

GOULBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETING MINUTES

LOCATION:	Goulbourn Middle School Library	
DATE:	Jan. 28, 2014	TIME: 6:30 p.m.
IN ATTENDANCE:	Melissa Aitken Lisa Dixon Dorothy Penney (V.P.) Marcie Kwindt Kristina Ducas	Gina Montgomery Robyn Darragh (Principal) Barb Friesen (Co-Teacher Rep.) Jennifer Tackabury
ABSENT:	Kim Newby Fiona Livingstone Jackie Kimmerly	Rosanne Wall Lesley Moll Tina Binns
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 "as is". Gina seconded the motion. Melissa motioned to approve the previous minutes from November. It was seconded by Jennifer.

CHAIR REPORT – Melissa Aitken

Melissa advised of the profits made from the following fundraisers: Equator coffee - \$263.25; Cookie Walk - \$660.60; Zumba Night - \$30.00.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Robyn Darragh

Robyn thanked everyone for joining us for the first School Council meeting of 2014! Miss Penney and I will be sharing this report this evening.

Despite the cold weather and numerous indoor recesses, we have had a great month.

The following are a few staffing changes to share with you:

Meaghan Samuel, who taught Grade 8 Core French has increased her status from part-time between two schools to full time at one location. She is now teaching Grade one at Jack Donahue. We were thrilled to welcome a familiar face, Jacqueline Bird, to the team. Her mornings are spent at GMS and her afternoons are at North Gower.

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

Unfortunately for our family of schools, our School Resource Officer, Cst. Carrie Archibald has completed her four year placement as SRO. She has moved on to a new position in Investigations, looking after Missing Persons. We thank Cst. Archibald for her years of service to the students at GMS. We welcome Cst. Carissa Beck as our new SRO.

Our Social Worker, Gerry Joy has submitted his resignation to the Board effective January 31st. We have not yet heard who his replacement will be.

Finally, Mark Graydon will be retiring effective January 31, 2014. His passion for literacy, storytelling and history will be missed. We thank Mr. Graydon for his years of service at GMS and wish him well on his retirement. In true Mr. Graydon style, he has asked that this be kept confidential and low key...staff members are not formally aware and while he was hoping to tell his students today, I am not sure if this conversation occurred. He is aware that the news is being shared this evening at Council though. Dorothy and I will be interviewing candidates on Thursday. We look forward to sharing the name of our new staff member in the February newsletter.

High School Transitioning activities continued for our Grade 8 students. South Carleton visited GMS on January 21st. Members of their Student Services team met with our students to discuss their programs and option sheets. As well, Grad Photos were taken yesterday for the yearly composite. Retakes are scheduled for February 20th.

The OCDSB has been focusing on Wellness. As part of their initiative, they offered schools the opportunity to submit a proposal for a wellness staff activity with a value of up to \$400. I am pleased to share that our proposal was accepted and our staff are enjoying a five-week yoga program after school on Wednesdays.

As we continue to focus on Character Education, we are delighted to share that Katie Weatherston, a member of the 2006 Olympic Gold Medal Women's Hockey team, will be speaking with our students on Friday. Her focus is on goal setting, overcoming obstacles and the importance of following the rules. She will share her Olympic story, show her medal and the Olympic torch she carried and build the Olympic spirit and hype in the school! It will be a RED and WHITE Spirit Day at GMS!

Staff members have been busy writing Term 1 report cards. They will be sent home with students on February 5th. Term 2 Individual Education Plans will be sent home at that time as well.

Skills Canada will be visiting our Grade 7 and 8 students on February 18th. They will be giving a special presentation on career opportunities that exist in the skilled trades and technologies. Topics that are covered include: Apprenticeship training and profiling careers in the skilled trades and technologies.

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

Update on the Library Naming: Hyacinth in Communications at the Board and I have written a summary/memo regarding the process and consultation phase of our proposal to name the library in honour of the late Helen Sutton. This summary has been given to Superintendent Gamwell, who will then share it with Director's Executive Council. The next phase is for the motion to appear on an upcoming Board meeting agenda.

TEACHER'S REPORT – Barb Friesen

The Red Maple Reading Club continues to meet every week to read and exchange novels. There are already 20 voters in the group - students who have read five or more of the selected novels in order to be eligible to vote for the winner in the provincial vote on April 23rd. We also have four students who have read all 10 novels! We are looking forward to the Festival of Trees Field trip in May!

The Silver Birch Reading Club is in full swing. We encourage Grade 6 students to join. The club meets on Day 2 at lunch in Room 120.

Around 80 students have been cast in the Musical Production of The Little Mermaid. The production dates are April 30th and May 1st.

Stage, tech and design crews will be signing up next week...probably another 30 students or so will be involved with that area of the production.

Any parents interested in helping with costumes, props or sets should contact Mrs. Friesen.

Future Aces representatives from the Foundation in Toronto conducted a full day leadership workshop with 24 students on January 28th. They worked on team building, leadership training and planning for school based activities to encourage practice of character traits and building self-esteem to recognition of these traits.

During the month of December, Mme Samuel ran volleyball intramurals. Mr. Wolf has been running floor hockey intramurals at lunch during the month of January. Many students have participated in these activities and have kept 'moving' during their recess time.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lisa Dixon

Lisa advised that as of December 31, 2013, the bank balance is \$26,703. There was only one NSF cheque given during that time and she decided to give the parents a bit more time to submit a new one before pursuing.

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FUNDRAISING REPORT – Kim Newby

Melissa advised that there will be a Cake Walk in April, a Chapter's Night around Mother's Day or Easter and a Little Caesar's Pizza Kit fundraiser. The Little Caesar's Pizza Kit is currently running at SPS and consists of 3 frozen pizza shells, sauces and grated cheese and/or 3 garlic breads in the kit and nine 6-inch pizzas in the personal kits. Each kit sells for \$17 - \$23 and will make a \$5 profit for each kit sold.

Another fundraising idea is a Funhaven Night and basketball on Friday nights for the students. More details to follow.

FOOD PROGRAM REPORT – Rosanne Wall

Nothing to report as Rosanne was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Gina requested a friendly reminder be passed along to Shipley Centre advising them to try and keep the Health Bar tidy and to clean the bins when there is spilled milk in them. The Health Bar smelled like sour milk on the last pizza day.

Melissa asked when the Grade 8 Farewell ceremony is taking place this year. Robyn advised that the Grade 8 Farewell ceremony takes place on the second last day of school. Jennifer Tackabury and Marcie Kwindt graciously volunteered to help out with refreshments and set up of the Grade 8 Farewell ceremony.

ADJOURNMENT

Melissa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Gina seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD TUES., FEBRUARY 25, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.