

School Council Thursday 20th Sept.

Rob, Phil, Ian and George, others at the front door – welcoming and giving people instructions for dotmocracy – (sheet of 20 dots for each person to stick on sheets around room) **(need 500 dots, 15 sheets of flipchart paper, pens, post-it notes)**

Labels numbered 1-4, with blank space for their names to write on
(need labels, pens, table in corridor)

6:30 – 6:50

Dotmocracy and post-it notes

- Priorities for Council – 2 dots only please
 - 10 **Should be advocating for the rights of my child**
 - 9 **Should be just to get information about the school**
 - 9 **Should be organising information sessions / workshops for parents**
 - 8 **Should be organising fun events for parents to connect**
 - 3 Should be focussed on student safety

- Thoughts on School Council - 1 dot please
 - 6 **The school is doing fine – I'm happy with the way it's being run**
 - 2 I don't know anything about School Council

 - 0 The meetings are boring and un-productive
 - 0 I'd like to help but the timing of meetings is difficult for me

- Dates for School Council meetings - no more than one dot per time / person
(nb this meeting was on a Thursday)
 - 9 **Wednesday nights 6:30**
 - 3 Tuesday nights 6:30
 - 3 Any night 6:30
 - 3 Would prefer earlier in the evening (5pm)
 - 2 Thursday nights 6:30
 - 1 Monday nights 6:30
 - 0 Would prefer later in the evening
 - 0 Would prefer earlier during the school day (9-5pm)

- Priorities for safety (2 dots please)
 - 11 Facility safety – how safe is the building?
 - 11 Physical activity (DPA safety) – is my child being active enough?
 - 10 Security at school (strangers coming in)
 - 5 Vehicle safety around the school
 - 2 Sun safe

- How would you like to be communicated with? (4 dots please)
 - 16 Email – as many as possible please
 - 15 Notes in back pack
 - 6 Electronic bulletin board – e.g. Google calendar that I can check on

- 5 Facebook
- 3 Paper newsletter
- 2 Posters at school
- 1 School Website
- 0 Maillist – e.g. a weekly electronic newsletter

· What day-time school events would you like to be invited to? (0-5 dots)

- 18 Whole school events
- 14 Sports days
- 8 Cultural events
- 8 Classroom events
- 1 Assemblies

· What are you most concerned about in your child's education?

no more than one dot per line / person

- 11 The Health Ed curriculum (1998-2010) being too outdated
- 9 Issues with the School Building
- 8 Issues with the Outdoor areas at school
- 4 Daily Physical Activity (DPA)
- 3 Nutrition
- 2 Math scores
- 2 Extra-curricular activities
- 1 Screen Time
- 1 Social time at school
- 1 Literacy scores
- 1 The Health Ed curriculum (2015) being too liberal

· What cultural events would you like to see?

All major communities celebrated,

· What are you proud of at Secord (x2)

Diversity and Friendly Staff

· What are you frustrated with at Secord? (x2)

Split Classes, not enough spec. Ed. classes, kids drop off / pick up when 2/more kids, garbage outside school

6:50 – 7:00

Welcome – from Principal, and Chair of School Council

7:00 – 7:25

Brainstorming sessions – 4 rotations, 5 minutes on each

- Events (Erin) - movie nights, fun fair, and perhaps a 'winter festival'. Bake sale at curriculum night
- Expansion (Phil)
- Principal check-in (George)
- Equity and Secord outreach (Yona)

- Concerns about split classes... why are some split and some not? Can teacher or admin address this at curriculum night or at a council meeting? Manage expectations of parents, what is in the schools control vs. Board vs. Ministry
VPs Response: - Mandated by the board
- Focused on continuum of learning rather than grade level
- Universal design for learning
- Why are some classrooms better resourced than others? For example some kindergarten classrooms are huge with lots of materials and resources, while others are small with few toys and books?
- Unpacking school data will help inform the equity goal – student representation in equity committee this year
- Cultural events to celebrate diversity are good, maybe more – parents are learning about equity through the school
- Welcome/ information night necessary for new parents – expand curriculum night to welcome nights
- How do you make everyone feel like they are represented when you serve such a diverse community?
- Lots of discussion about the EarlyON center and what a great example it is for creating an equitable environment. What can we learn from the EarlyON center and that we can apply to the school?
- Working parents do not have time to engage in discussion or access information about the school – this is an equity issue.

7:30 – 7:50

Elections Intro – nominations received - those positions are suggestions – you can be selected to be on council, then at the next meeting we assign roles.

- Elections / new candidates – any other nominations

7:50 – sum up, next meeting 17th Oct 6:30pm. – meeting close at 8:00.