



Yorkview School Council Meeting Notes October 28th, 2019 6:30pm-8pm

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” –Henry Ford

In attendance: Mrs Rodney, Brent Clark, Steve Hill, Rebecca Ganann, Brianne St Louis DVCP, Yvone (Parent Rep DVCP), Brian Gauthier, Hilary Nolan Haupt, Roland Puppa, Majdi Qutob, Stacey Waye, Sabrina Press, Alexis Robinson

Regrets: Lily Ernst, Sean Ernst, Claudia Ceppi, Megan Medlock

1. **Welcome and Introductions** (Majdi)
2. **Dish with One Spoon Land Acknowledgement** (Brian)
3. **Reading of School Council Mission Statement, Vision and Core Values** (Majdi)
 - Reviewed Mission Statement, Vision and Core Values
4. **Approval of Previous Minutes (Sept 23, 2019)**
 - No changes. Approved Brent & Brian
5. **Approval of Current Agenda**
 - Addition: Introduction of Ms. Sarah Rasmussen, Staff Teacher, Library/Prep. Cover (Arts)
6. **YMCA Before and After School Program Update**
 - Fall festival this week, parents welcome to come into program
 - o Will include pizza, snack, games, activities
 - Upcoming trip to Frog Hollow Farms on PA Day – Nov. 8th
7. **School Council Meeting Update** (Majdi)
 - Majdi went to the HWDSB retreat for School Council members.
 - Received a working handbook on school council mandates and roles across schools. Hard copy will be scanned and posted. All are welcome to review documents and provide feedback.
 - Majdi acknowledged the strengths of our School Council, amazing group, collaborative, all that’s been achieved. Acknowledged that we have accomplished a lot as a group and a team of committed parents.
8. **Dundas Valley Cooperative Pre-School Update**
 - Trip to Merry Farms last week – great trip for kids.
 - Halloween party planned for Thursday. Will include games & fun.
 - Photo day – Nov. 14th
 - Enrollment good on Tues., Thurs. Still room for families on Wed.
 - Parent rep: happy with how program is set up for kids, ratios/class size.

9. Principal's Update/ School Improvement Plan/ Playground/ Volunteer Training/ Parent's Concerns and Protocols (Michelle)

- School Improvement plan targets:
 - o literacy & reading scores at 75% or more for Gr. 1 and other grades;
 - o number sense and numeration – 75% of students getting at B+ or above;
 - o student health & well-being – board use MDI survey about connections with adults at school (i.e., 1+ adults that they connect with at the school). Last year, a handful of kids did not feel they had 2+ adults to connect with at the school.
 1. Goal: that all kids feel that they have 2+ adults, that all kids understand what that means.
 - o Other goals include fostering learning skills, what it looks like to show regulation, what it looks like to be ready to learn, being in control of themselves
- Board: Has an Equity Action Plan re: equity and well-being.
- Pathway choices: limited impact for K-5 schools, although SK families do have a choice to pursue French Immersion for Gr. 1.
- Partnerships:
 - o Placements:
 1. nursing students in January – will be working with Mrs. Gelderman who is mental health representative for Yorkview
 2. ECE/ECA placements
 - o DVCP & YMCA partnerships
 - o Community volunteers – Yorkview will be having a number of new volunteers coming into the school. These individuals include people who have been to teachers' college and looking to get on part-time hire list; those considering going to teachers' college; some trained teachers who chose to stay home but want to get re-involved.
 - o Parent volunteers: Mrs. Rodney will be reaching out to some parents to become regular classroom volunteers. 15 new volunteers signed up for supporting classroom environments. Will be matching volunteers to teachers.
- Paving of playground has been completed. Further work will need to be done in the Spring. Plan to go to kids to get some ideas of what they want out there so that what goes out there is put to good use.
 - o *Suggestion*: timeline to develop plan, secure quotes, to allow for early implementation in the Spring. Majdi spoke with other schools to get a sense of cost. Estimates ranged between \$3-5000.
 - o *Decision*: have a general plan for the January School Council meeting, refine and then finalize to request quotes
 - o *Discussed* basketball nets – **Action item**: Brent will follow up with Bob Avery to see if some existing nets can be secured for Yorkview
- Parent concerns and protocols:
 - o Mrs. Rodney reviewed the process for parents to raise concerns:
 1. raising with teacher first;
 2. if not resolved with teacher, go to Mrs. Rodney;
 3. if not resolved with Mrs. Rodney, issue raised with Superintendent;

- 4. if not resolved with the superintendent, issue can be raised with Director
- Superintendent will typically direct parent back to the school, and then teacher will be re-engaged because that's where the conversation should take place.
- There is a progression if any parent has a concern.
- Copy of protocol flowchart is posted on website.

