

A.M. Cunningham

Parent Council

Meeting Minutes: Wednesday February 11, 2014



In attendance: Yvette Cowe, Krystal Jenkins, Lauren McLean, Joanne Gibson, Shannon Kotecki, Mr Maliphan, Chris Upshall, Jodie Whitley, Ian Stuart, Christy Cowan.

Regrets: Amanda Rankin, Dr Sharon Bowler, Sylvia Jarrett.

1. Welcome and Bouquets

- Thank you to our caretaking staff, for their snow clearing efforts.
- Ski day was a fun time, and well organized. (Joanne)
- Thank you to Jodie, for taking on extra work. (Chris)
- Skating day was also a success, thanks in part to great parent turnout. All agreed Parkdale arena is a better location for us than Rosedale arena.
- Winter Playday last week was a lot of fun for the students. Thank you to all of the staff for organizing and running this event!

2. Passing of Previous Minutes

- January Minutes: passed by Lauren, seconded by Christy
- December Minutes: passed by Joanne, seconded by Lauren.

3. Meeting Dates for the remainder of the school year

- No March Meeting.
- April Meeting: Wednesday 1 April
- May Meeting: Wednesday 6 May
- June Meeting: Wednesday 3 June

These meeting dates reached by consensus.

- **Upcoming Dates of Interest:**

Frenchapalooza: 9 April

AMC Open House: 14 May

Farewell Parent Council Meeting at Rankin's: 22 June

4. Treasury Report

- Teachers have been using their individual class allotments.
- Still working on \$800 PRO grant discrepancy.
- Full treasury report unavailable for this meeting.

5. Families in Motion

- Brains In Motion (parent information night) 2 parts:
 - Hamilton Acquired Brain Injury Association: Bikes, Blades & Boards – will speak about head injury prevention & treatment
 - PRO grant funds will be used for childcare provided by the Y
 - flyers should be available in a few days
 - registration will be multi media – online (Google form), email, or paper form
 - “Filling the brain” – virtual library presentation by HWDSB I.T. people including technology based questions & answers
 - childcare suggestion – movie night
 - idea: separate older and younger children – use library and kindergarten room
 - **Action:** Mr Maliphant to book rooms.
- Recreation Nights at Churchill
 - Free Open Gym Nights for AMC: 20 February, 27 March, 17 April, all from 6-7pm.
 - Bruiser may be involved (to be confirmed)
- Bruiser will make an appearance at our third skating day (March) – will be on ice for the older students, may be available off ice for the younger ones but need to clarify this information further.

6. Coins for Kids

- volunteers will be required for stapling letters to cups
- cups will go home 23 March, to be returned 7 April

7. Staff Appreciation Day Thurs, 12 March

- Food will be required to serve approx. 30-40 staff members– signup list posted on the Facebook page. Luncheon will be held on March 12, 2015.
 - suggestion made to serve meal items during the first break, desserts during second.
- Day will also involve “superhero” theme, interactive with students.
- Students will be asked to write a note to teachers and other staff members letting them know how much we appreciate all that they do for the kids.
- Kids will get to come to school on March 12 as their favorite Super Hero to help celebrate Staff Appreciation Day.

8. PROGrant 2016

- Deadline for submissions we believe will be the end of May.
- Jodie stepping back – volunteer needed to write proposal
 - call to be posted on Facebook?

9. Fundraising

- Request put forth by Mme Kirk for funding (for bussing) for 40 French gr 5 students to attend trip to Griffin House to commemorate Black History Month
 - Consensus was reached to uphold mandate that Council will fund/subsidize only those trips or events meant to be school wide events. \$3000 already set aside for bussing initiatives this year.
- List of ideas for fundraising for 2015-2016 school year to be posted on Facebook, narrowed down for next meeting

10. Principal's Report

- Acting Director of Education has been appointed – will hold position until June
- Dibels – new reading program for grades K-1
 - assesses reading level, and helps teachers pinpoint strengths and weaknesses to determine where to go next. Provides more information than DRA or GB+.
- Parent Survey due 20 Feb
 - should give good information re school culture/climate, etc.
- Portables
 - will get new paint – possibly murals
 - idea to have the students participate in creation
- Skating Days
 - some confusion surrounding attendance of kindergarten students – will need to be clarified for next day
- Ski Day at Kissing Bridge – second one will take place Saturday 14 Feb.
- Tim Horton's Camp
 - 9 spots available (up from 6 last year)
 - takes place in Kentucky, last week of summer
- Defibrillator
 - available in teacher's mailbox room
 - some teacher training on voluntary basis
- Henna Club
 - 28 students signed up (target was 12-15)
 - using iPads to research designs
- Arts Champions
 - 5 classes have been receiving visits by professional artists (dancers, musicians) who work with students

Next Meeting: Wednesday 1 April, 6.30pm