

A.M. Cunningham
Parent Council
Minutes
Wednesday January 13, 2016



In attendance:

Jodie Whitley, Sarah Coles, Ms Penney, Meghan Lloyd, Amanda Rankin, Chris Upshall, Scott MacLeod, Yvette Cowe, Joanne Gibson, Christy Cowan.

Regrets:

Shannon Kotecki, Lauren McLean, Kelly MacNeil, Tammy Gruza.

1. Welcome & Bouquets

- Happy New Year!
- Thank You to everyone that helped make the Singalong another great success. We had a great turnout and everyone seemed to have a lot of fun.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

- Minutes from November and December meeting deferred when more people will hopefully be in attendance.

3. Principal's Report

- Commendation to AMC community for generous donations to Christmas drives, and for spirit during our various festive activities (Open Stage, Singalong, etc)
- Transforming Learning Everywhere (TLE) – focus on technology to accentuate and expand learning
 - Scott MacLeod – teaching teachers ways to incorporate technology into existing curriculum by use of apps and devices
 - collaboration between teachers and coaches to explore new ways of using technology
 - expands horizons of teachers to look at new ways of teaching and learning

- possibilities endless, can feel overwhelming – suggested strategy is to focus on a few apps & methods to start and get comfortable with before moving on to others
- Toy Swap – to take place at the end of January
 - students bring in toys to trade, select gently used toys (no stuffies)
 - Mme Moon staff member in charge
- PA Day – Friday 29 January. Teachers will be writing reports.
- Kindergarten Registration – begins 1 February.
- 10 February – Hamilton Bulldogs trip – grades 3-5
- 3 February – Junior Empowerment
 - 10 students from gr 3-4-5 selected – those which show leadership potential
 - teachers asked to choose one student from each class
 - purpose – to “unlock” leadership skills, talk about global issues
- Grade 5 graduation trip – Niagara Falls? Will School Council provide traditional \$500 subsidy? Yes – provided funds are available.
- Ms Penney has fundraiser tickets available to sell ~ tickets handed out to council members to sell during meeting
- Suggestion re: future School Council meeting dates – to change some Wednesday dates to Thursdays, as some members are not available Wednesdays
 - after discussion, it was determined we will stick with Wednesdays as individual schedules are not lining up.
- Fundraiser sub-committee meeting to be scheduled.
- Skating Dates – teachers currently in process of planning
 - question: what will non-skaters be doing on skating days?
 - requested Parkdale arena be used as it is harder to monitor the kids at Rosedale

4. Treasury Report

- Outgoing:
 - \$50.60 – to Tammy for snack bin
 - \$126.28 – to Jodie & Chris to reimburse for Singalong food purchases
- Current Balance: \$7693.00 (total Council balance)
- Cost still to be incurred: Busing for skating days.

5. Samko Toy Sale

- Deadline for receipt submission – 1 February
- Total receipts submitted: \$1792
- Return to school: \$179.00
- Chris Upshall in charge of submitting receipts

- Easy fundraiser for the school but need to get the word out to parents. We sent home a Samko flyer this year but needed to put a small note on the flyer indicating we needed receipts handed in

6. Staff Appreciation Luncheon

- will take place in April – date TBD.
- discussion around repeating last year’s “Thank Your School Staff” student activity – response by staff?
 - Where to display kids thank you notes

7. 2016-2017 PROgrant

- Time to brainstorm ideas for next years focus
- Need a Volunteer to take it on writing the application
- Grant submission end of May?

8. This year’s PRO grant ~ The Pursuit of Happiness

- Greg at Carnegie Gallery tentatively on board – to be confirmed
 - activity – art/painting project for parents only, along with discussion about benefits of art re creative problem solving
 - initial date 12 February – to be changed, as that is Friday before Valentines/Family Day weekend
 - new suggested date – 19 February
 - is Friday night the best night? – yes – easier to find babysitting if necessary, also nice activity to end the week
 - on childcare – will be available – Y staff to be booked for 2hrs – 6.30-8.30 on date chosen
 - supplies to be provided
 - paper sign-up sheet to be sent home with students
 - needed to determine numbers
 - paper easier for most parents to remember to fill out & return, as opposed to electronic version
 - location – gym/library
 - Ms Penney to book
 - suggestion – small “commitment charge”/deposit of \$5 – to give more incentive for those who signed up to attend
 - to be considered.

9. Fundraiser

- Email update from Lauren as follows

As you know, tickets are printed and waiting to be sold. I am in the midst of preparing a flyer to go home in a couple of weeks to all parents that they can send back money for tickets, or they can request tickets to sell.

The DJ is confirmed. He is a friend of mine and is only charging us \$150 for the night!

The live music consists of my husband, Gordon McLean, Dan Wright (father to Peter Wright), Tom MacKenzie (father to Reed & Penny MacKenzie) and Adam Knickle (father to Rudy & Edie Knickle). They have started rehearsing and will be doing 2 sets of 45 minutes each. Lots of popular, wedding/pub type music.

Jarah West (mother to Moira Faulkner) has offered to organize a wine draw. She is hitting people up for a single bottle of VQA wine. She will compile them in to one large basket or a couple of smaller baskets and we'll sell tickets separately for that. Always a really good money-maker.

I prepared a letter to use when asking for donations (if needed), and have attached it here. Perhaps a few copies could be printed out and be on hand for the meeting tonight in case anyone needs one. I have it as a digital PDF file also for emailing.

Prizes. We need prizes. If it's still okay with you Ms. Penney, I will draft up a letter to be sent home to have each class collect a basket full of stuff as per the suggestion based on what Rosedale School does for their carnival. That will happen by next Monday.

I've sent a message to all those who initially said they would be willing to help plan/execute the event. I've taken care of the initial big stuff, so now it's just getting a group of people to coordinate prizes, food, and jobs the night of.

Future Meeting Dates (all scheduled for Wednesdays)

- 3 February
- 9 March
- 13 April
- 25 May
- Will consider a June meeting if necessary