent Council page of the school website.

1. Building Committee Update

Alto Committee - oversees a number of agencies/boards and can overturn decisions.

Options include legal vs political solutions.

Emails from parents are providing information.

TDSB has an agreement with the developer. Question about what happens in September if the agreement is not adhered to? Legal action can be taken by the TDSB. The City of Toronto will issue a permit and may issue conditions. Comment that some issues are the responsibility of TDSB while some are the City of Toronto.

Centralized placement opens Wed and closes and then reopens August 21 - refer to communication from last week. Comment about the challenge between parents who want to continue pushing for change versus parents who want the issue to be closed and move forward. There are challenges in dealing with the uncertainty and issues behind the scenes. Some want the focus to be more on ensuring TDSB prepares and mitigates for the upcoming school year. Mitigation work is happening in parallel. Parents are concerned about what action can be taken if the mitigation, such as replacement windows are not in place by mid-October. The City of Toronto/TDSB can influence but has no jurisdiction to force action. The demolition permit has been delayed four times.

Review of the Ombudsman’s perspective regarding the OMB decision and best approach.

Question about staffing and planning impacts - staffing allocation will be based on status quo. Timetables and class placements are on hold until last week of June to reflect last day to accept placements - June 22. Parents should refer to the Centralized Placement document on the school website. The thinking is there will be space available. The staffing will be shared mid-June. This process is also impacting surrounding schools. Approx. 20-22 students have now confirmed they are leaving John Fisher, for a variety of reasons. Confirmed the survey is non-binding. Question about freeze on moving to a different French Immersion school - confirmed the freeze remains in place.

Erskine Tower committee welcomes parents and community members to come and discuss the issues Wednesday, May 31.

1. Admin Report - Marlene Harroun

Fete Night - raised approx. $27k. Seeking volunteers for next year.

Welcome back BBQ in the Fall is TBD

Fundraising such as pizza days, popcorn ongoing. Volunteer needed for next year.

Direct donations (from individual contributors) to be confirmed by Treasurer.

June Fair - postponed to the Fall - October 20, 2018, better timing, perhaps ‘celebrate the new turf’, etc.

Lunch committee continues until June 16.

From Marlene

Concert was a great success - lots of positive feedback

Eco Schools – back to ‘silver’ certification. On track to keep improving

Island Schools - grade 5s will go to Mono Mills instead of the Island given the flooding

This Friday is the last popcorn day

The ShoeString Opera - kids loved it, great introduction to opera

Thank you for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon – great success

Curriculum Night - may shift to more of an open house rather than class specific

Grade 6 soccer was rained out today but great success with the sports programs this year. Some are moving on to the next level. Track and field has focused on older children, hoping to do a fun day with the younger children.

The permit process has changed for the school building, same as for all TDSB schools - will take effect in the Fall and will help track who/how space is utilized. For example, Erskine Tower Committee, Fair, etc. need permits.

Looking for ways to optimize the band and strings instruction - currently mandatory for Grade 6, next year may be optional. The information will be shared in Grade 5. Difficult to find teachers - anticipate same teachers for next year.

Staffing - School is requesting the class feedback form. Please use this as the way to communicate your preferences. The form can be found in the *Squawk* under website office.

Parents are wanting to know if we can know the class lists sooner and that this is more welcoming/reassuring.

With regards to the Erskine Tower Committee, Marlene asking to be respectful of individual differences. Cannot assume the opinion of the committee reflects that of all of the parents. There has been some communication breakdown. Parents are requesting the information be shared at Parent Council and that it is clear whether it reflects the Parent Council versus an individual opinion. Expectation from Parent Council is that information on behalf of the Parent Council is copied the Principal and Vice Principal.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting

Moved.

Seconded.

Motion carried.