

Holbrook School Council Meeting Minutes May 2012, Teacher Potluck

In Attendance: Heather Wilson, Jen Harwood, Ira Henderson, Marcia Yeo, Colleen Ball, Michelle Galbraith, Lori Legault, Katie Weresch, Erica Read, Lyn Mastroluisi, Joanne Robar, Lori Millar, Julie Beattie, Shallimar Khan, Katherine Burch, Patricia Baulcomb, Susan Grotke, Emma Farkas, Robert Accadia, Asumani Nsubuga

Start Time: 6:10pm – Discussion for 15 minutes

Fundraisers for the fall: Magazines, Entertainment Books, MacMillans – we would like to indicate what exactly we're fundraising for, and Julie pointed out the policy indicates we need to state exactly what we are raising money for.

- Mrs. Read – need materials for hands on science materials – we have books with ideas, but we don't have the materials – and kits have been scaled back.
- Mrs. Baulcomb – bean bag chairs for new Grade 1/2 class
- Did we want to look at Smartboards – Westwood uses Mimeo boards (type of white board) and they are half the cost.
- Problems with the wireless signals – apparently by Fall we should have better connections.
- Document cameras
- Tablets?
- Live Scribe pens – good for DRA for teachers' use.
- Adhesive for gym walls – bulletin board strips?
- Microwave for staff room

1. Principal's Report –

- Staffing – Mrs. Legault is confirmed back. Mr. Singh is our new 4/5 teacher. He's been a supply teacher here in the past.
- School support visit – principals from neighbourhood schools came to observe to see how our kids are learning. It's had an impact on these principals that they've taken back to their own schools.
- JK – 2 literacy continues. Superintendent made clear that every child needs to know how to read before leaving grade 2. Intervention in small groups, entire class
- ARC (Accommodation Review Committees) – there's been a lot in the papers about this, school closures, program changes. The North ARC has made their decision, have closed some orders schools to build 1 new larger one. We need to really look at our students, and their needs, and how that can be best accommodated. They are "digital" which is very different than when we were in these grades. Please check the HWDSB website about this process, not just the Spectator, and we are welcome to go to any meetings that are posted. We need to follow the process and make sure our voices are heard. It's emotional and difficult to watch any school close.

- It's an exciting time in education, our teachers here are doing a fantastic job, and our kids are amazing. The director indicated we should all be leaders – parents, staff – everyone.
- Mrs. Weresch's class (the girls) tried "Girl's World" – examining social interactions, both positive and negative.
- Our equity department has given us some books, they continually build our library throughout the years.
- If you are looking to buy workbooks for summer, you can buy them directly from the source through the school, which benefits the school.

2. Healthy Snack - the program ran into a funding "hiccough", and the program may have to start later in the fall as our funding will not be in place till October. We received a \$200 donation from St. Andrew's United Church, and also \$1000 from the Healthy Snack program. 60 cents/kid/day is the general cost. Some schools ask for a flat donation the beginning of the school year, if we did this tax receipts could be issued as well. We definitely need more volunteers to make this program work, because if we could get away from the "grab and go" selections, then our money would go farther. Lori thinks we could get more helpers – at her former school (Aidelaide Hoodless) there were staff, parent, and church volunteers. They also had some people from a couple group homes that came in the afternoon to prepare stuff ahead of time (with a supervisor). Volunteer Hamilton may be an association that we could get helpers from. We could look at asking neighbourhood churches to put up a notice about volunteers being needed.

3. Treasurer's Report

- \$1200 in council account, \$800 in Nevada account.
- Nevada – this could be used towards the cost of the agendas. \$3.95 + 0.35 for plastic pouch. This includes 5 double sided sheets and 0.10/sheet extra. Katherine motions that we use the Nevada money to cover the balance of the agendas, Colleen seconded. Passed.

4. Fundraising

- Campbell's – still coming in. Is there anything that teachers would like? Please check their website. What about recess equipment? Angela John's contact left at the hospital, but she is trying to find out who the new contact is.
- TerraCycle – going very well, Tassimo is our new yogurt. Cheque for \$200 is coming, we've raised about \$400 this year from our garbage. 12-2 is in the lead overall, recently passing Room 3.
- Mabels Labels – be sure to use the website if you want to purchase labels – www.holbrook.mabel.ca
- 2012/2013 Fundraising Campaigns
 - CCRP – magazines – Marcia Yeo and Angela John are willing to take this on again
 - Entertainment Books – teachers will again get their first book for half price
 - MacMillans – Nov 15 or 29 (Thursdays) are available. Everyone is in favour of the 29th, we've asked Rob & Erin to confirm this date

5. Other Business

- Council covered half the cost of Carousel Players through an email vote (approx. \$300)
- Art drying racks for jr hall and upstairs arrived and are being used. Katherine is going to buy boards to replace in the rack in the JK room.
- School Website: www.hwdsb.on.ca – click on our school, council has their own tabe– please continue to check our site.
- June pizza schedule is pretty bare, please sign up if able. Next year’s pizza program will be reviewed at the June or Sept meeting.
- Graduation – Wed June 27th
- 50th Anniversary: We would like to have an Open House, we were thinking about having “decade rooms” – there would be 5 rooms set up for each decade. Please email Heather at stephenandheather@shaw.ca with any photos to be used in the display/video. We’re going to create some 50th anniversary swag as well, tbd. We have some dates – any thoughts? April 27th is our tentative date – may combine with regular school open house. Julie will take it to the staff and confirm.
- Question – could council donate some money to the Healthy Snack program? Yes, we certainly can – we can revisit it in June, and see what is needed. If we’re going to go “cut” food, we need knives, cutting boards, new bins, smaller bins for cut items. Cereal has been reduced to ½ cup. Could something different be used instead of baggies? Adelaide Hoodless used “muffin cup” type containers.

7. Items for future meetings:

- Pizza lunches
- PRO grant
- Indigo grant – Ira continues to work on that, he’s going to the grant writing workshop tomorrow.

Date of next meeting: June 20th

Adjournment: 8:14pm