



Runnymede Public School Council Meeting January 13th, 2009

School Administration: Amelia Dennis, Michael Kanalec, Andrea McPherson,

Attendees: Robert Dunford, Karen Hanna, Dori Hawkinson, Hilary Inwood, Becky Jenkins, Catherine Kirkland, Anne Lakoff, Mary Machamer, Joan Lash, Marshall Leslie, Sean Luxton, Mary Machamer, Anne Markee, Kshama Patel, Isoble Seiden Long, Nadine Singh, Basia Stec, Jacqueline Sustar, Kirsten Tenebaum, Jerry Tiessen, Brian Withnell

Regrets:

AGENDA ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
1. <i>Welcome Intro of Executives</i>		
2. <i>Motion to Receive Previous Meeting's Minutes</i>	Motion to receive minutes – Jerry; 2 nd Marshall	
3. <i>Motion to Receive Correspondence</i>	Correspondance about Teacher Award from Ontario Teachers Federation - deadline is March 31 st ; Premier's Teaching Award – deadline January 31 st . Fundraising material Chapters card for the fundraising night Motion to receive correspondence - Nadine; 2 nd Karen	
4. <i>Committee Reports</i>		
<i>Yard</i>	Anne Lakoff: The Yard Committee is on a bit of a hiatus. The yard equipment is in, but the children cannot use it yet. The reason for this is because it still needs to be inspected by the Board, also it is not uncommon to shut down equipment in the winter. The Yard Committee has ordered green t-shirts. Earth Day Celebrations are coming up Used Christmas Trees are being used for the verticle in the Hillside Garden pathways in order to reduce erosion problems. The Yard Committee has enough trees at this time. Next Yard Cttee Meeting: Tuesday Feb. 3rd, 7.00 pm , school library	
<i>Spirit</i>	Nadine says thank you to Michael for the revamped Runnymede Rapport, as it is much easier to read. Chapters' night was a great success; \$657.00 was raised in gift cards that will be used as incentives/prizes for the students throughout the year. The Spirit Committee sold \$265 worth of Runnymede "stuff" at the tables set up during the Christmas concerts. The Dance-a-thon coming up on Feb. 26 th . The traditional envelopes will be sent out, but parents will have the option of registering and donating on-line through pay-pal.	Dance-a-thon envelopes will be sent home in February
<i>Communications</i>	Sean Luxton: Five people came out the first Communications Committee Meeting. The objective of the committee is to improve communication between all stakeholders and the Council: How do we better communicate the issues? (ideas such as the role of class parents were mentioned)	

Runnymede Public School Council www.runnymedecouncil.org

Messages to chair@runnymedecouncil.org Mail to: RPSC 357 Runnymede Road, Toronto, Ontario M6S 2Y7



The Communications Committee suggested defining the role and responsibilities of all Parent Council committees. They see their role as capturing the content of meetings and agendas and being able to deliver that content to the parent body (there was discussion about the best way to do this).

Rob talked about wanting to streamline the communications – whether through the “Rapport” the Parent Council Website, or both. Runnymede website is up – with teacher links

The Communication Committee will work on defining the role of parent class rep, as there is some confusion among the teachers about the role of the class rep. The class rep does not have to involve the teachers but would be more a vehicle for the council to communicate its news to the parent body.

Committee will work on defining the role of Class Parent rep.

Next meeting of Communication Committee Feb. 4th @ 7:00pm (Starbucks on Bloor)

100th Anniversary

Marshall Leslie: The committee had 7 people out to the first meeting (3 were JK parents). Other people, who were unable to attend, have been in touch

Two issues that came up in the meeting:

There needs to be some clarity as to when the celebration should take place, as there are several years in question regarding the official start of Runnymede School (the school community was devised before the building was).

The Committee is looking at cataloguing what is at the school.

Committee will determine the official date (year) of the Centennial celebration

5. Administration Report

Michael: Brian, Jim, Andrea sit on a technology committee... IT at Runnymede

Status of Ethernet: pleased to announce that the TDSB has proposed a date (next week) to get the lab up and running.

Status of the new PC's from the Board: funds have still been set aside. The infrastructure should be in place before they are ordered. So the admin will wait until the lab is up and running to order. There will be 8 units in total. The 8 new computers (flat screens) will be added to the 17 already there – 25 computers.

Status of Board upgrade to existing computers: There needs to be a chip memory update (1GB) to the 95 computers in the school. The computers in the lab have been highlighted to be upgraded and running first. The wireless hub in the library has been reconnected and will be mounted on the wall. (as of this moment, the school does not have a unit with wireless capability in order to test that it is working – Catherine tested that it is indeed up).

Mr. Moran has held IT training classes for the teachers. The bulk of the training was based on web-based reporting. The next initiative is a PD day to offer in-service on inter-active whiteboards. (Runnymede has two SmartBoards).

The lab-in-the-bag (mobile lab – wireless minilab) concept was brought up once again. The admin has been looking into the “Netbook” concept; it is economically very sound at \$400 per unit. The machines are fairly well equipped, and the school is seriously looking at piloting this concept.

Runnymede Public School has a new website:



<http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/Runnymede>

The website's main purpose is to communicate basic information to parents: the Rapport, calendar of events, teachers etc. There is a link to the parent-council website.

The Heat: continues to be an issue (happens at every school).

Affected classes will be relocated if the problem continues. The school has a new boiler; yet, things have not changed. There are still a lot of windows that need to be changed as well.

Basia asked if the teachers could let the parents know if the classrooms are that cold (9C and 11C), as there has not been any communication about the issue.

School will notify parents (in affected classes) if heating problems continue

6. Ward 7 Report

Nothing new to report since the latest Runnymede Rapport. The next meeting will take place on January 20th about Safe Schools. There was some talk about the potential elementary school teachers' strike.

7. Black History Month Performance

Move that Council support the African theatre movement – Anne; 2nd Nadine... Motion passed
Amelia is looking to get a 2nd performance for Black History Month from a storyteller (for primary).

Council will fund "Black History Month" performance

8. Motion for laptop request

(Please see funding proposal): The laptop will be used as a teaching computer in the lab. It will be LCD Projector Compatible, and also have wireless capability. It is to be utilized for Staff based presentations and PD. The computer would take one to two weeks to arrive. There do not seem to be and refurbished computers available at this time, but the admin will continue to look into this (as they could get two refurbished computers for the same money)
Motion to fund to a maximum of \$2000 for the funding of the laptop (or two refurbished computers)... Motion passed.

Council will fund up to a maximum of \$2000 for a laptop computer

9. Any Other Business

Jerome Edjidian has written a proposal for French literature to run his French reading programme.
Motion to fund to the French Reading Club - Anne L; 2nd Anne Markee... Motion passed
Kathryn McCormick said she will be coming to next meeting to present her proposal for art funding.

Council will fund \$200 for French Reading Club

Motion to adjourn – Marshall; 2nd Karen

If you have additional agenda items please contact either of the Co-Chairs, Robert Dunford or Kshama Patel at chair@runnymedecouncil.org. If you wish to be included on the email list, contact **Error! Contact not defined.** at webmaster@runnymedecouncil.org