



## Yorkview School Council Meeting Minutes December 16th, 2019 6:30pm-8pm

In attendance: Michelle Rodney, Majdi Qutob, Sabrina Press, Brian Gauthier, Steve Hill, Rebecca Ganann, Brent Clark, Hilary Nolan Haupt, Megan Medlock, Lily Ernst  
Regrets: Roland Puppa, Amy Taylor, YMCA Program, DVPreschool

1. **Welcome** (Majdi)
2. Reading the **Dish with One Spoon Land Acknowledgement** (Brian)
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
  - Accepted
4. **Approval of Current Agenda**
  - no new business
5. **Introductions** (Majdi)
6. **YMCA Before and After School Program Update** – deferred
7. **Dundas Valley Cooperative Pre-School Update** – deferred
8. **Principal's Update (School Improvement Plan, Job Sanctions)** (Michelle)
  - **Holiday market:**
    - o Big thank you for holiday market! Lots of excitement. Lots of help. Wonderful way to kick off holiday season.
    - o Senior students helped out with the younger students.
    - o Funds raised: \$1649.50 + \$70 for additional sales
  - **2019-20 Elementary Student Achievement Report:** Progress reports: Gr. 1-5
    - o Language: progress distribution
      - Grade 1: 35.3% progressing with difficulty, 50.0% progressing well, 14.7% progressing very well
      - Grade 2: 14.8% progressing with difficulty, 77.8% progressing well, 7.4% progressing very well
      - Grade 3: 20.8% progressing with difficulty, 58.3% progressing well, 20.8% progressing very well
      - Grade 4: 26.1% progressing with difficulty, 60.9% progressing well, 13.0% progressing very well

- Grade 5: 15.2% progressing with difficulty, 60.6% progressing well, 24.2% progressing very well
- With most grades, except grade 1 – have met target of 75%
- Anticipate that by end of year, should meet targets
- Some parents have raised concerns with focus on primary students but data do support this investment
- LLI still in place in Gr. 1
- LRT available to support Gr. 2 children, group reading
- For Gr. 2-3 Children receive EMPOWER intervention
- Gr. 4-5: no intervention from LRT. Receive support from classroom teacher and system LRT. LRTs targeting Gr. 1-3
- Question re: looking at curriculum for literacy support in kindergarten since there seems to be a big leap from kindergarten to grade 1.
- Current process for requesting additional support for literacy → teachers need to submit electronic request to Board, then decision gets made re: support and sending system LRT out to consult.
- **Discussion:**
  - Discussed potential to host literacy event like the Math event School Council hosted last year
  - Gr. 1 teachers interested in a literacy event
  - Balanced literacy diet is a resource that Mrs. Rodney uses to talk to staff about literacy strategies  
<https://www.oise.utoronto.ca/balancedliteracydiet/Home/>
  - Website gives expectations by grade level
  - Question re: engaging older students to build literacy in younger students
  - Discussed exploring external literacy supports that School Council may want to invest in
  - PRO grants will be available again this year. No details about focus, amounts. Information will be sent to Mrs. Rodney and School Council Chairs when funding cycle launched.
- Mathematics: progress distribution
  - Grade 1: 14.75% progressing with difficulty, 76.5% progressing well, 8.8% progressing very well
  - Grade 2: 3.7% progressing with difficulty, 88.9% progressing well, 7.4% progressing very well
  - Grade 3: 12.5% progressing with difficulty, 66.7% progressing well, 20.8% progressing very well
  - Grade 4: 13.0% progressing with difficulty, 78.3% progressing well, 8.7% progressing very well

