



George Syme Community School Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday 9th January 2019
5:45pm to 7:15pm (90 minutes)
Location: Staff Room

Georgesymesac@gmail.com

In Attendance:

Voting Parent Council Members:

Liana Salvador-Watts (Co-Chair), Will Kopplin (Treasurer), Phyllis Luong-Scott (Secretary), Quedeeze Andersen, Randolph Scott, Jessica Singh

Voting Non-Parent Council Members:

Anne Pietropaolo (Teacher Representative), Brawnwyn Amo (Support Staff Representative), Hugh Hurd (Community Support Worker),

Non-voting Members:

Cindy Closner (Principal), Barbara Graydon (Vice-Principal), Hodan Hassan

Others:

Laila Hbdi, Christine Taylor,

Absentees:

Voting Parent Council Members:

Glenda Baptiste, Tara Watts (Co-Chair)

Agenda Item	Minutes
Welcome and Introductions (LSW)	Round table introductions.
Adoption of the agenda (LSW)	HH pointed out that we cannot approve Bylaws piecemeal. The Bylaws need to be presented to Council as a whole document. CC mentioned that it was unusual to spend a whole meeting discussing each Bylaw for approval. The most time efficient way would be for the Execs to draft the Bylaws, send it to Council members to study, before voting on it at a SAC meeting.
Adoption of Minutes (LSW)	Approved
Business arising from previous minutes - Updates on French h/w club (CC & H. Hurd)	CC sent out information about French homework help. There are resources at the public library. The list was quite extensive. The community has enough resources at the moment, so there is no need for the school to take that on. CC can send out another Scoop about the H/w club if required, and can post

the information on the school website. It's a place to direct parents to, if they ask. We can also give out information at the annual Café Français, someone from the local library can come and speak about what's available, and we can get pamphlets to put in the school office. We cannot put links to websites or organisations, because the school cannot be endorsing them.

H. Hurd stated that Syme Woolner doesn't have the resources to facilitate this, as there are no French speakers to help with French homework at their club.

PRO Grant is back on. TDSB need to get their funds first before they can distribute it to schools.

CPAC (Cluster Parent Academy Committee) gets \$1500 from the Board. There are 42 schools in this Learning Centre who are Model School.

School Council 101 Training, and Bylaw Training are available. Dates and info will be released soon.

Parents have registered for CRP training, but we have to wait to see how we can make it happen. It would be more cost effective if schools can combine the training to share the cost.

Parents can present on a subject at the upcoming Parents Conference on Saturday 30th March 2019.

Principal's Report (CC & BG)

Vision for Learning. Staff met to talk about:

Equity: How to facilitate the VFL. We will ensure that every student will feel valued and heard by having at least one caring adult in the school who they can trust and turn to. We will address our own biases and work with our students, families and colleagues. We will have a growth mindset on our equity journey.

Well-Being: We will ensure that every child and staff member has a right to learn and work in a safe and caring environment practicing self-regulation skills.

Achievement: We will use our foundation in literacy to strengthen our understanding of concepts in mathematics. We will engage our whole community of learners (students, families, educators) through meaningful tools such as Number Talks and the use of fun, hands on learning.

Equity

- Staff met to plan PLC on December 11, 2018
- Equity PD on January 9, 2019

Well-Being

- Mr Korbin organized a Tchoukball Tournament on November 20, 2018 for interested students. This was a great way to get more students playing sports
- Character Education Assemblies on November 29, 2018 (Empathy) and December 20, 2018 (Kindness & Caring)
- Primary Arts Night on December 6, 2018 was a great success, and it celebrated the wonderful things happening at GSCS.
- PALS Training on December 11, 2018 where older students taught younger students how to play playground games.
- Breakfast with Georgie on December 14, 2018
- Girls Basketball Day on December 19, 2018

UPCOMING

- Grade 5 Vision Clinic - February 28, 2019. Free check up for students who may need glasses. They also provide free glasses. Any students who may have a cause for concern, will also be screened.
- Fun Fair - May 30, 2019. 5pm - 8pm

Achievement

- Documentation PD on November 28, 2018
- Number Talks PLC on November 28, 2018. Number sense strategies - using different strategies to explain math.
- Professional Reading on December 5, 2018. Staff moving away form

	<p>worksheets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing of Best Practices on January 9, 2019. Photo album for staff to refer back to.
<p>Fundraising Committee Report (H.Hassan)</p>	<p>The Committee met over the winter break to talk about the types of fundraising we want to do this year.</p> <p>Pizza Day (and fun hair day) - 25th January. Pizza Day is already happening that day with 60 - 70 students who have Hot Lunch. These students won't get a letter about pizza, but they can purchase cookie and juice box. Approved.</p> <p>Bake and Smencil Sale - 14th February. Valentine Day Café format. Each class goes to the staffroom to 'shop and eat'. Parents raised concerns about the amount of sugar available. There can accommodations made for students if parents let staff know beforehand. Approved.</p> <p>Power of Change. A jar would be available for a week every month for students to put in loose change. A big jar will be placed in the school office, which can be filled when attendance is brought down. This would avoid money being left in classrooms. A paper visual can be available in classrooms for the students. This can help with counting and maths.</p> <p>Council members expressed concerns that this fundraiser would take place every month. It was agreed that we would try it just for the month of February. Approved.</p> <p>Movie Night - 21st March. Usually starts at 6pm. No licence required since we are not making money from the movie - just from popcorn and drinks sale.</p> <p>Running short of time. We will discuss the remaining fundraising ideas at the next meeting.</p> <p>There was some debate about how the funds should be used. Whether the monies should be divided equally between the classes, or whether we are looking to fund a big budget item. SAC requested a teachers' wish list for the next meeting.</p>
<p>Tree for Me Community Event (PL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tree For Me is a community-based program, a partnership between the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation (TPTF) and the City of Toronto, to reach 40% tree cover in our city. ● TPTF works with community groups and schools across Toronto to host Tree For Me events to engage local residents in tree planting on their property. It is also for organizations seeking to engage their neighborhoods in community-building and environmental initiatives. ● Up to \$2000 in individual grants are available. Grants are provided to help organizations plan, promote and host their event. ● We could host the event during the Funfair - this would bring in more visitors to the funfair, and families can also take away trees. ● Residents can register for up to 2 free trees ● We need to commit to giving away a minimum of 50 trees. (The trees are supplied to us free by the TPTF). ● The school can get up to 10 free trees. Perhaps some classes may want to adopt a tree as a project. ● We will be required to submit an impact report and a detailed budget within 30 days after the event. <p>CC suggested collaboration with the Gardening Committee. There will be a grand opening of the school garden in the near future. Perhaps the event could happen then.</p>
<p>School Statement Of Needs (LSW)</p>	<p>Execs will look for input from the other members on the SSON before bringing it back to Council.</p>

AOB (LSW)	<p>Member expressed concern about cars parked where they shouldn't be, and cars left idling. CC will ask if the head caretaker can be present at the next meeting.</p> <p>It was mentioned that Hot Lunch was no longer hot by the time it reached the kindergarten classes. CC will see if the Hot Lunches can be put into containers to be kept warm.</p>
Adjournment (LSW)	Next SAC meeting: Wednesday 6th March 2019 5:45 - 7:15pm