



## Runnymede Public School Council Meeting Thursday, March 26th, 2010

**School Administration:** Amelia Dennis, Michael Kanalec

**Attendees:** Juli Belliveau, Robert Dunford, Karen Hanna, Dori Hawkinson, Hilary Inwood, Becky Jenkins, Catherine Kirkland, Anne Lakoff, Mary Machamer, Tricia McGovern, 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, Liz VanWonderen

**Regrets:**

AGENDA ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
1. <i>Welcome Intro of Executives</i>		
2. <i>Motion to Receive Previous Meeting's Minutes</i>	Catherine; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Marshall	
3. <i>Motion to Receive Correspondence</i>	TDSB Bulletin will be available in the office Fund Raiser for Sick Kids Hospital- June 12 -14 <sup>th</sup> A notice for Ethno Culture community Meeting to take place on Tuesday March 31 <sup>st</sup> Invoice for Park Bench (paid) Motion to receive correspondence – Mary; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anne	
4. <i>Treasurer's Report</i>	Tracking amazingly close to last years. The only item that appears since last meeting is the dance-a-thon item. Pub night is not reflected in the budget (not happened yet). The Teacher Resource Fund may not be accurate as the administration is now in charge of these funds and has not reported back to the treasurer about how much unused money is left. There will be a more accurate idea of how much money is left at the end of April, as teachers have to spend their money by that time. That should leave between \$10,000-\$20,000 in the budget by the end of the academic year. Question (Marshall):When does the year end happen? Jerry was unclear, of this, but it could be any of the following dates: August 15 <sup>th</sup> . September 1 <sup>st</sup> , or September 30 <sup>th</sup> .	<b>We will look into the official date of the "Year End" for the budget.</b>
5. <i>Committee Reports</i>		
• <i>Yard</i>	The Peace Circle is coming along well, and the benches are going in tomorrow (Friday, March 27 <sup>th</sup> ). The engraving of stones should be done soon. Murals should be up by the end of April near the Peace Circle. Yard Day is approaching April 18 <sup>th</sup> (Earth Day Celebration) worm planting. The Yard Committee has invited neighbourhood groups	



like LEAF to come in and be a presence on the day.  
Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is Astronomy Night: The evening will begin at 7:30 in the school library. The rain date is scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> of April.

Local Naturalist for last Yard Committee event of the season date tba (May 2009)

Member feels strongly that the yard committee should try to implement the third part of the plan for the \$25,000 grant given to council. Two multi- hoops and basketball nets are still to be put in at a cost of approximately \$8000.

NOTE: the Runnymede family that was to receive assistance (see February Minutes) does not want help with the defense fund; although, they appreciate the sentiment.

- ***Spirit***

Dance-a-thon was a success \$8,000 was made (Presswood - the organizers take 20% of the original profit.) Now that the dance-a-thon has run for three years, there is a feeling that the grade 7 and 8's may like to change it up.

Pub night is coming in April (April 24<sup>th</sup>). Tickets are first come first serve. Last year was sold out and the Spirit Committee is expecting the same this year. There will be a great entertainer and fabulous auction items. The location is Axis Grill – more information will be going home. Four classes have done artwork for the auction, and the Spirit Committee is looking into having posters of the artwork made. There was a suggestion that there should be pre-pubnight order forms for the posters. They will go out to the parents in the classes that produced the artwork (the pre-order form should be available at pubnight too). There was also a suggestion that the committee sell postcards/blank greeting cards too.

The teacher luncheon is the next event, but will be discussed in the next meeting.

- ***100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

No Report

- ***Communications – Website Update***

The Communications Committee has had one meeting since the last parent council meeting – with the purpose of focusing on website communication (real life, updated site, building upon the email list).

Update on the website: Dianne Roberti would like to step back from the maintenance of the website and Rob is taking over the reigns.

Class reps: there needs to be a more systematic approach to communication. The CC would like to use class reps to facilitate information to the various grades. Having someone to represent the different grades might help communicate back and forth some of the issues. The Communication Committee has come up with an explanation of “Roles and Responsibilities” of the class rep.

