

Secord School Council Minutes  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Minutes taken by Rob Wallis

Attendance:

Kathleen Garrett (Parent, Chair + Communication)  
Rob Wallis (Parent, Treasurer)  
Erin Bradford (Parent, Events)  
George Vlahos (Principal)  
Phil Pothen (Parent)  
Nigel Dance (VP)  
Aileen Burke-Tsakmakas (VP)  
Shannon Shuster (Parent)  
Heather Roberts (Teacher)  
Stephanie Long (Parent)  
Valerie Woloshyn (Parent)  
Jason Kuuter (Teacher)  
Michelle (Teacher)

5:45 – Erin – Allocation of funds raised by School Council.

Jan 2017 decided that fundraising would go towards Yard revitalisation, to top up monies from TDSB. Funding has not been forthcoming from TDSB, therefore we should start using these funds rather than waiting.

Other things that funds were to be allocated for: School choir uniforms 2016 / 2017, and money from the Jazz night going to the music program, it should have gone to yard revitalisation.

**Action Point – Treasurer Rob to follow up on these and allocate funds**

Motion – let's move forward to decide to have a revitalisation meeting. School Potentially set up a revitalisation committee

Tentative date for revitalisation committee meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> March 11:40pm –

Rob – proposed a weekend workshop to make the fence a thing of beauty.

Different companies to be approached to pitch in donations – soil, planters, paint etc. Create a budget. Suggested date 4th May - Avoid EQAO, May long weekend and June (Fun Fair).

6:05 – (Erin) yard play – pavements are all cleared in the Beaches, ours are not cleared and don't have recess for 2 weeks in a row. Kew Beach potentially paid privately – George says no the TDSB doesn't allow schools to pay privately.

Snow plan is to create a walkway from Palmer to school.

(Phil) do we have to talk to facilities to change snow plan to clear snow / salting / sanding yard.

(George) says facilities has said they will not be clearing the ice on all pavement area. Parking lot is a private contractor. So just paths are cleared.

(Phil) asks that the snow plan be changed so that the hard surfaces be cleared of snow and ice. To justify it we have to justify that it's a problem. Needs to be formally asked to be on record.

(George) used to be able to clear snow – around 2014 TDSB changed policy – now not possible

MOTION – CAN WE MOVE TO WRITE TO TDSB TO CHANGE SNOW PLAN TO INCLUDE CLEARING OF HARD SURFACES OF PLAY AREAS.

MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY. NO OBJECTIONS

ACTION POINT – PHIL TO DRAFT LETTER.

6:15 – (Phil) would like to pass a motion that we as a council oppose watering down / elimination of full day kindergarten. Also that we oppose the elimination of the Hard cap on class sizes.

**ACTION POINT – Phil TO DRAFT LETTER, Formatted so it can be sent to other schools.**

MOTION – THAT THE 2 MOTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD BY P POTHEN PERTAINING TO OUR OPPOSITION OF: THE REMOVAL OF A CAP ON CLASS SIZES, AND ELIMINATION OF FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN.

MOTION CARRIED BY MAJORITY. NO OBJECTIONS

6:20 – (Erin) would like to pass a motion to request additional special needs assistance – school has a lot of high needs – **ACTION POINT: Erin will draft a letter** for us to pass a motion at the next Council meeting. Letter would go to Superintendent, Trustee, Minister of Education.

6:23 – Heather Roberts union steward, Gr2-3 teacher. Presented a petition to resist larger class sizes and removal of full day kindergarten. Made it available to sign.

6:26 – (George) icy recess plan – kids have trouble being couped up all day inside. Gates at Palmer – going to connect students with a circuit. No balls outside but students are able to move. Kilometer club etc. Structured type of recess to be active. Field will be closed.

6:35 – (George) Parking lot safety – parents behaviour was inappropriate (road rage – police were involved) to parking lot attendant and other parents. George wants a letter to go out to parents. Seems to be a sense of entitlement to park. **Action Point: Joint letter will be written by George and others, signed by School Council.** All students are within 1.6km of school, therefore walkable for all. Cars are not a convenient method to transport students to school as there's no-where to park.

6:40 – Mascot (Mr. Kuuter). Example from other school: Students were given 4 different mascots to choose, then they had a parent graphic designer to design 6 different logos and picked one (student only). For Second, 4 possible animals chosen so far – dragons, sharks, scorpions and sea hawks. There will be a vote – parents online and within school for students. Target is T-shirts printed by May.

6:45 – Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

**6:45 – 8:00 Workshop given by Telus Wise – Empowering Canadians to stay safe in our digital world.**