

Holbrook School Council Meeting, Sept 25, 2013

In Attendance: Heather Wilson, Colleen Ball, Leigh-Anne Chapman, Cathie Lemmond (principal), Lori Millar (secretary), Katherine Burch, Mike Palma, Marcia Yeo, Michelle Galbraith, Vicky Martin, Ira Henderson, Jennifer Harwood. Absent: Wendy Workman

1. Welcome and Call to Order: 6:05pm

2. Approve June 12th meeting minutes – Michelle motions to approve the minutes, Colleen seconds.
CARRIED

3. Elections – Every year chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer have to be nominated and voted on.

Chair – Ira nominated himself, and was acclaimed to the position

Vice Chair – Vicky nominated herself, and was acclaimed to the position

Treasurer – Marcia nominated herself, and was acclaimed to the position.

Secretary – Heather nominated Michelle, and was acclaimed to the position. Jen will be her backup.

4. Principal's Report

Curriculum

- Last year we decided to follow Robert's Rules of Order, and set our limit at 12. This can be changed though, we can raise or lower that number, and quorum can be changed, it doesn't necessarily be 51%, we could go with a consensus model where whoever here decides.
- EQAO Results – Grade 3 – all went up, but math is still behind. Reading 70%, Writing 70%, Math 59%. Grade 6 – all up – reading 76%, writing 76%, math 65%. Now we can go into individual results, individual questions, and see where the work really needs to be done. See separate sheet as well handed out at the meeting
- Levelled Literacy Intervention – Mrs. Kenehan is doing this at our school. Diagnostic Reading Assessment – DRA – if a child is struggling, this is where the LLI comes in, with one on one help. Mrs. Kenehan teaches, and when she does LLI Mrs. Lupal does science, soc studies and library, drama and dance. This program is for one year. This is focused on grades 1 and 2. Kids in these grades need to be reading.
- Technology update: Staff have been inserviced for iPads, were able to take them home during the summer, been outfitted with 40 apps that have been deemed best for schools. Stands for iPads, almost all projectors are here. The iPad can become a document camera with the stand so things can be displayed on the wall. Connectors to be purchased still. Laptop purchased by council will be placed in Mr. Singh's classroom, as he had no computers. This can be used as a literacy station. Computer purchased is going into Rm 8. Michelle brought up the Staples grant, which is a \$20,000 grant. Churchill in Hamilton won last year. We talked about it last year, but ran out of time, it is due in December. Michelle would like to work on this with a class. Michelle and Cathie will touch base outside meeting about this.

- The Arts – 2 trips are being planned for November. We are also looking at have guest musician “Music Around the World” – would council look at offsetting this cost?

Environment

- No reorg needed this year, junior classes moved upstairs
- Cathie has replaced 3 different carpets
- Early Learning Program – full day kindergarten – cap for this class is 30 – concern that this is too many, but this cap is set by the province. We must abide by these rules, or we do not get ministry funding. The caps are also looked at at a macro level, not a micro level, so it’s done on the average numbers across the entire board, not the numbers in a single school. Each class has a teacher and an ECE, and one class has 2 co-op students as well.
- Terry Fox – tomorrow
- School Support EA – she comes in the afternoons, Stephanie C. She supports GO Girls, a program for grade 6 girls, playground time, kids that are struggling that need extra support
- Active Recess – older kids help the younger kids
- Athletics – cross country and swimming – volunteers needed to help walk the kids over to MacNab. October 8th is the cross c. meet. CC and swimming start in grade 4 at Holbrook.
- Safe Welcome has been implemented here. Only Lori and Cathie can open the door, so sometimes patience is required. Overall, our community has been amazing, everyone has been very gracious. Another buzz box can be bought, but that cost is \$300 so Cathie did not want to spend, that, so there is only one at Lori’s desk
- Nevada account – there has been concern about this account. Cathie is not a personal fan, because of the gambling aspect. There is a lot work tied to this account, for both the secretary and the treasurer. Lori went to an inservice today, and discovered that many schools have closed their accounts, as not enough money is made for the work generated. Marcia said that the account has been generating less and less, and is willing to talk to them to see about closing the account. Heather motions to cancel the account, Michelle seconds. CARRIED This account has been used to cover the agenda costs, but it is not making enough for that. Most schools ask for a donation (meaning not mandatory).

5. Treasurer’s report

- Council \$2936.12 – two projectors are coming out, \$902 each, so about \$1100 left
- Nevada - \$1273.79 as of Sept 23rd, 3 more cheques are coming out, and the rest is going to the agendas. Statement should be coming second week of October. \$800 is going to go to Nevada, rest left in fees.
- Michelle motions that council will cover the balance of the agendas after Nevada money is used. Heather seconds. CARRIED
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6. Fundraising

- Magazines – Marica – Oct 1st – 15th – assembly the 1st at 11:05

- Chocolate – Heather Jen – Nov 13 – Dec 3, all kids who sell a case will get a choc Santa and ear buds, iPod nano is one of the prizes. Meeting with rep on Oct 4th.

7. Volunteering

- Pizza days – we only have one person willing to do it at this point. Colleen and Cathie will discuss idea on how to do this
- TCBY/Popcorn – Heather is still willing to do the ordering for these
- Pita Pit – Michelle is willing to contact them about this
- Healthy Snack – Katherine is willing to run this again, and has some plans about how to run it this year. She has done up a form to ask for volunteers.

8. Healthy Action Committee

- Special event days need to be picked
- Advise on healthy lifestyle initiatives
- Ira and Cathie will work on this together

9. Parent Connection Events

- PRO Grant – ours was not approved, because the coordinator felt it was just entertainment, and did not have any parent involvement. Ira is willing to work on this again, we have the contact of a coordinator who could possibly offer guidance. It was for an Arts night – teaching hip hop, drum class, and felting, approximate cost is \$1000. Cathie suggests we run this night anyway. \$500 is coming from the Parent Engagement Committee, we can see about covering the rest somehow. Perhaps smaller events could help fund this larger one? Katherine has many ideas. April? “Arts in April” “April Arts Fest”. Consultant could perhaps help with us.
- Movie night – Mike and Katherine - October
- Family dance – Michelle, Katherine, Vicky - February
- Game night – Ira, Marcia and Mike – May

10. Other Business

- Parent Involvement Committee – we could get a representative to come to our October meeting to explain about PIC and how it functions
- BBQ next week. 5:15 doors open to people. Who can be here at 3? Mike, Dale, Ira, Colleen, Vicky, Jen. Serving? Colleen, Cathie’s husband (Peter). Jen bringing propane tank, Cathie bringing a portable grill and tank. Marcia bringing BBQ tools, Dale is BBQing. Book Fair is happening on this night.

11. Dates of next meeting: Wednesdays are good for Cathie and many on council. Meetings to run 6:30 – 7:45. Dates TBD