

## Runnymede Parent Council Meeting May 28th, 2008

**Attendees:** Andrea Baldwin, Juli Belliveau, Karen Hanna, Hilary Inwood, Catherine Kirkland, Anne Lakoff, Joan Lash, Toni Lisi Mary Machamer, Anne Markee, Andrea McPherson, Nancy Moloney, Kshama Patel, Dianne Roberti, Rosanna Sardella, Nadine Singh, Basia Stec-Atherton, Jerry Tiessen, Kathy Tudor, Susan Wild, Pam Collins

### Regrets:

#### 1. Welcome and additions to agenda

2. Motion to receive Previous Meeting's Minutes: Andrea; 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen

#### 3. Treasurer's Report

We are \$6500 over our scheduled budget. We should end the year with between \$18,000-\$20,000 (there are still some invoices outstanding).

Most teachers have spent their money. Andrea informed us that some of the teachers on the list are on leave so that would explain why their money has not been spent.

Nadine reminded us that we needed to include funding on the budget for the "**Welcome Back**" package given to every Runnymede Parent at the beginning of the academic year.

We have not yet spent the \$1000 of ministry funding allotted to Parent Councils, so perhaps this is where the funding for the "Welcome Back" packages should be taken.

#### 4. Committee Report:

##### Yard:

*Earth Day* was a huge success. There were about 250 people in attendance. A new erosion wall was installed, and Hilary extended a special thank you to the teachers and families that came out.

*Astronomy Night* was also a great success – 80 people attended. The yard committee is hoping to host another Astronomy night in the future.

*Eco Schools* is going really well. Final certification is on Friday.

The outdoor art programme has been cancelled for this year. The OISE student who was on board to do the project with the school is not available, and there is not enough time left to do the project. Hilary has asked that the \$600 pledged for the project be put towards the installation of the new signs posted in the garden. The signs are \$400, and come with a 10 year warranty.

The library art project will go up in the next two weeks (Canadian History Alphabet) - before graduation.

##### Spirit:

All fundraising and Spirit initiatives are finish for the academic year. The only event left is the staff luncheon on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. The Spirit Committee is looking for food donations, especially entrees and desserts.

## **5. Computer Lab Proposal**

Toni handed out proposal plan for the construction of the new lab which is to take place during the summer and be ready for September 08 (however, there is a two year plan to phase in hardware and programmes). The school is looking to increase the size of the lab and has approached the council for more money to optimize the design and size of the lab.

The Council was told that the lab and the library cannot function together as the noise level is too loud. There is not another space available in the school and the administration and staff would like to optimize the existing space. The administration feels that the technology programme cannot move ahead without the new lab.

The school has considered several different options (including a floating lab or laptops), and Toni presented their findings.

Toni discussed: Objectives, Rationale, Considerations, Benefits, Plan on Completion of Construction and Costs

Concern was expressed, by the council, about a lack of a long range plan. Jackie asked about a mezzanine. Toni will look into asking about that scenario.

The staff and administration is asking for up to \$15,000 from the Parent Council to subsidize the \$25,000 price tag for the renovations.

There was a vote to give \$5000 of council money to assist in the construction of the lab

## **6. Yard Improvements Proposal.**

Hillary has introduced the three proposals (please see handouts

Pam from (Adventure Club) had some questions about the Peace Garden: Adventure Club uses the yard every single day, and the programme expressed its uncertainty of the space as a "ball free zone". The presently allocated space for the Peace Garden is used for hockey. This space is the most accessible area from the portable. Are there any other options in the yard, as there are 90 kids in the programme from 3:30 until 6 pm.

Pam wanted to know if there was any chance that the Peace Garden could go anywhere else.

There was mention of the Colbeck yard, but the Colbeck yard is not allowed to be used.

Multi hoops will be in the area south of the basketball hoops. Is there any way that the teenagers can stay off the courts until 6pm? The administration will look into this, but it is not likely.

Questions: will more supervision be needed with the Fitness Station Proposal – the administration believes that supervision would have to be increased.

Motion to take 3,600 to Yard Improvements for Peace Garden and Fitness – Andrea motions, Nadine 2nd

## **7. Administration Report**

Toni said thank you to those who helped out with the Eco School. The school will be audited on Friday

EQAO just completed in grade 3... French grade 3 will be done in French.

There will be an Open House tomorrow (May 29<sup>th</sup>) for grade 1 parents.  
The Grade 8 Graduation will take place on June 26<sup>th</sup>, and the grade 6's will host some type of festivity to mark their graduation as well.  
Quebec City trip is coming up for the for French Immersion class.

#### **8. Ward 7 Report**

GAP (General Plan Committee)  
26 schools in TDSB scheduled to close  
Schools of 450 was the optimal learning environment...  
PIAC – new representatives have been elected.

#### **9. Other Business:**

Money request: Madame Enrico has requested funds from the council to help subsidize the grade 4 French Immersion trip: overnight trip to the zoo. Mme. Enrico was hoping that the money would pay for the extra parents to come on the trip.  
Motion to approve the money Andrea; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jerry.

Karen reported that Humberside Concert date and Junior Concert date at Runnymede were at the same time. In the future, can the administration look at the Humberside calendar when they are setting dates for events in which parents and family are expected to attend.

Karen Hannah WAS at the last meeting; her name was not on the attendance.