



HA Halbert Jr PS

School Advisory (Parent) Council

25 Halbert Place, Toronto, ON M1M 0E1

416-396-6300

Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 13, 2020

Present: Jesse Bergeron, Karlo Cabrera, Lorna (Penny) Chung, Nazia Ibrahim, Shawna Mitchell, Jessica Smith, Dennis Smith, Michelle Tassie, Emma Tunney & Anne-Marie Williamson

Regrets: Carmen Guerrero, Hugh Keane, Joanne McMichael, Nimanyu Singh & Hanna Tunney

Meeting commenced shortly after 5:30 pm

A. Welcome

- Minutes from last meeting carried by Karlo

B. Acknowledgement of Traditional Territories

- Read by Karlo

C. Principal Updates

a) Literacy

- Karlo provided additional information on reading assessments and Executive summary
- Gaps in boys moving forward versus girls is larger, therefore there is a need to focus on gaps for boys
- Supports currently in place:
 - Halbert received a 0.5 Reading Interventional Teacher (RIT) to help with these students (Ms. White)
 - Ms. Tin Yan taken over Ms. White's previous role as a special education teacher and she goes to primary classes and supports those students identified as in need
 - Ms. Budgen: Early Reading Intervention (ERI) working with 3 students at a time on specific tasks such as decoding
 - Ms. McMichael supports students in grades 4, 5 and 6 all day
 - All above is done with students who are identified as 'in need' by modifying what is done within the classroom

b) Teachers' Strike:

- ETFO in phase 3 – teachers not to participate in any activities outside of school instructional day
- If no agreement, effective January 20, 2020 there will be a strike rotating by Board (one day each walk-out)
- 3 CYWs in room 4 and 5 are part of OSSTF – they will strike as well
- Report cards may not be done in time; Principal will have to complete them
- Parent Teacher interviews may change: done throughout the day only – not during evenings (outside of instructional hours) – updates regarding this will be sent out accordingly

ACTION: Karlo will communicate to all parents and teachers via email on Sunday evening

c) Playscape:

- Playscape decided on – Jambette
- School Board will also cover entire storage area
- \$12,500 funds raised by school community will all be for extras (sensory garden, etc)

D. Review of Action Items for 2020

a) Math Discussion

- Karlo discussed the “Big Ideas of Numbers” concept – this shows the range of where students should be on math spectrum; examples of some of the categories shared, as well as how students can move through spectrum
- Karlo shared it is a good idea to start teaching in grade 1 – not focussing on multiplication tables, but on contextual understanding [i.e. looking at groups of things) – more useful way of teaching young learners (3x3=9 or 3+3+3=9)]

b) Update on funds raised and tax receipts

- Michelle advised \$6000+ funds raised; on-line option seemed to be helpful and may have increased amounts; Mov-a-thon: costs of \$1000 means that cash was deposited and then cheque written to TDSB
- Michelle also advised that tax receipt spreadsheet sent to TDSB; TDSB to mail out tax receipts to donors; if receipts not received, Principal can be contacted and he will follow up with TDSB contact
- Also discussed that tax receipts from snack program

ACTION: Karlo will follow up with Board contact re tax receipts

c) Financials and fundraising meter

- Michelle shared with group updated financials and hand out provided

d) Prize distribution and process

- Discussed that sending home a list of prizes for students to choose from was great idea and could be used again

- Discussed some issues with process of raffle for students and prize distribution including: sheets indicating which prizes students wanted were not brought back; there may have been too many students involved

ACTION FOR NEXT TIME: have separate meeting with council members to prepare tickets for students in raffles bags for each prize; more oversight by designated activity leader required and appropriate delegation needed; use prize list for choosing again

e) Bake Sale and treat bags

- Jesse advised that \$478 raised from bake sale and treat bags; event went well and had enough volunteers
- Jesse advised that for Spring bake sale she will need volunteers 3 weeks before for ingredient planning, grocery shopping

ACTION: Jesse will reach out to members for help when planning next bake sale

f) Pizza lunch update

- Emma confirmed that pizza lunch this month will be by Big Brothers Gourmet Pizza and that they have halal options and can accommodate other dietary restrictions
- For dietary restrictions Karlo and Ms. Khan are aware of restrictions

ACTION: Karlo will confirm if “pepperoni” is chosen, then it will be halal salami; if this option is possible, it will be noted on the form

g) Fundraising opportunities

- Not discussed

h) Additional suggestions on events/activities

• Activities and Assemblies:

- Karlo shared that last year Reggae-cise was well received by students
- Karlo also shared that grade 6 students will be leading the assembly at the end of January; inflatable planetarium coming for 6th graders; Beat Boys end of February; Jungle Fit end of March/beginning April – all funded by Day Trippers
- In May Karlo will be school rep at Day Trippers forum
- On January 20 – ROM (update will be provided if there is a strike)
- April 24th or April 27th – Earth Day clean up – suggested by Shawna; can do one for school and one for community

ACTION: Karlo will communicate about ROM trip on January 20th; Karlo will find out if we will do the garbage bag collection

• Safety:

- Members inquired if the school could get cameras to view the outside of the school; in particular “blind spots”
- Karlo advised that he asked for a swipe card system for all of the main doors and is on a waiting list; Jesse suggested we write a letter as a group of concerned parents and send this to the Board

ACTION: Karlo and Emma will look for Google Doc letter and draft one

E. Completion of School Statement of Needs

- a) Not discussed

F. School Improvement Planning – Literacy

- a) Not discussed

G. SAC Newsletter

- Penny would like to send out a newsletter to let the school community know what the SAC is working on; she is working on a draft

ACTION: Penny will send draft to SAC prior to next meeting for review; this will be discussed at next meeting for finalization

H. Any other business

a) Sub-groups

- Penny introduced the idea of sub-groups

ACTION: to be discussed at next meeting (expectations; composition; delegation)

b) Making SAC materials transparent and accessible

- Currently available: Green folder in office; Billboard in hallway across from early years room

ACTION: Karlo will archive agendas and minutes on the school’s website and note in his weekly newsletter

c) Principal’s weekly online newsletter

- Members noted that weekly newsletter was not received Sunday

ACTION: Karlo will review settings as there may have been a glitch

I. SAC By-Laws

- Not discussed

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

NEXT MEETING: February 24, 2020 at 5:30 pm