

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION:	Goulbourn Middle School Library	
DATE:	Apr. 22, 2014	TIME: 6:30 p.m.
IN ATTENDANCE:	Melissa Aitken Robyn Darragh (Principal) Fiona Livingstone Tina Binns Jennifer Tackabury	Gina Montgomery Kim Newby Marcie Kwindt Lesley Moll Lisa Dixon
ABSENT:	Dorothy Penney (V.P.) Rosanne Wall Kristina Ducas	Barb Friesen Jackie Kimmerly
CHAIR:	Melissa Aitken	
SECRETARY:	Gina Montgomery	

REVIEW AGENDA & PREVIOUS MINUTES

Melissa welcomed and thanked everyone for coming this evening.

Melissa led a motion to approve the agenda. Jen seconded the motion. Melissa motioned to approve the previous minutes from March. It was seconded by Kim.

CHAIR REPORT – Melissa Aitken

Melissa advised us of the following information:

Ottawa Network for Education's New Coffee Initiative

Coffee is something else that makes people happy. For the next six months, 27 local businesses will be selling bags of organic locally roasted [School Breakfast Program](#) Community Breakfast Blend coffee, with \$6.00 from each sale going directly to the School Breakfast Program. Each bag of coffee feeds 6 kids! If you are interested in supporting the Ottawa Network for Education's New Coffee Initiative, click [here](#) to learn more.

Ottawa Children's Choir Auditions

The Directors of the **Ottawa Children's Choir**, Jackie Hawley and Allison Prowse, invite you to audition for the upcoming season. Auditions are open to students ages 8-15 (as of September 1, 2014). Auditions will be held the mornings of **Saturday, April 26** and **Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 - noon at Dominion-Chalmers United Church, 355 Cooper Street (at O'Connor)**. For more information or to book an audition please email info@ottawachildrenschoir.ca or call [613-233-4440](tel:613-233-4440) www.ottawachildrenschoir.ca

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

2

CHAIR REPORT (CONT'D) – Melissa Aitken

Speaker Series @ North Gower Marlborough Public School (NGMPS) Anger in the Family: A Necessary Evil? – May 1

What happens when anger explodes in your family? How can you teach your kids to handle their strong emotions, without hurting other people or themselves? This workshop will help you to understand where anger comes from, both your children's anger and your own. You'll learn how to manage anger's energy and how to redirect it positively.

Speaker's Series – Boy Smarts – May 1

Parents are invited to hear Barry MacDonald, founder of MentoringBoys.com and author of *Boy Smarts* and *Boys on Target* on Thursday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Sir Robert Borden High School, 131 Greenbank Road. Barry is an educator, counsellor and consultant serving to build strong families and strong schools. His presentation will offer guidelines for parents and teachers to mentor and help boys be successful at school and life. A book signing and sale of his books will follow the presentation.

Helping Children Behave Well – May 6

Real discipline means teaching *good* behaviour, not just punishing bad behaviour. The way we organize our routine and the environment have a big influence on behaviour. So do our words of encouragement. This workshop will give you some tools to help children act in acceptable ways. The sessions will take place in the evening at the NGMPS and are open to members of the community. Refreshments and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP to farmonthird@gmail.com, if you would like to take advantage of our childcare. Please arrive 15 minutes early so as not to disrupt the presentation.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Robyn Darragh

Robyn welcomed and thanked everyone for joining this evening. Happy Earth Day!

Since our last Council meeting, we held an Awards Assembly on Friday, March 28th. Students who received Honour Roll for Term 1 report cards, placed in top ten for Richard Kee or Cross Country and who received shamrocks on our character tree or participated on a school team were recognized. It is always a great opportunity when we get together as a community to celebrate the achievements of our students.

For the office, April is all about staffing and projections for 2014-2015. Our projected enrollment is 387 students. Given the addition and 'popularity' of Middle French Immersion, our Immersion numbers are increasing thereby impacting on our English numbers. We will have a surplus of 1.67 English teachers and hiring 1.67 French teachers. Unfortunately, this means that we will be saying goodbye to Mr. Van Belois,

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

3

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (CONT'D) – Robyn Darragh

our most recent Greyhound. More information about our organization and tentative assignments will be shared at our May meeting.

