

# Brian Public School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday Nov 30, 2016 @ 7:00pm

## In attendance:

Mario Velloci  
Dana Chatzitassis  
Nellemarie Hyde  
Shilaja Miranda  
Bianca O'Brien  
Christine Huang  
Tom Cutz  
Paul Farrell

Aretha Philip  
Nasim Assadian  
Hongyen Li  
Susan Waklitz  
Svetlana Vladusic  
Nancy Simich  
Venessa Kerman  
Bob Pelletier

## Minutes:

### 1. Call to Order

- A regular meeting of the Brian Public School Council was held at Brian PS Library at 7:10 pm on Wednesday Nov 30, 2016.
- Nelle Marie Hyde - Council Chair residing

### 2. Welcome and Introductions

- Nelle welcomed all attendees
- Introductions of council members and parents
- Other:
  - Addition of the new French registration process

### 3. Approval of the Oct 13, 2016 meeting minutes:

- Nelle motioned to approve
- All in favour. Motion passed.

### 4. Chair's Report:

#### Presentation by (new elementary) Don Valley principal – Anne Lee

- Changes at Don Valley – now elementary only and there is a new elementary Principal
- Introduced dress codes – respectful wear
- Start time 8:45am
- Has opened homework club in morning
- Created after school clubs
- Introduced Social justice clubs – learn empathy by doing
- Good sports program
- Have both string and band program
- No family studies program but have cooking club
- Do as many trips as possible for grade 6, 7 & graduation trip for Grade 8 students this year will be to Ottawa
- Optional tennis clubs

- Having another (information) session in the spring for all the Don Valley feeder schools
- Anne is available for any questions

#### **Ward Forum**

- Ken Lister holding a forum on Jan 17 at Forest Valley
- PART has been passed to add grade 9 to York Mills Collegiate
  - No transition for the Don Valley kids....6-8 at Don Valley then straight to grade 9 at York Mills

### **5. Principal's Report:**

**For full report (see attached)**

SAC Principals  
Report.pdf

#### **High level notes from School Council meeting**

##### **Technology**

- Training on using the 3 in 1 whiteboards
- Programming more than tech side
- Staff taking coding classes
- Access...WIFI been set up to give 50% access...but that access seems to be full and providing 100% coverage
- In portables...went in about a year ago...very successful
- 1 to 6 classes all have interactive whiteboards
- Bought 10 chrome books...such a hit, bought 10 more
- More training as things come on line...TFO...reconfigured their French resources...lot more coming on line
- Coming in to do training in January

##### **Robotic's**

- Going to give Robotics a shot....he's called Dot..turns on lights and talks
- Has companion called Dash
- Just got him last week...has suite of applications
- Goes from like remote control car...uses coding to work (something taught at all grade levels)...could make plays come to life
- Can get attachments which can be used to throw things
- Hope to use these as a springboard to robotics....allows a natural evolution to more complex robotics

##### **Book Fair**

- Looking to get more French content
- Working with Scholastic to get this higher French content
- Full French book fair excludes half the school

##### **Extracurricular Activities**

- Any concerns / issues please call either Principal Farrell or Vice Principal Pelletier
- Better to speak in person as submitting concerns in writing does not necessarily convey the right message

- Don Valley rep to come to Brian within the next week or two to talk to the FI kids

### **Parking Lot concerns / solutions**

- In the process of hiring more crossing guards
- Had an issue when our crossing guard went on holiday.....a police officer covered one day...TDSB also covered off a few days
- This will be an ongoing issue
- Any way to reduce congestion in the parking lot
  - Stickers for staff cars
  - Day care / kindergarten parents need to drop off in the morning
  - Need to understand what the other cars are there....parents just hanging around?
    - Creating their own spots which adds to the congestion in the lot
  - Need to try and create that awareness within the parent community
  - Can you encourage kids to promote walking to school or car pool
  - Police to come in to do training session for the parents who are helping out in the parking lot Dec 5<sup>th</sup> – 9am...To be confirmed (in Brian PS)

### **Eco-Schools**

- Waste and / or energy reduction
- Have kids prepare a presentation
- Good leadership opportunity for the HS kids
- Co-op opportunity next year
- Sir. John A has high school major – specialization is in Eco schools
- Kids get community hours for this and because of funding can get a cab here and back

### **InnerCity Angels**

- Didn't like the program that was being offered
- So will be looking at some different options
- Should know by Friday what program school will go with

### **School Evacuation Plan**

- Bob presented the evacuation plan
- Binder in the office and can be looked at upon request

### **Budget**

- Usually use up most of the budget allocated
- Never go over budget

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### **Other:**

- Girls basketball team...not one last year, is there one? Paul to look into and advise
- One of the basketball nets in the schoolyard got stolen
  - School has already put in request into the TDSB to have it replaced - no ETA
- Suggestion to have a mailbox installed to collect (potentially anonymous) feedback / questions from the parents (an "Ask the Principal a question" box)
- Mostly to aid the Chinese community at Brian PS
- Offer put forth to have people screen / sort the correspondence but this is a potential

privacy violation

- Also, if feedback is anonymous how can school administration get back to individual?
- Propose to have a rep for the Chinese community to assist Chinese community parents
- Use a generic email....put it out to the parents and then the communication folks can triage it and direct parents with problems to the right contact people
- Paul reinforcing that if there is a concern with a child they should go to the teacher first and only escalate from there if necessary
- Hong Ying has agreed to handle the triage function for the next couple of months as Benny is in Hong Kong

## 6. Committee Reports:

- See attached;

Committee Reports - Social Committee  
Nov 30 2016 Revised Proposal Nov 2016.doc

## Workshops:

- Elementary don't look at long term planning as kids don't have the necessary competencies that employers are looking for
- Stop thinking about getting a job instead think about creating a job
- Benefit from finding a way to share the vision of where
- Collaborate with other people, problem solving
- Form a sub-committee to look at long term strategic planning

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm**

***Next meeting: Tuesday January 17, 2017***

*See past meeting minutes and other school updates:*

<http://brianparentcouncil.webs.com>

*Minutes taken by Venessa Kerman*