

George P. Mackie Junior Public School

School Council Minutes

Date: April 2, 2019

In Attendance:

- Jenny Gloria, Chair
- Anne Turner, Co-Chair
- Michael John, Treasurer
- Allison Crehore, Secretary
- Shirley Ponka, Principal
- Hassan Moutadayne, Staff Representative
- Nerissa Harley, Staff Representative
- Heidi Chrzan, Office Administrator
- Jacqueline Lewsey, Community Representative
- Priti Atodaria
- Belinda Becker
- Stephanie Souza

Called to Order: 6:05 pm

Adjourned: 7:30 pm

Proceedings:

1. Welcome to Parent Council

2. Administration:

- Time keeper – Stephanie Souza
- Minutes of February 26, 2019 meeting were reviewed
 - Jenny Gloria moved to approve the minutes. Stephanie Souza seconded.Unanimous approval.

3. Updates:

- Outdoor Classroom
 - TDSB is providing GP Mackie with an outdoor seating circle, with log benches and mulch, at no cost to the school
 - Construction set to begin in the next few weeks
 - Additional features (the asphalt path and chalk wall) shown in the draft design will not be installed at this time
 - Future project: Consider shade options e.g. tree planting
 - Kudos to Jenny and council for doing the ground work!

- Basketball Nets
 - Students are very excited to have basketball nets installed
 - The nets do not get removed and can be enjoyed by all
 - Outdoor classroom and basket ball net will attract more use of school property.
Concerns were expressed about loitering
 - GP Mackie is on the list for frequent security rounds during the summer
 - If you observe suspicious activity on school property outside of school hours, you can call the Security Operations Centre at 416-395-4620
- Pizza Lunch – Anne Turner
 - \$425.47 funds raised (March 29)
 - Counting error resulted in ordering too much, left overs in freezer
 - Lunch bins in the gym would be helpful to send leftovers back to class
 - Next pizza lunch April 26, Anne will send a call for volunteers

4. Principal Report – Shirley Ponka

- Congratulations on the FREE outdoor classroom! TEAMWORK!
- Thank you for successful pizza lunches, planning of Wellness Night#2.
- Thank you for more donations of shovels and snow play equipment.
- Staffing Phase 1-Shared with Ann and Allison, staffing allotment reduced .5 teaching staff. Staffing Committee approved the following model:

Allocation: Total of 9.5 Teachers
• Kinder 1 (JK/SK) – 15
• Kinder 2 (JK/SK) - 25
• Grade 1/2 (15/5) - 20
• Grade 2/3 (14/6) - 20
• Grade 3/4 (8/15) - 23
• Grade 4/5 (6/12) - 18
• Grade 6 - 23
• 0.5 Special Education
• 0.5 Library
• 0.5 French
• 0.5 Prep
• 0.5 Prep

- Welcome Long Term Occasional Teacher Ms. Lewis Forbes. Ms. Lewis Forbes is replacing Mr. Moutadayne who has assumed our Special Education Responsibilities during the long term absence of Ms. Kelleher who is on leave.
- SIP (School Improvement Team) - Focused on our three goals (Achievement, Well-being and Equity) preparing to share with Superintendent Nadira Persaud March 5/April 1
 - Continued staff focus on mental health – advocating for additional supports; specifically, additional Social Work
 - Advocating for increased support for students requiring resource support/HSP- specifically students who are identified as LD, who have Autism, who have ADHD, who are suffering from mental illness, students who have Individual Education Plans (IEP), families in crisis and more
 - Advocating for levelled reading material to update and replenish our primary collections
 - Child and Youth Workers, Special Needs Assistance, additional Social Work
 - Focus on Equity by introducing Key Concepts in Social Justice Educations
 - Continued focus on consistency in articulation of learning goals and success criteria
- Planning with Artist Taya for all classrooms - with gratitude to School Council
- Booking Scientist in the School – all classrooms - with gratitude to School Council
- Next Steps for our SIP Team: Moderated Marking-Writing/Reading
- Ongoing extra-curricular opportunities: house league (lunch), Mackie in Motion (am recess) Badminton, Robotics: ClubsFirst Lego League Jr, Grade 6 Robotics, Grade 4/5 Robotics, Ignite, Explore, Inspire – April 6, Forest of Reading, Learning Commons Team (LCT), Eco Club, Me to We, Folkdance & more
- Facility - huge effort on part of caretaking to keep our building clear and safe in this weather - Spring. Thank you!!
- Responses to Council Requests:
 - Technology replenish requests 5 chromebooks Thank you!!
- Upcoming Students Opportunity: SOES – March 6-8
- Spring ahead
 - Need volunteers with PRC's for Science Centre Trip - April 10
 - Welcome to Kindergarten – June 11- 9:00-10:00-School Council Reps

