

Holbrook School Council Meeting , March 28, 2012

In Attendance: Heather Wilson, Marcia Yeo, Julie Beattie, Pat Baulcomb, Katherine Burch, Ira Henderson, Jen Harwood, Erin Accadia, Robert Accadia

1. Welcome and call to order from the Chair: 6:40pm

2. CCRP Presentation: Diane and Janice – Canadian Community Reading Program

- 100% Canadian owned, head office in Kelowna BC
- Same selections of magazines as the “other” company (QSP)
- Brochure is alphabetical, childrens’ selection at front. Exclusive selection of Scholastic magazines.
- They do not sell their mailing lists.
- Order through brochure or online.
- Prize program based on your school, based on 3% of your school sales. They’ve shopped the Toy Fair in NY to look for prizes. Nothing is set in stone. Cumulative program if we want (that’s their standard).
- They like to be hands on with the campaign, come in and do the assembly, but also help during the campaign.
- During BC business hours, you will always get a live person to talk to.
- Chedoke is a new school for them, letter of recommendation from Brian Playfair, the VP there.
- Their focus in the last few months is to become more visible in Hamilton. They started 5 programs here in Hamilton recently (some schools run it in the spring).
- Diane and Janice have been fundraising for over 20 years – giftwrap, chocolate, sunscreen.
- Started this about 4 years ago, Niagara is their home base, they work exclusively for CCRP now.
- Profit is up to 37% - works out to about \$10 a subscription. (Heather’s research showed that it was the same as QSP.) Postage costs from the US are deducted before profit, but that is the same for all companies selling magazines.
- Coupons are accepted, as long as it’s the exact same offer.
- Will be seamless for renewals – they take our information and submit it to the publisher.
- No hard deadline for the campaign – so if late orders come in, they will still accept.
- They will come in and help us review the orders, they will pick them up, they look after the prizes as well.

Katherine motions that we will proceed with a magazine campaign with CCRP, Rob seconds. Passed

3. Healthy Snack

- Fridge broke down Friday March 23, service call was \$130. We need to have the fridge serviced at least once a year, cost \$88 + tx. Rob motions that we cover the service charge of \$130, and possibly the cost of the food if further funds from the Healthy Snack to cover the loss is not

covered. Erin seconds. Passed. Ira motions to cover the maintenance program on an ongoing basis. Rob seconds. Passed.

- April 27, 2:15, assembly – Ticats coming for a nutritional “rally”. Katherine is going to try to arrange a “black and gold” spirit day.
- Linda from TCU has signed on for another year from Mon – Thurs. Heather and Jen will continue to cover Fridays and clean up after school Mon - Fri.
- Katherine will need some help come October, as she is expecting and is due then. Number 4! 😊 Katherine can handle the paperwork, but she just wants to make sure the program continues to run well. Shopping will need some help. We get a grant and should use it, but more help would certainly be appreciated.

#### 4. Principal’s Report

- EQAO – last week of May/first week of June – grade 3/grade 6. They have changed over the years, they look now more like every day schoolwork. Students on IEPs have their accommodations made for them during testing. All grade 3 and 6 teachers (7 + Mrs. Beattie and Mrs Clarke) were at an EQAO day – tools to help kids have deeper thinking skills, and be able to express what they are thinking. Mrs Beattie is quite pleased with both grades, they have come into their own. Students with confidence skills have also improved, feeling better about their abilities. Teachers stress this is a time to do your best work – just like school, as best efforts are expected every day.
- Technology – making it available in every classroom, so it’s readily available – and it’s available during EQAO as well. Staff striving to figure out what kind of learners the kids are – everyone needs different strategies.
- After School Scholars – this program has been making a big difference – milk, a snack, ratio 10:1 with the teacher. Collaborative approach to teaching, allows staff to get to know the kids better
- Card System – this program is not working for kids with anxiety, they worry too much about “turning a card.” Green, yellow, red, blue – kids see where they’re at and it helps them to self-regulate. Starts in Grade 1, school wide program. So a five point scale is being used as well – 1. I’m comfortable – up to – 5. I’ve never been so upset in my life. Students place themselves on this curve – they have a chart on their desk, so if they’re starting to feel more anxious, worried, upset, they can move their check mark up on their scale – so the teacher can see at a glance if someone is escalating. This helps in a class where some kids have a lot of anxiety – because it will affect the other children as well. This helps with teaching them self-regulation. In room 12-3 they have removed the card program, experimenting with the 5 point program.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Mrs. Beattie is working on collecting pictures.
- Kevin Sylvester – broadcaster/author – on CBC, writes Marco Polo mysteries – would like to have him back and speak to the primary kids (grades 1-3) – came last year. Very effective anti-bullying speaker. Speaks to kids about story writing, cartooning – teaches them some skills. Great at “self-esteem” promotion.
- Spring Photos – waiting on a date. Probably late May/early June.

- Purchases – several math kits been purchased. LLI – kindergarten level purchased. Grade 2 LLI kit purchased as well.
- A volunteer has stepped forward to coordinate reading volunteers to buddy up with the kids. Some kids are not able to get reading done at home, Mrs. Beattie is hoping this reading with kids group can get going. Time of program is flexible.
- Roots of Empathy program – Katherine is a big believer in this program. The Accadia's did it with Alison, and loved it. Think it would be great to have at our school. Mrs. Beattie knows an instructor, would Katherine consider it?

#### 5. Treasurer's Report

- All expenses have been paid, there is \$4400 in the council account, \$800 in the Nevada account. Heather says there have been some cheques written, so council account is closer to \$4000. Mrs. Beattie noted that after visiting different schools for various reasons, our school is well equipped, technology is accessible, and it's thanks to the fundraising that council have been doing. This technology helps kids express their ideas when traditional writing is difficult for them. The kids in kindergarten are loving the laptops, and 12-3 have 6 laptops and are getting great use

#### 6. Fundraising

- Campbell's – Omnikin ball arrived today, Mrs. M is going to blow it up next week. 12,000 new points, so she is looking for her next goal item.
- Terracycle going well. Small problem with grade 4 girls, but it's been sorted out with Ms. Robar's help. Yogurt done, Tassimo new program, 1 small box added up to \$11.00. Ms Millar provides a grocery bag each week. Council and staff now collecting chocolate bar wrappers – any brand, any size, as long as it's a plastic wrapper. BIG NEWS! We are #7 Canada wide for collections between September and February. Heather sent them some media information for them to use during Earth month. Sending us a prize. About \$200 made from our garbage. Laptops, cell phones, diaper packaging (plastic bags).
- Mabel's Labels continuing – use specific url
- 2012/2013 fundraising – possible ideas – Fundscrip, Entertainment Books, MacMillans, LaMontagne

#### 7. Other business

- Zumba – Heather thanks all the volunteers who helped, we had 108 kids come out. The event went well.
- Mrs M wants to purchase new portable sound system – estimated \$150 - \$250 – can play iPod, burned CD without skipping when jumping/bouncing occurs in gym. System they have is not working well. Katherine motions up to \$500 to purchase a system, Marcia seconded. Passed.
- Mrs Gordon wants to purchase an art drying rack. Could be used for the whole primary level. Katherine motions to provide funds, Rob seconds. Passed.
- Rob motions to purchase a second for the kindergarten class, Erin seconds. Passed.

- Laptops? Do we feel we can purchase 2 more? Approx \$600 each. Two have been taken from the junior cart for 2 students upstairs that need them.
- Heather requested that some funds be made available to purchase some new kitchen equipment – cookie sheets, etc. Katherine motioned to make the purchase, Rob seconded, passed.

Meeting adjourned 8:15pm.