A number of Math teachers have been busy working with our Instructional Coaches and attending Professional Development on how to ensure that our students are taking risks, effectively communicating their Mathematical thinking and that their answers are reasonable. On April 10th, Math expert Dr. Marian Small joined us for the day and presented a workshop on how to ask good Math questions. She also put us to work and challenged us as well. Several teachers reported that even the next day they had put some of their learning into practice.

For the past three Tuesdays, students in Grade 7 and 8 have participated in a Drug Awareness presentation by Megan Wright from Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services as part of the Health curriculum. The OCDSB has a partnership with Rideauwood and have been offering their services at the High School level for a number of years. A new initiative was brought forward to begin their programming at the Middle School level. The presentation focused on facts, how drugs affect the brain and body and why they are addicting. Megan encouraged the students to share the content of the presentation with their parents. The presentations have been very educational and well received by our students. Next year, the program will expand to include decision making, how to say no when faced with peer pressure and how to have those safe conversations with parents.

We held a very successful Information session for the parents of our incoming students on April 9th. Goulbourn came to life in the evening and parents had the opportunity to experience what makes us so special. The evening was well attended and guests were impressed with the school and our student ambassadors who either performed or were on hand to speak to a variety of programs.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to reach any of Helen Sutton's relatives. We have left messages at all Sutton and Rupert homes listed in the Ottawa area on Canada 411. To date, we have not had any luck. We have ordered the plaques and will keep our fingers crossed that we will receive a telephone call shortly so that we can organize our official opening ceremony.

Finally, thank you to School Council for organizing the Cake Walk. It ran very smoothly and students really enjoyed themselves.

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

4

TEACHER'S REPORT – Robyn Darragh

Robyn advised on behalf of the teachers' that the Junior Girls Basketball team has been practicing at recess time preparing for their upcoming tournament at Bridlewood Elementary School. Permission forms will go home tomorrow.

Three on three basketball intramurals is ongoing.

We are busy preparing for the musical. Students and staff are excited to present on April 30th and May 1st. Our students, as well as our feeder school students, will enjoy matinee performances and parents are invited to purchase tickets for the evening performances. They start at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Donkor has registered GMS to participate in the Family of Schools concert on Monday, April 28th. Paperwork for Concert Band students involved in this evening performance went home today, as there will be a practice at South Carleton in the morning. The bus will depart for South at 8:30 a.m. and will return by 11:20 a.m. The concert is that evening.

The Thursday afternoon activity for Concert Band students will be held at GMS. South Carleton students are coming to GMS on May 24th from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. This is a workshop/clinic. Parents must pick up their child from GMS at 4:00 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lisa Dixon

Melissa advised that the balance in our account as of March 31st is \$22,186.

FUNDRAISING REPORT – Kim Newby

Kim stated that a Kiwi Kraze (Frozen Yogurt shop) opened in Stittsville recently and may be a great opportunity as a fundraiser. She advised that the store would offer us 15-20% back in sales for a 2 – 3 hour long time slot. Kim also advised that they would do different activities for us during that time. All were in favour of giving it a try.

ACTION: KIM TO DO UP A FLYER FOR KIWI KRAZE NIGHT FOR EARLY JUNE

FOOD PROGRAM REPORT – Rosanne Wall

Melissa advised that the Health Bar was cleaned recently by volunteer Moms (Melissa, Linda and Kim), so that it is more organized and tidy. Thank you to all of you.

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

5

FOOD PROGRAM REPORT (CONT'D) – Rosanne Wall

The popcorn machine will be removed from the Health Bar once there is space to move it to a new location.

Melissa stated that Rosanne will be staying on as Food Co-ordinator for next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Jen Tackabury agreed to volunteer for the Grade 8 Leaving Ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT

Melissa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kim seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD TUES., MAY 27, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.