MINUTES

PRESENT:
Heather Lambert-Hillen, Co-Chair
Jennifer Evans, Co-Chair
Carolyn Reid, Secretary
Jim Pollock, Treasurer
Rene Contant, Principal
Michelle Rodney, Incoming Principal
Chantal LaCroix, Vice Principal
Pamela Jean-Bokma
Angela Larson
Shannon-Leigh Chandler
Jennifer Bonner
Carla MacDonald
Pauline Boulos
Susan Clarke
Tami Huffman
Paula Masys-Pollock
Wendy Schilling
Jelica Vlatkovic

Meeting called to order by H. Lambert-Hillen at 6:32 pm
Agenda approved – motion by S.L. Chandler, seconded by J. Vlatkovic, all in favour

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES:

- Ash Galan is no longer a voting member, therefore bringing quorum to 9 voting members
- The school council email address is:
- School Council Bi-Laws will now indicate that there must be a minimum of 7 voting members, and a maximum of 19; in the case of a tied vote, the Chairperson may vote to break the tie; members may vote by proxy if they will not be in attendance for a vote.
  VOTE: All in favour, passed.

GRADE 7/8 TRIP TO OTTAWA, Mme. Gordon

- May 9-11, 2018 (HWDSB mandate does not allow for a longer trip).
- Students will stay at Algonquin College, as in previous years.
- Cost is between $450 and $470 per student, if approximately 70-80 students attend.
- Information night is being held tomorrow, October 17th.
- Holding the grade 7/8 trip in St-Donat is not a possibility; cost is too high, and it is too far away for 2 nights.
- Subsidy is available for families who cannot afford the trip in whole or in part.
- Opportunity for students to fundraise is possible.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT, R. Contant:

- R. Contant introduced our incoming Principal; Welcome, Mme. Michelle Rodney Bartalos!
- Welcome to our new grade 1 teacher, Mme. Margariti!
- Mme. Lardi will now be covering grade 3 for Mme. MacLean’s maternity leave; congratulations Mme. MacLean!
- M. Ouedraogo will be covering grade 7/8 for Mme. Higgins’ maternity leave; congratulations Mme. Higgins!
- We welcome Mme. Todoric as our Office Administrator, joining us for 2 years while Mme. Finlay is on leave.
- Discussion was held around 2016/17 EQAO results: Norwood Park scores higher than Board and Province, in all three subjects (reading, writing, and math), in both grade 3 and grade 6. See the school’s website for statistics and more information.
- A Volunteer information session is being held tomorrow, October 17th, for any new parents/family members who would like to volunteer in the school.
- Progress reports will be sent home on October 30th.
- Parent-Teacher interviews will be held on November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
- November 3rd is a PD Day.
- Photo day is October 20th.
- Halloween celebrations will be held on October 31st. Costume parade from grades 1-4 will begin at 1:45, parents are invited to attend. There will be a dance for the older grades, beginning after 2nd nutrition break; the $2 cost of entry will help fund graduation, and students are asked to donate canned goods for Neighbour-to-Neighbour.
- Extra-Curriculars are successfully underway.
- Direct Donation campaign will begin in November, and continue throughout the school year.

FRENCH AT NORWOOD PARK

- Mme. La Croix observes that the level of French at Norwood is fantastique! “It really feels like a French Immersion school. Well done students, parents, and staff!”

IMMUNIZATIONS

- Immunizations (Meningococcal, Hepatitis B, and HPV) will be administered to grade 7 and 8 students on October 24th.

TREASURER’S REPORT, J. Pollock:

- Subway lunch brought in $343 profit
- Mme. Beattie is handling CashOnline; most sales will close 1 week prior to the event/meal.
PIC and FASLC Updates, H. Lambert-Hillen:

- Upcoming PIC topics including reading specialist, School Council training, and the setup of a community hub at Sir John A. Macdonald.
- Grade 1 French Immersion applications will be accepted from October 20th until November 30th. This is primarily to gauge how many FI teachers will be needed throughout the Board. A late application increased the chance of a student being placed at an FI school outside of their catchment area. Grade 1s with a sibling at Norwood will most likely be grandfathered in, if the application is submitted before the deadline.
- FI Boundary review for Ancaster is now official.
- The grade 12 DELF exam allows students to skip entrance French exams at some colleges and universities.

GENERAL:

- Scholastic Bookfair will take place in the gym on November 1st-3rd, including after school on the 2nd, and during the PD day on the 3rd.
- Suggestion was made to include teacher wish-lists at the bookfair, so that families might purchase books for classrooms and the library.
- TCBY sales profit will go directly toward Graduation, to help offset the costs of the hall rental, DJ, ceremony, and rewards.

TEACHERS WISH-LIST UPDATES:

Items removed from teacher wish-list:

- The Young Environmentalists Club: they will be selling water bottles, expecting it to raise aprox. $500 which will go directly toward Y.E. Club initiatives.
- French Performance: Mme. Lofthouse has applied for a grant through HWDSB that would cut the cost of a French Performance coming to Norwood by $500, therefore covering half of the initially requested amount.
- English and French plays: Request for funding toward the English and French plays has been reduced to $500 for the Spring performance.
- Clarification – Request has been made to increase Council funding of Graduation to a total of $2,000, from the previous $1,500.
- Outdoor equipment: A Canada 150 Grant of $3,000 is covering the new soccer posts, and the painting of the playground lines.
- Correction – the school still needs 4 classroom whiteboards.

Per online survey results and tonight’s votes, the following items will be purchased by School Council immediately:

- $900 in folding chairs for the gym/auditorium.
  VOTE: All in favour, passed.
- $4,600 in math manipulatives, equals $200 per homeroom. The school will top-up what Council gives, to meet school needs.
  VOTE: All in favour, passed.
- $2,000 in standing fans for only the classrooms that do not already have working fans or air conditioning.
  VOTE: All in favour, passed.
- $3,000 for a classroom set of iPads.
  VOTE: 1 against, all others in favour, passed.

THANK YOU, M. CONTANT!

- Tonight was M. Contant’s final School Council meeting, before his retirement on October 31.
- H. Lambert-Hillen expressed a sincere THANK YOU to M. Contant from herself, all Council Members, and everyone at Norwood.
- M. Contant thanked everyone for a fantastic many-years at Norwood, and wished everyone well.

CONGRATULATIONS, M. CONTANT!

We will miss you, and we wish you all the best in your retirement!

UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL DATES:

- Tuesday, November 21
- Monday, January 15
- Tuesday, February 20
- Monday, March 26
- Tuesday, April 24
- Monday, May 28

ACTION ITEMS:

- Remaining teacher wish-list items not selected tonight will be revisited at a later date. Suggestion made to include some of these items when composing the fundraising letter for French Café and/or Direct Donation campaign.
- Update School Council Bi-Laws, as above.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:59 pm by H. Lambert-Hillen

The next School Council Meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Tuesday, November 21, in the Music Room.