Runnymede Public School Council [www.runnymedecouncil.org](http://www.runnymedecouncil.org)

Messages to [chair@runnymedecouncil.org](mailto:chair@runnymedecouncil.org) Mail to: RPSC 357 Runnymede Road, Toronto, Ontario M6S 2Y7



Have one grade rep per grade... there was discussion about the purpose of the class parent and whether this role is necessary.

## **6. Administration Report**

Toronto Schools on the Move:

Lighthouse project on literacy and numeracy is launched as a program in schools that are doing well and Runnymede Public School has been nominated as a "School on the Move". The school hosted visiting members of the literacy and numeracy secretariat. The group wanted to know why Runnymede was doing so well, and most of the comments from the teachers were about the strong parent community.

The benefits of being recognized as a "School on the Move" are that the designation gives the school a profile in Ontario, and it also outlines some of Runnymede's future goals and provides the school with a means of networking with other schools. The administration will know by mid-May if Runnymede is a "school on the move".

Amelia has been asked how the school funds the arts' programmes (from the school budget)? Each of the arts programmes is given \$1,500 each. Strings and band both have lab fees (\$40.00). The school gets a little bit of extra funds \$1500 for instrument repairs, but \$2,000 has already been spent. The school also spends \$2,000 on busses for music festivals and \$1,200 in supply teachers for arts coverage.

- **Staffing committee**

The school staffing is down .5 of an educational assistance, and up .5 in office staff. The administration is starting to set up a staffing model for next year. There will be parents on the staffing committee.

How is the registration going for the SK immersion going? The school has a prospective 72 students attending SK French Immersion next year.

## **7. Ward 7 Report**

Pool closures (please see the Runnymede Rapport)  
Budget shortfall – the board has  
Cuts will reduce the deficit by \$6 million. 17.000.000

## **8. Art Funding Motion**

Please see Funding Motion handout. The Council made a motion in November that we would put \$1,500 in as a line amount. Juli moves; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jacquie. Motion passed.

**Visual Arts will receive a line budget of \$1,500 in this years' budget.**

## **9. Drama Funding Motion**

Postponed...



**10. Any Other Business**

- **2009/2010 Parent Council**
- **Recognizing Standing School Committees**
- **Staffing committee/**

Michael Davidson an executive committee member of the Bloor West Village Residents Association (BWVRA) and neighbour of Runnymede School was present to introduce the residents association for community building. The BWVRA is responsible for advocating for the major developments in the area (such as the bike lanes on Annette, a tree canopy in the village.) The organization has also run a number of political debates at the federal, provincial and municipal government levels. They also had architect and urban planner Christopher Hume in to talk about the area and it's historical significance. The BWVRA also works with other residence communities, and they are looking at doing an environmental event with Ursula Franklin - who has a landscaping project on the go. The BWVA is also looking to have an event in April. The groups website is [www.bwvra.ca](http://www.bwvra.ca) and they encourage all of us to join, as they are looking for new members. Michael inquired about plans to improve the outside lighting at the school (Upper Kennedy). There is a lot of activity going on in that area at night. There was also a suggestion that perhaps there should be cameras back there. Bright white lighting rather than the dim orange lighting would be a big help. We are having a safety audit as a result from the BWVRA emails to Irene Atkinson.

- **Lost and Found – Mary**
- **Recognizing Standing School Committees**

Lost and Found:  
Katrina and Kate from the grade 8 class (student Council) have been tidying up the bins. There is a Runnymede Parent who would like to take the Lost and Found to her school in Rexdale.

Handbook outlines the standing school committees.

Karen Hanna informed the Council that the former West End United and Swansea soccer leagues have joined forces and are now known as the Toronto High Park FC. There website is [www.torontohighparkfc.com](http://www.torontohighparkfc.com).

**11. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

Next Meeting: April 21<sup>st</sup>  
Marshall motion to adjourn; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Karen

If you have additional agenda items please contact either of the Co-Chairs, Robert Dunford or Kshama Patel at [chair@runnymedecouncil.org](mailto:chair@runnymedecouncil.org). If you wish to be included on the email list, contact the webmaster at [webmaster@runnymedecouncil.org](mailto:webmaster@runnymedecouncil.org)