

# Yorkview School Council Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday November 23, 2010**

**In Attendance:** Tracey Hunter (Chair), Gary Poot (Principal), Linda Cochlin (Teacher Representative), Tammy Lombardo, Trina Baird, Krisi and Paige Fisher, Jocelyn and Brittan Clark, Tara Smith, Cathy Maga-Turner (Secretary)

## **Minutes:**

- Minutes from the October, 2010 School Council Meeting were approved by Tracey Hunter, Seconded by Tammy Lombardo.

### **ACTION:**

1. Newsletter to include date of next meeting, encouraging all families to attend on Tuesday January 25, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the school.

## **Special Student Spirit Committee Presentation: Paige F. and Brittan C.**

- A committee of six Grade 5 girls wanted to have Spirit Days. They approached Mr. Poot and he indicated that a committee would have to be formed to prepare and present a proposal. This proposal was presented to the parents and Staff.
- Paige and Brittan represented the Committee and indicated that the first Spirit Day event was Pyjama Day. It was a great success, with over 90% of the students and staff taking part.
- Other proposed Spirit Days and Themes are as follows:
  - December 14 -Happy Holiday Hat Day
  - January 12 -Rock Star Day
  - February 16 -Red, Pink and White Day
  - March 10 -Dress up as your Favourite Character or Animal Day
  - April 12 -Wacky Hair Day
  - May 11 -Gum Day
  - June 15 -Beach Day
- The young ladies noted that the Spirit Day schedule would allow both A and B Kindergarten classes to participate. Tammy suggested that a donation of money or food would allow students to participate in the Spirit Day. Cathy wondered if there would be a prize or an award for the class with the highest participation percentage.
- The Spirit Days would be advertised on the daily school announcements, on posters in the school and on the website.

### **Report on Items from Previous Month Minutes:**

- Tracey has investigated the cost of Insurance for the School Council members and it was noted to be \$80.00. Council agreed to go ahead with this coverage.
- Pizza forms have been updated to include December and rest-of-year options. On Monday, Tammy will organize the forms to be sent out to any students (including the Kindergarten B class) who have not yet committed to the yearly payment option.

### **Teacher Presentation: Linda Cochlin**

- Talent Show: The Talent Show is approaching quickly and ticket order forms will go home over the next few days. The event is scheduled for December 15 and 16, 2010 from 6-8pm. The Show will include 22 acts per night and all grades are represented. Tickets are \$5.00 each plus a food donation. There will be 4 rehearsals after school from 3-5 pm (two for each night's acts) and one dress rehearsal the afternoon of the show. Last year, pizza and juice was provided for the rehearsals and shows. Ms. Sardo has requested \$200.00 from School Council for food supplies. This was approved by Council. Fred Magie will do the sound for the shows. Mr. Poot suggested that he be paid for his services as he donates his time and some of his own equipment use, but also rents equipment for these nights. Tammy suggested a Family ticket price be capped at \$20.00 for immediate family.

### **ACTION:**

1. Mr. Poot is to review Family Ticket price (\$20) with teachers and mention this in the newsletter and on the website.
2. Mr. Poot to discuss costs incurred/payment with Mr. Magie.
3. Council to provide \$200 for food/drink supplies for the rehearsals and shows.
4. Mr. Poot to discuss student Art Exhibition in hallway for Talent Show night. An alternate consideration would be to have the Art Show during the BBQ/Open House in the spring.

### **Principal's Report: Gary Poot**

- Website: Mr. Poot noted that he was doing his best to keep the school website up to date. For example, he advertised Pajama Day on the site and later included participation results. He noted that the Teachers were also looking to add information to the site. Mr. Nicoll was interested in adding a link to a YouTube site to review the learning concepts of the gesturing/actions associated with his French class.
- Sandpit Concerns: He stated that he received a letter from a parent who had a concern regarding dog/animal feces in the sandpit. Mr. Poot noted

that the sandpit was inspected regularly by Teacher and the Caretaker and indicated that a Teacher Monitor was usually in the area during recess. He has encouraged all students to notify Staff if they should find anything in the sandpit. He also noted that when the students did dig deep into the sandpit, they would find some dark clay, which may be mistaken for fecal matter.

- Woodchips: Mr. Poot investigated the woodchip specifics and bylaw regulations. He noted that the woodchips used for the play structure must be certified and of a certain shape to minimize splinters. The depth of the woodchips must be approximately 10-12 inches. He called a Millgrove supply company and they indicated the cost would be \$1600 for 29 cubic yards, but was not sure if this included delivery. A quote from PlayCare, in Schomberg, (mulch supply company used by the Town of Dundas) suggested that 39 cubic yards of mulch would be required at a cost of \$1800, including delivery.
- Writing: The goal of the school year is to improve student writing skills. Diane Tremblay-Griffin, a primary consultant in writing skills, provided a student workshop, where students dissected stories and wrote their own version. The goal was to provide a demonstration of how reading improves writing skills. Mr. Poot also mentioned the 'Bump-Up Board' in the hallway which allows students to redo their writing project based on initial evaluation of their work.

**ACTION:**

1. Information regarding ongoing school events to be put on the school website.
2. Tara to provide name of Rubber Mulch supplier to Mr. Poot on Wednesday for price investigation.
3. Mr. Poot to investigate possible donation of mulch and charitable tax receipt for donor. Donation information would also be included on the school website and in the newsletter.
4. Upcoming staff meeting to include review of Report Card process, discussing technical glitches and terminology.

**Chair Report: Tracey Hunter**

- Tracey indicated that the School Council has approximately \$10,000 in the bank, but upcoming withdrawals included \$1,000 for Teachers classroom allowances, and \$1,500 for Board-approved mulch for the creative play structure, \$1000 for pizza orders, and \$200 for the Talent Show. Mr. Poot hoped that the Talent Show money and the \$900 received in recent donations will allow the school to purchase another Smartboard (with any additional costs to be covered by School Council).

- Tracey had forms for the upcoming Teaching Excellence Awards Nominations and is looking the the Yorkview community for suggestions.

#### ACTION

1. Tammy to include information on Teaching Excellence Award in the newsletter and on the website.
2. Mr. Poot to include contact information for the School Council Chair on the website for parent/guardian knowledge.

#### **Fundraising Report:**

- Tracey indicated the need for a meeting to outline the upcoming fundraising activities.
- Mr. Poot noted that in January 2011, the school will be having a fundraiser at Boston Pizza in West Hamilton. This would be a fun family evening for the Yorkview community. Boston Pizza will provide a 15% return to the school on all entrees purchased that night.
- Tara suggested the possibility of selling chocolate covered almonds as a fundraiser.

#### ACTION

1. Tracey to email Council members with potential Fundraising meeting dates. This information is to be included in the newsletter and on the website to encourage other parents to attend.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday January 25, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the school**