

School Council Meeting

Final Minutes

Thursday October 9, 2014

Members Present – Jamie Hopkings, Fion Siew, Ellie Bakerman, Ken Scriver, Mary Zervas, John Bakous, Zohar Gilula, Catia Rudnicki, Vini Zetea, Beata Reitner

Agenda Item	Decisions/Action Taken	Person Responsible
<i>Welcome and Introductions</i>	Introductions	Mary Zervas
<i>School Council Roles and Responsibilities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Summary of School Council Regulation • This year School Council is made up of 11 people mostly parents, a teacher rep that has voting rights and principal that does not vote. To vote has to be a majority – 50% of members have to be present. • Role of Chair – See Toronto District School Board Roles and Responsibilities – see summary of school council responsibilities • Question was asked about time commitment. There are 8 formal meetings throughout the year and informal meetings to organize events and fundraising. • By-laws need to be implemented. These can dictate how the elections are run i.e. nominating last minute, create communications position, by-law for ties • Candidates were given an opportunity to revise their nomination • Paula entered a nomination for secretary 	Mary Zervas
<i>Nominations and Elections</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are running for the various positions introduced themselves 	Jamie Hopkings

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linda Shapiro, Yael Newman, Vered Barzilay, Michelle Connolly, Beata Reitner, Ann Luciano were not present to provide introductions. • All executive position were acclaimed. There was a tie for the Member at Large positions which resulted in voting taking place 3 times in total. • Voting Results: John Bakous, Chair; Ken Scriver, Vice Chair; Ellie Bakerman, Treasurer; Paula Amaral, Secretary • Members at Large: Doris Chan, Zohar Gilula, Michelle Connolly, Beata Reitner, Fion Siew, Vini Zetea 	and Mary Zervas
<i>Teacher's Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this time there is no teacher representative 	Mary Zervas
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fun fair revenues fell. Expenses decreased because we supplied our own food and had a discount. The end result is that we maintained the average income of previous years. • Jamie said we agreed to have a balance of no more than \$9000 in the bank account for current year expenses whereas our balance at the end of the 2013/2014 year was approximately\$23,000. • The rule is that money raised should be utilized in the year it was raised. Fion mentioned that another rule is that we cannot have a deficit at any time. Given that we will not have revenue until February we need to think about a reserve for current expenses. • Mrs. Zervas agreed that we should have some fund that for the beginning of that school year but more limited. \$23,000 is excessive to begin the school year with. 	Fion Siew

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie reminded that if we want to get items for the fun fair then we need to go it earlier in the year. 	
<p><i>Principal's Report</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary suggested that to increase attendance at meetings that council put aside some money to buy food at meetings and provide child care for children. • Wish List: See attachment • Ellie initiated the voting of the items of the wish list given that some items take time to order and therefore should be decided on now. Fion recommended discussing the list at an external meeting given that the total being requested is very close the balance of \$21,661.08 in the chequing account. We cannot use the money in the other accounts at this time. • It was agreed to decide on the items at the meeting. • Questions were asked by various people about the funds being requested for musical instruments, lunch program equipment and French curriculum resources. • Mary explained that Mr. So has initiated applying for a grant for \$15,000 to replace the musical instruments at the school. All the instruments are extremely old and some are not repairable. In the event the grant is not awarded the school will be responsible for replacing the instruments. Mr. So is requesting \$1000 to start purchasing a few instruments. • Council members and others present generally felt that it was prudent to wait for the results of the grant before contributing to the purchase of instruments since \$1000 would not purchase many instruments at this time. 	<p>Mary Zervas</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mary stressed the fact that buying instruments is a long term endeavour since instruments are expensive and need to be purchased a few at a time. Mary also discussed the importance of children learning how to read music earlier in life. Typically students start learning to read music at the grade 7-8 level. Without prior exposure students can struggle with learning how to read music.• Mary informed everyone that Mr. So has a goal of creating an orchestra/symphony at North Prep and new instruments are critical.• Doris mentioned that there is a link between learning music and success in other subjects such as math.• Paula asked if lunch program items could be donated. Mary responded that they can be donated and drive would be a good idea.• Fion works in the lunch program with JK/SK classes and stated that they purchased some items. There are approximately 65 students and without toys they all want to be on slides and it is not safe. It is very important to have a variety of toys to create different play areas and keep the children engaged.• Two items were added to the list: a school performance for \$900 and an additional Scientist In the School (SITS) Presentation per class at an additional \$1,575.• Fion stated the amount for SITS is low because she paid more than that for last year's presentation and this year will most likely be more expensive.• The total amount being requested is \$18,000	
--	---	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vote was taken and it was agreed to fund the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Field Trips \$15/Student = \$3150 ○ 1 SITS: \$175 x9 = \$1575 (may be a bit higher) ○ Two Smartboards: \$9000 ○ New French Currilculum: \$1000 ○ School Presentation: \$900 <p style="text-align: center;">Total: \$15,625</p> • Balance in chequing account will be approximately \$6000 	
<p><i>Chair's Report</i></p>	<p>Extra Curricular Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council initiated 3 extra curricular activities last year. Sport Play for younger kids was successful. Chess was wildly successful. Sport Play for older children was not as successful. • Sport Play is returning and is pending permit. It will be Monday after school for the primary grades. • Lytton will be doing basketball on Tuesday for junior grades. • Chess will be on Friday after school for all grades. • Last year activities were booked by quarter and Jamie is trying to book full year to reduce administrative duties. • Jamie set up a Wiki for the school council. The Wiki is a centralized place for council to place information about everything it does. For example, Jamie as posted how we prepare the directory so future council members have a reference. If the new council chooses it will need to be expanded on and maintained. • Jamie will send Wiki address and login 	

	<p>information to current members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie will forward usernames and passwords for online accounts to the new Chair. • Directory is in progress. Ellie has entered all data and is waiting for sponsors information. • An external meeting will be held to discuss the other matters: Fall Pledge, Potluck party 	
<p><i>Future Dates</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates for future events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thurs Nov 6 ▪ Thurs Jan 22 ▪ Thurs Feb 26 ▪ Thurs April 16 ▪ Thurs May 21 ○ Pizza Lunch dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thurs Oct 30 ▪ Thurs Nov 20 ▪ Thurs Dec 11 ▪ Thurs Jan 22 ▪ Thurs Feb 19 ▪ Thurs April 16 ▪ Thurs May 21 ○ Pot Luck Party: Thurs Nov 13 ○ Winter Concert: Wed Dec 10. Have to decide whether we will do silent auction or raffle licence and have to start process immediately. ○ Danceathon: Thurs Feb 12 ○ Bingo Night: Thurs March 12. Need Licence and Space Permits. Licence takes time and requires past bank statements. This is important to start early. Jamie will provide past contact information. ○ Spring Concert: Thurs May 14 	<p>All</p>

	○ Fun Fair: Sat June 13	
<i>Next Meeting</i>	● Thurs Nov 6 at 6:30 p.m.	
<i>Adjournment</i>	8:30	