- Grade 5: 9.1% progressing with difficulty, 75.8% progressing well, 15.2% progressing very well
    - Doing a lot better in math with distribution on student progress in math
  - Most of kids who are struggling with math are also struggling with literacy.
  - By Gr. 2 or 3, these children may be placed on an individual education plan and then those children will have their own progress indicators.
- **Job action**
  - ETFO sets pace of progression of job action
  - There may be some changes over the holidays
  - OSSTF – Mrs. Cochlin is part of OSSTF, as is psychologist, social workers, IT supports
  - Catholic teachers associated have filed no board report – in a legal strike position as of Thursday
  - Currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of job action – not handing out any letters, not attending any meetings unless released to do so, are still meeting with parents on request, not doing things that are Board mandated; any work on school improvement plan is considered struck work; school council meetings are struck; report cards (Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> planned to be elementary school report writing day); teachers can no longer be in charge, in context of administrator absence.
  - Children should see few changes as a result of job action, if any.
  - Pizza days will continue with job action
- **Website issues** – many older materials got lost; challenges with being able to update website; Mrs. Rodney is working on getting website updated and being able to post information.
- **Library donations** – need to go through a process to get bar-coded
  - Library – will start to cull outdate library books (e.g., >20 years old; classics may be retained)

#### 9. **Teacher Update** (Michelle) (10mins)

- Teacher update – provided by Mrs. Rodney: Playground designs will be available in the new year

#### 10. **Financial Update/Budget Committee** (Hilary/Rebecca/Majdi) (10mins)

- Budget committee met on Dec. 2 (Hilary, Rebecca, Majdi, Michelle, Linda)
- Discussed funds raised to date, reviewed projected expenses
- Discussed what expenses would be covered by the school's budget vs. school council funds
- Major requests – biggest groupings – books, technology
  - Subsidy for trips – repeatedly comes up – money to offset costs to families
  - Priority – that teachers can plan trips they want to plan

- Reasonable price, that all children can participate
- Suggest additional funds allocated to subsidy: additional \$1000
- Technology should be a school plan
- Council will support purchase of books – variety of levels, graphic books, author visit – has a lasting effect for council and kids in the school

**Recommended items to be approved:**

- \$5,000 – back playground – hard cap on spending
- \$2,000 – trips
- \$2,000 – for books - \$200 per classroom, \$400 for library
- \$1,500 for speakers – purchased on Cyber Monday
- \$500 – Library investment – separate Osmo kits X4 @\$89/kit (Best Buy price)
- **Total:** \$11,000
- Good alternative to allow teachers an opportunity to make a decision on what is needed for classroom
- Good idea to update outdated books – e.g., outdated gender/racial perspectives; parents need to earmark books that are outdated, no longer appropriate
- **Decision:** all voted in favour of budget recommendations proposed by budget committee

**11. Fundraising Committee (Pizza/Holiday Market) (Amy/Megan/Sabrina aka *The Dream Team*) (10 mins)**

- Learned – setting up the night before worked well, tables were needed, staggering stuff worked well
- Need 1 more table and two more adults for wrapping
- Next year, won't ask for wrapping paper donations, will ask for gift bags
- May want bags to help students with their shopping – carrying many gifts, waiting to be wrapped
- Spirit wear should be in this week.

**12. Advocacy Committee (Brent) (5mins)**

- Brent will follow up with Bob Avery in new year re: state of school washrooms

**13. Environmental Stewardship Committee Update (Outdoor Learning TD Update, Eco School Designation) (Steve/Brian) (5mins)**

- Everything handed in except photos & photo release forms
- Last correspondence from TD was that photos were great, no concerns raised
- No anticipated danger of wanting money back
- Lots of pictures on Green Venture website that could be linked to
- Ecofriendly school designation – on hold until job action is resolved.
- TD Green grants – available to reapply each year. Brian will follow up with Steve to discuss further. Can use a lot of same information – finishing off what we started.

**14. Communications Committee Update (Lily) (5mins)**

- Great opportunity with holiday concert – having a sign up for school council email distribution list
- Want to introduce members of School Council during Holiday Concert
- Majdi will provide an overview of School Council activities
- School Council declined the opportunity to lead a Christmas carol

**15. Next meeting – January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020**