

School Council Meeting

Final Minutes

Thursday November 6, 2014

Members Present – Fion Siew, Ellie Bakerman, Mary Zervas, John Bakous, Zohar Gilula, Catia Rudnicki, Vini Zetea, Beata Reitner, Paula Amaral, Dasantila Golemi-Kotra, Jamie Hopkings, Mary Lynn Smith, Vered Barzilay, Linda Kessler Shapiro, Beata Reitner

Agenda Item	Decisions/Action Taken	Person Responsible
<i>Welcome and Introductions and Word From Chair</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Bakous welcomes everyone• Elections will start shortly. Before that Mary addressed the addition of people to the list of candidates for Members at Large. A candidate was added this afternoon. Last minute nominations are welcome at this time.	Mary Zervas
<i>Elections</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members at Large candidates introduce themselves.• Results are as follows: Doris Chan, Zohar Gilula, Beata Reitner, Dasantila Golemi-Kotra, Fion Siew, Vini Zetea	John Bakous
<i>Minutes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ellie makes motion to pass minutes from October 9, 2014, Fion seconds• Other members pass	
<i>Chair's Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pizza lunch came in under budget• Potluck next week with meet and greet with parents• Thanks to Vini for initiative to	John Bakous

	<p>raise money for music instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vini reminds that we still have 4 days to vote to enter second round of voting • There are 9 projects to be voted on and 5 additional votes will be judged by category judges but best to have highest number of votes • More announcements required to initiate votes 	
<p><i>Principal's Report</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome all new council members and very happy with the turnout • There is a binder with School Council procedures and the rules regarding funds procedures have been added. This is good to have and pass on to the next council • The main goal of school councils is to get parents involved in school life and enhance achievement • Elected body made up of teacher, principal, community representative, support person, elected members • EQAO results came out in mid September. Results: • Grade 3 – Increase in writing and math (both at 87%) and a decrease in reading in grade 3 (67%). • Grade 6 – maintained our results in reading and writing (85%) and dropped in math 65%. • Scores fluctuate in our school because we are a small school therefore small sample size. In grade 3 only 15 students wrote. EQAO does not publish results that 	<p>Mary Zervas</p>

	<p>include less than 15 students because the results are not valid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We also had several students that were new to Canada and they wrote the test as well. They did exceptionally well considering their time here.• Parents Reaching Out Grant for \$1000 is available now. Dasantila will lead the application.• School is planning a literacy night in Winter, Welcome to kindergarten night on November 20 and Math night in Spring• Progress Report cards are coming out next week for everyone except JK• SK receive reports in November.• Official report cards are in February• Interviews are for everyone. Goal is to communicate the progress so far and if there are actions needed they can be taken.• Welcome to Kindergarten is for parents who are new to our school. They will learn about the school and the play based foundation of the program.• Team Up For Green brochure was sent out. To participate people have to sign up for green initiatives with Toronto Hydro. With enough sign ups, bike racks will be installed.• Raz Kids was set up this year at a cost of \$600. Mary has asked if school council can	
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	<p>support this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agendas and planners have all arrived. Students paid \$10 each • Magnets are being made and will arrive in next few weeks • 3 fire drills in Fall, 1 evacuation plan, 1 lock down drill are needed • To date 2 fire drills have been done and 1 lock down drill • Evacuation plans are not practiced every year. They are like a fire drill except school body goes to Forest Hill Collegiate. Secondary site is Allenby. • Zohar asked if parents are notified that practice drills will take place. Mary responded that Fire drills are not normally given advance notice because Fire people can show up at any time. Notices are sent for lock down drills . • Sight and Sound clinic is coming up. Parents need to fill out form and send money in if they wish to participate. • Spirit days are back. Last Friday of each month. Students are asked to bring in a loonie to support Sick Kids. • Communication from the school to the parents is done in the following ways: Magnet, School Newsletter, School Calendar, Teacher Specific Newsletter and Calendar, School Council distributes Newsletters by email on behalf of school • Music grant for \$10,000 is in progress. All letters of support 	
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	have been submitted.	
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are currently in a good financial position. We have had few expenses. • Paid for school bus \$414.70 • Pizza lunch expenses were lower at \$285.90 but milk is not included yet • Pizza lunch generated \$2,240.55. • Net Income for period \$1,522.35 • 2 smart boards are \$9000, \$5000 for French resources 	
<i>Other</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. T has suggested that school as a whole go to Marlee's game for grades 2-6 300x4 = 1200 for buses. Having buses covered is the goal. • Dasantila mentioned that her daughter has experienced this in her past school and did not really enjoy it. • Ellie also does not support the trip as she feels the money can be used for educational purpose • Linda Shapiro likes the idea because it is an experience that would be great for kids • Fion mentioned it is a challenge for smaller grades • Mary recommended that she discuss this with teachers at the staff meeting and let them know that parents prefer something that is better suited for the school as a whole • Other options were another presentation at the school or other field trip 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fion mentioned that Mrs. Ing organized a hockey event a few years ago and it might be a good idea to get her opinion• Ellie made a motion for Raz kids fee for \$600. Vini asked what the fee is for. It is for a licence.• Mary explained that it is a reading program that is available for students up to grade 3.• Fion made motion, Ellie seconded, council members voted unanimously• Ellie and Dasantila and Vered want to be involved in which play is selected for performance• Fion asked if we want to consider a new smart board• Dasantila mentioned IXL and Adapted Minds as possible online programs the school can subscribe to in order for students to work on math skills• Mary mentioned there is a new program Math Prodigy and has received great feedback and was more popular than IXL• Linda mentioned Khan Academy which is free• Mary will discuss Adapted Minds and Math Prodigy with teachers• Dasantila also suggested having spelling competition. Ontario Spelling Bee is made up of all schools.• Dasantila also suggested a non-competitive talent show.• Mary is Chair of Literacy Committee for a family of schools and there will be a spelling bee in the spring	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary suggested committees for different things such as Fundraising, Enrichment etc. • Ellie suggested having class reps for each class. • There were some communication issues regarding the chess and releasing the kids. Ellie is communicating with Chess and Math and a solution is in the works. Fion will go to Mrs. Leahey and pick up the children, Ellie and instructor will go to B5. Fion and 1 instructor will take Jk/Sk kids outside library. Other instructor will get older kids at 3:15. • Ellie raised issue of sexual education involving school council. Most have not heard of this. • Sport Play and basketball are going extremely well 	
<i>Next Meeting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 7:00 p.m. 	
<i>Adjournment</i>	8:30	