

A.M. Cunningham

Parent Council

Minutes

Wednesday February 3, 2016



In attendance: Jodie Whitley, Sarah Coles, Shannon Kotecki, Meghan Lloyd, Ashley Colville, Chris Upshall, Scott MacLeod, Yvette Cowe, Joanne Gibson, Christy Cowan.

Regrets: Amanda Rankin, Ms Penney, Tammy Gruza.

1. Welcome

2. Minutes from Previous Meetings

- ☐ November minutes – passed by Joanne, seconded by Meghan
- ☐ December minutes – passed by Meghan, seconded by Joanne
- ☐ January minutes – passed by Christy, seconded by Sarah

3. Principal's Report (delivered by Scott in Principal's absence):

- ☐ Strong encouragement to Subscribe to website updates in order to receive school communication – notifications of updates sent to email
- ☐ Skating trip:
 - 2 dates selected
 - Plan for non skaters? Will they be expected to travel to arena on bus along with skaters? What will they do while there?
 - \$4 bus cost is calculated with no firm confirmation of numbers. Less students attending (ie only skaters) = lower bus cost.
 - ☐ **Council has precedent for covering \$600/skating day. Motion to continue passed by Christy, seconded by Yvette, Sarah.**
 - Rosedale is chosen arena. They have waived the rental fee.

- ☐ PRO Grant Mental Health: Tracy Hall (speaker) has been in contact with Ms Penney. Date in April to be scheduled with Meghan for presentation for parents.
- ☐ Kiwanis – offering Social Skills group for boys, Go Girls for girls
- ☐ Reports – scheduled to go home 18 Feb
- ☐ **(something about Mme Brooks-Bittle and Mme Federchuk and dancers – didn't get the whole item written down)**
- ☐ Kindergarten Registration is taking place now.
- ☐ 10 Feb – Bulldogs game for grades 3, 4, 5
- ☐ Professional musician to come in to work with grade 1-2 students with instruments
- ☐ Soccer Camp is being offered in July **(did not catch from where or by whom)** – free program for 8wks.
- ☐ McMaster's Right to Play program – teaches students about sportsmanship

4. Treasury Report

- ☐ Costs to be incurred:
 - \$1200 – busing for skating days (total for 2 days)
 - \$1000 – fundraiser night (total budget approved last year to help with upfront expenses)
- ☐ Received:
 - \$179.20 – Samko receipts
- ☐ Current balance: \$7872.20

5. Frenchapalooza

- ☐ Takes place 23 Feb, 6.30-8pm at Dundana School
- ☐ Speakers scheduled:
 - Le Petit Pomme
 - Centre Francais
 - HWDSB representative on French education
 - Hamilton Public Library, Dundas Branch on French resources in the library
- ☐ also a book sale

6. Requests/Issues raised by parents

- ☐ Unable to fully discuss issues due to Ms. Penny's absence from meeting
- ☐ Communication: Concern has been raised about the lack of communication between home and school. Even when information is provided, the details are insufficient to answer the questions that come up. Part of this issue involves parents not reading the newsletter which has been an ongoing concern. Newsletters are now online. Most information parents need to

know can be found there. Parents are once again encouraged to subscribe to the school website for updates and information provided as it becomes available. A request also made to the school to improve details provided in the newsletter so that people have a better understanding of events.

- ☐ Fundraiser ideas – next year’s fundraising ideas will be determined after we see how successful our Pub Night fundraiser is.
 - Suggestions accepted anytime.
- ☐ Are donations of books from home to the library accepted?
- ☐ Spirit Wear:
 - Christy spearheading this campaign.
 - Items will be offered for list cost +\$1 – this is to offset the cost of printing the order forms, other costs incurred
 - Can display cabinet be used for samples?
 - Company located in Ayr, ON – needs 4-6wk turnaround. Order forms need to go home within next week or two
- ☐ Wednesday meetings inconvenient for many parents. After some discussion, March meeting rescheduled to Thursday 10 March (see Item #10)

7. PRO Grant 2015-2016 – Pursuit of Happiness

- ☐ Pencils & Perspectives Night scheduled for Friday, 19 February
 - Ashley to donate reusable mugs
 - Yvette to supply tea without nut flavours
 - Receipts for purchased items to be submitted to Christy
 - Volunteers needed for welcoming at door. Yvette, Sarah, Ashley volunteered.
 - Volunteers required for setup
- ☐ Speaker to be scheduled for date between 4-7 April, or 25-26 April. Meghan to confirm. (see Item #3)

8. Fundraiser

- ☐ Lots of prizes already donated. It was suggested that a list of donated prizes would be convenient.
- ☐ Wine donations for wine draw can be left with parent Jarah West, or delivered to Tammy in the office.
- ☐ Prizes (door prize or raffle prizes) – any donations can be delivered to Lauren.

9. PRO Grant 2016 - 2107

- ☐ Ideas/suggestions being taken now.
- ☐ Deadline for application end of May.

Information provided after meeting with respect to next year's PROgrant application:

Applications are now being accepted for the 2016-17 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants!

A key component of Ontario's vision [*Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario \(2014\)*](#) is to recognize and encourage a wide range of opportunities for parent, guardian and caregiver engagement in their children's learning. We know that good schools become great schools when parents are engaged in their children's learning.

Ontario's PRO Grants are designed to support parents in identifying barriers to engagement in their own community and to find local solutions to involve more parents in support of student achievement and well-being.

There are two types of Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants:

- grants for school councils
- grants for regional/provincial projects

Please visit the ministry's website at

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/reaching.html> for more information.

How to apply:

The application is to be completed and submitted online at <http://education.factorial.ca>.

If you require assistance in accessing the application, please do not hesitate to contact SmartSimple support at 1-866-239-0991 or 416-591-1668 or at support@smartsimple.com.

When is the deadline to apply?

The application deadline is **Sunday, May 29, 2016 11:59 p.m. EST.**

Next meeting

Thursday 10 March 2016, 6.30pm, in the library.