

Oriole Park Junior Public School Parent Council
October 16, 2018
Oriole Park Library

Present:

N. Quimby, M. Ciccia, J. Lacombe, M. Malloy, A. Smith, N. McConkey, M. Gain, M. Collins, C. DeWit, S. Vise, R. Sidway, S. Ali, A. Tebo, A. Barton, C. Tanzola, N. Masood, A. Frederick

Introductions and Welcome

Principle Update

- N. Quimby advised how the school budget is developed and set out.
- Each year the TDSB requests that schools create a Statement of Needs. The document gives direction with respect to what the community wants.
 - **M. Collins, A. Frederick, A. Smith, M. Malloy will be on the committee to develop the document for this year.**
- A string instructor for Grade 5 starts today and the children got their instruments today.
- Looking for parents to be part of two committees:
 1. Safe and Caring Schools
 2. Mental Health and Well-BeingKareem will send out an email to the general parent list to canvass interest.
- The Student Leadership Council has been established and they have been doing morning announcements for the We Scare campaign and created a memo for teachers to collect student presentation and spirit day ideas.
- October has six initiatives: We Scare, Costume Drive, Pumpkin Patch, Menchies, Parade and I Walk to School Campaign.
- November has four initiatives: Remembrance Day Assembly, Poppy Display, Family Movie Night, Skate and Ski Swap (November 12 to 23).
- Coming up: Ski Day and Family Skate Night.

Preliminary Discussion of 2018/19 School Council Expenditures

- Previously, Council had formed a Budget Committee with respect to preliminary expenditure budget discussions. The Committee summarized its discussions to date.
- A. Smith advised the target for fundraising initiatives is ~\$45,000. This target will be fleshed-out further by the Budget Committee for the November meeting.
- Yearbooks were funded by Council last year, but will not be this year.
 - **N. Quimby advised he will consider different and affordable options.**
- N. Quimby introduced his “wish-list” with respect how to allocate the expenditure budget.
 - N. Quimby suggested a focus on literacy if nothing else. The list includes physical books and not an on-line reading program.

- N. Quimby explained the importance of teacher discretionary funds and excursions and how they work. N. Quimby suggested these categories should be carefully considered.
- N. Quimby advised lice checks continue to be very important and suggested this continued to be funded.
- N. Quimby advised some of the more significance changes in his 2018/19 wish-list as compared to the 2017/18 wish-list are:
 - Some allocated amounts have decreased.
 - Leveled readers were replaced with in-school libraries.
 - Arts became our musical and play.
 - Grade 5 Graduation will be scaled down.
 - A parent survey revealed that only a small portion of children were actively engaging with online math programs (IXL, Mathletics). **N. Quimby advised he will be reviewing a couple of highly recommended free options: Prodigy and Knowledgehook.**
- N. Quimby asked if there is anything on the wish-list that we don't want or that should be added.
 - There was a brief discussion about funding for mental health efforts.
 - Due to significant funding last year and also within the School's own budget, Council recommended the de-prioritization of: (1) Strings & Band (\$1,000), and Library Books (\$2,000). Council also recommended the de-prioritization of Drumfit (\$1,921). These items may or may not be funded, depending on Mayfair proceeds, etc.
 - S. Wise and C. DeWit mentioned Konstella, which is a parent app. N. Quimby advised the Board may not permit access depending on their policies. Further discussion may be required.
 - S. Wise mentioned that we continued to have a web domain that is not being used. He further suggested we consider who would be responsible for content for any web-based or app-based products. Communications will be added as a future meeting agenda item.
- **A. Smith advised that, prior to the November meeting, the Budget Committee will meet and finalize a monthly fundraising & expenditures budget for approval at the November meeting.**

Outdoor Learning Centre Update – Counsellor Josh Matlow

- Counsellor Josh Matlow attended and discussed the importance of an accessible playground.
- Section 37 of the *Planning Act* states that there may be authorization for an increase in the height and density of development that is otherwise permitted in return for the provisions of facilities and services. It is through this section that OPJPS obtained funding for the development of its new outdoor learning centre. More specifically, city

funding was approved on the basis that the new outdoor learning centre also be accessible for the community-at-large.

- Currently, the developer has obtained an above-grade building permit.
- The next step is for the negotiation of a Community-Use Agreement as between TDSD and the City. N. Quimby understands negotiations have already commenced.
- Following, the funds will be released.

Additional Conversation – Counsellor Josh Matlow

- A. Smith advised Counsellor Matlow that traffic on Oriole Parkway continues to be a significant issue.
- Counsellor Matlow advised steps that have been taken include slower speed limits. However, police enforcement is not available.
- Counsellor Matlow suggested a higher complement of police and photo radar in specific areas (such as around schools) may be necessary in order to provide a deterrent.
- A community meeting will be held in the Fall to consider Tranmer Avenue stop signs and also with respect to College View Avenue. The meeting will be widely advertised.
- N. Quimby advised the police have completed a survey for a crossing guard at OPJPS. The results of the survey are supposed to be available in October to determine if crossing guards are approved.

Council Chair's Report

- A. Barton was appointed as a voting member of Parent Council.
 - A. Smith motioned and A. Tebo seconded. Motion passed.
- K. Bardyn was appointed as Program Director of Parent Council.
 - A. Smith motioned and A. Barton seconded. Motion passed.
- The minutes of the Council's September 17, 2018 meeting were approved.
 - N. Masood motioned and A. Tebo seconded. Motion passed.
- Kareem has been promoted to a position in Employee Services at the Board Office. His last day at OPJP is October 31, 2018.
 - Council will provide a small gift to thank him and wish him well.
 - N. Quimby reported that they will be holding a small staff gathering on Thursday at lunch.
- Family Movie Night will be on November 8, 2018.
 - A. Tebo is looking for volunteers
 - It is going to be a bit of a fundraiser
 - **M. Malloy and A. Tebo will connect on pricing for Moving Night.**
 - **Communication will be sent out through OPJP office and also by M. Gain.**

Other Business

- Next meeting is November 13, 2018 at 7pm
 - The Oriole Park Association will provide an update
 - School Council Expenditures and Fundraising Plan will be discussed/finalized.