- Staffing, Planning and Projections 2019/2020 - Two Parent Reps to consult with our staffing models
- Spring Concert May 16
- Track and Field
- EQAO

5. Financial update – Michael John:

- Opening balance for 2018/19 school year \$2,653.38; current balance \$6,064.88
- February transactions:
 - Pizza lunch
- Projected 2018/19 closing balance \$654.88
- Spring financial report is complete and submitted

6. Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant–Jenny Gloria

- Thursday, April 4th
- Currently 67 registered participants
- Budget = \$1,000.00:
 - Presenters – Rainbow plate \$750 + tax
 - Snacks/Drinks – Extra mild Samosa, bottles of water
 - Childcare (x2 staff) – Currently two kids signed-up
- Participants will have a passport for 3 x 35minute rotating sessions:
 - Dr. Doug Schmidt (parents) / Mr. Moutadayne (children)
 - Social Worker Elizabeth (parents) / Nurse Heather James (children)
 - Rainbow plate (parents and children)
- Draw prize “Rest, Play, Grow: Making Sense of Preschoolers (or Anyone Who Acts Like One)” by Deborah MacNamara

7. Survey to Parents – Stephanie Souza

- A draft survey to ask parents about future fundraising initiatives was reviewed. Key discussion points and comments included:
 - Shared successful fundraising ideas from other school including a Welcome Back BBQ, a Walk of Fame for a specific initiative, and a direct donation to the school
 - Fundraising efforts that have a high return on investment at GP Mackie are dance-a-thon, movie night and pizza lunches

- Council to prepare letters (End-of-year Thank You and Welcome to Kindergarten). Include a blurb that highlights the importance of fundraising and how it support the school e.g. purchase of Chrome Books, supplement field trips, start-up costs for Robotics Club

8. New Business – Jenny Gloria

- Available conferences: Math in your Lives – Woburn Collegiate Institute, 2222 Ellesmere Rd. April 6, 2019 <https://schoolweb.tdsb.on.ca/henryhudson>
- Council Constitution to be discussed/finalized in April Council Constitution – to be discussed/finalized in April
- If you haven't already completed your Annual Offence Declarations (AOD) please arrive a few minutes early for the school council meeting on May 7th to complete this required step with Ms. Charzan

Important Dates

- **Thursday, April 4** – Health & Wellness Night
- **Wednesday, April 6** – SK & Grade 6 grad photos
- **Wednesday, April 10** – Ontario Science Centre Mackie Field Trip
- **Wednesday, April 17** – Madagascar Mackie students @ Cedar Drive
- **Friday, April 19** – Easter Good Friday
- **Monday, April 22** – Easter Monday
- **Friday, April 26** – Pizza Lunch
- **Tuesday, April 30** – Lice Check
- **Friday, May 3** – Integrity Assembly
- **Friday, May 3** – Grade 1 Scientist
- **Tuesday, May 7** – Room 10 Pickering Village Museum
- **Tuesday, May 7** – Parent Council Meeting
- **Thursday, May 9** – 6:15 p.m. Jack Miner Grade 6 to 7 night
- **Friday, May 10** – Birchmount Track & Field
- **Monday, May 13** – Book Fair begins
- **Thursday, May 16** – 6:30 p.m. Spring Concert
- **Friday, May 17** – Kindergarten Scientist in School