10. **Teacher Update** (Roland)

- Cross country team has wrapped up season. Kids did well both in terms of great results and great behaviour! Appreciate volunteers who came out to support.
 - School meet went well. Kids received participation ribbons.
 - Soccer league finished for 3/4/5. Still talk of potential tournament across the Board for Gr. 4-5. More details will be shared if this comes together.
 - Gr. K-3 went to Apple Orchard. Was a fun trip.
 - Upcoming trips:
 - Gr. K-3 Musical in the Spring "Goldie Rocks".
 - Request for subsidy to support trip.
 - **Action item:** discuss availability of funds to support trip
 - Gr. 4-5 going to Hamilton Bulldogs game in a few weeks
 - Gr. 4 & 5 – Nov. 11 Cenotaph walk
 - Discussion of wish list: some items identified (see attached list).
 - Some discussion about returning to even distribution of fixed amount per teacher (\$150) that is used as discretionary funds. Home & school can provide this type of discretionary support, but School Councils cannot.
 - **Decision:** Budget committee will discuss.
 - Mrs. Rasmussen would like to take Gr. 1-3s to Art Gallery of Hamilton. Artist would come in 4 times and then a visit to the gallery to go to studio to make piece of art.
- Would like to host Holiday/Winter craft sale to raise money for upcoming field trips.
- Looking for 3-4 volunteers: Nov. 23rd or 30th (to be confirmed) 9am-3pm
 - \$2 entry
 - Gruppetto coffee shop will pour espressos
 - Vendors would pay for tables
 - DVCP – very positive experiences with generous vendors in Dundas.
 - Discussed alternate ideas:
 - Silent auction after school, ask for donations from local vendors.
 - Alternate day: during the week, use of facility is free.
 - **Decision:** School Council willing to help.

11. **Advocacy Committee** (Update) (Brent)

- Asphalt is in. Brent will follow up with Bob Avery re: other school improvements, understanding plan for School remaining open.
- Need final list of what we want to make our School better for our children.

12. **Fundraising Committee** (Amy/Megan/Sabrina)

- Pizza is underway with numbers about the same as last year

- Spirit Wear is underway
- Next big event will be Holiday Market – will take place on Thurs. Dec. 12th
 - o Reviewing list of previous volunteers; will reach out to other parents who can support wrapping
 - o Gr. 5 students could be involved in wrapping again
- Dance-a-thon in Spring – students love, huge fundraiser (~\$3,000)
- Cake raffle – Valentine’s Day
- Spring BBQ – agreed to run again.
- Mr. Puppa is willing to host a trivia night. Majdi will help. Timing: closer to end of year.
- **Discussion:** Other suggestions for fundraisers are welcome
- **Action item:** send reminders re: Mabel’s labels, Garden Gallery

13. Financial Update/Budget Committee (Hillary)

- Current amount \$4,692
- Annual school fundraising plan – Mrs. Rodney met with Sabrina and Megan to discuss last year’s version.
- Needs to be submitted to HWDSB by Oct. 31st

14. Environmental Stewardship Committee Update (Outdoor Learning, Blacktop Paint, School Outdoor Improvement, Eco School Designation) (Steve)

- **Goal:** getting school dedicated as an Eco-School
 - o Fresh Air for Kids program – Brian reached out to Green Venture. Only run in Sept. and January. January is full for 2020.
 - o Brian will send form to Mrs. Rodney so that form can be filled out for next year.
 - o Brian followed up with Green Venture re: ongoing maintenance and care. Will need ongoing maintenance. Interested in knowing how to make that work.
 - o Mulch – may need next year. Potential to get mulch from city. Issue is transporting it.
 - o Vision – to have kids involved in maintenance.
 - o Interested in knowing how it’s being used – teachers are still working through this and may contact Steve in the Winter to discuss future use. Planters and rain gardens that could provide educational opportunities.
 - o Gro-Happy Garden Challenge – just released
 - o TDGrant – Report on use of funds has not been completed yet for outdoor classroom. Due by Dec. 1st or TD will request return of funds. Mark is willing to help write report.
 - **Decision:** Brian and Steve will take the lead on submitting the report
 - **Action item:** Majdi will send submission link to Brian and Steve

15. Communications Committee Update (Brian)

- Brian will provide administrative privileges for Mrs. Rodney so that she can provide updates.

16. Next meeting dates

Nov. 25 th	Dec. 16 th	Jan. 27 th	Feb. 24 th
Mar. 23 rd	Apr. 27 th	May 25 th	June 15 th