

Minutes – Goulbourn Middle School Parent Council 2009

- November 24, 2009, 7pm -REVISED

Present

Jacqueline McKenzie, Rosanne Wall, John Harvey, Kristin Ryan, Wenda Weiss, Michele Clarke, Cindi Quirk, Carol Mason, Chantal Racine, Keith Dysart, Angela Samson, Deborah Hurley, Suzanne Lewis, Robbie Judd-Lunt.

1. Welcome – Jacqueline McKenzie opened the meeting with a welcome
 - a. The agenda was approved with the adding of old business - motion by Keith and Kristin and approved by all.
 - b. The minutes from October were accepted – motion by Keith and Jacqueline – approved by all.
 - c. An OCASC representative has not been found.
 - d. Jacqueline had a discussion with Sue Rabb concerning the nuts in the fudge fundraiser. Sue is fine with the fundraiser as long as the parents pick up the fudge and it is not eaten at school – out of consideration for those students with nut allergies. Parents will be able to pick up their fudge during parent-teacher interviews.
 - e. Kim Koa and Mrs. Hillsdon will connect concerning the popcorn fundraiser that the student council wants to do.
 - f. Jacqueline talked to Donna Bradley concerning the cake walk. She understands the need for this fundraiser to be done after Christmas and for the funds raised to go to the needs assessment rather than uniform/shirts for athletics.
 - g. Tracy Flanders has resigned from the council.

- there was a conversation about the needs assessment. There were some issue that it is not common knowledge what is on the list and what has already been bought for the school. Chantal will put a list together for the January meeting (what is on the list and what has been bought)

2. Principals Report (Chantal Racine)
 - a. The new floor in the gym is done and the students are able to use the gym for activities. The “indoor shoes” policy will be strictly enforced to help keep our new gym floor looking good.
 - b. Absenteeism has not been above 3% any day this fall.
 - c. Thank you to Mrs. Wiggins for putting together a wonderful Remembrance Day service for the school. It went well and there has been good feedback. The students did not go to the other locations (October minutes) due to logistics.
 - d. Report cards will go home Thursday, November 26

- e. Parent-teacher interviews will be December 3 & 4
- f. Mrs. Hillsdon and Mrs. Crawford are back following their surgeries
- g. Lyall Thompson (director of the OCDSB) will be at GMS for an informal visit on November 30 for about an hour.
 - i. Update – this informal visit went very well and Mr. Thompson was very impressed and pleased with the school.

3. Treasurers Report (Cindi Quirk)

- a. See separate financial sheet prepared by Cindi Quirk for precise amounts.
- b. Cindi works for IBM and they have an initiative to promote volunteering in the community which sees charities given \$1000 once a year for those who qualify. The council at GMS and Cindi's work as treasurer counts but the council is not a registered charity. The school board is a charity and Chantal will check with somebody at the board office as to a tax receipt and any other paper work that may be needed.

4. Healthbar Report (Michele Clarke)

- a. The smoothies have now started; there are a few hiccups that are getting sorted out.
- b. A fridge has been set up for the smoothies.
- c. All the other food programs seem to be running fine but there is no real report.

5. Fundraising Report (Deb Hurley)

- a. Fudge fundraiser
 - i. There were 73 fudge orders.
 - ii. The profit will be \$811.
 - iii. The parents will be able to pick up the fudge at parent teacher interviews.
 - iv. The company also offers brittle – a potential addition to next time this fundraiser is offered.
- b. The QSP fundraiser will be passed on to Deb (from Mrs. Mullens) to complete by November 27.

6. Teachers Report (Angela Samson)

- a. November 27 is the trip to the NAC – it will be a dress-up day for the students. They will all leave at the end of period 1.
- b. December 2 – Canterbury will be at GMS to meet with interested grade 8's to give them information.
- c. December 15 – there will be an open house for parent at Canterbury
- d. December 15 – there will be a band concert and bake sale

- i. The conflict between the Canterbury open house and the band concert has been noted. Chantal will speak to Linda Crawford about potentially moving the concert date as some band members (in grade 8) might be interested in looking into Canterbury for their grade 9 year.
- e. The robotics club (with Ian Dudley) meets Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are a lot of grade 6's who work with the grade 7 and 8's. Everyone that is interested is allowed to participate.
- f. February 7 there will be a robotics competition. 2 teams of 5 will be put together for this competition.
- g. Mini-enrichment courses offered through Carleton University and Ottawa University will be offered for a week in May. This is for grades 8-12. They pick (from a variety) 1 course to take part in for the entire week. Cost is \$140. Any interested student is able to put their name forward for this and spots will be chosen by lottery; however, 7 spots will be reserved for those students who qualify as gifted.
 - i. Update – the 13 grade 8 students have been picked by lottery + the 7 spots reserved for the students who qualify as gifted. There are 10 students on a waiting list; more spots have been requested so that all 30 students can go.
- h. Jenny Norton and Melanie Gavan will be organizing the 'hoops for heart' this year which the students will take part in during their gym times.
- i. Last Friday there was a student-lead fundraiser for a 3rd world village. Mr. Jessiman acted as goalie and the students participated in a shoot-out to raise funds. There were prizes for the winners.
- j. Mr. Jesmin and Mrs. Klassen have started the senior girls' volleyball. The boy's volleyball will start soon.
- k. Funding for the ISST (intermediate student success training) is approaching. Mr. Noxon will be putting together an action plan on how the money will be spent.
- l. The Red Maple and Silver Birch reading programs will be starting soon. The books are in and will be stored in Mrs. Mulligan (Red Maple) and Mrs. Roesler (Silver Birch) rooms. The students who register will need to read at least 5 books by April 22, 2010. Thank you to council for the funds to buy these books.
- m. The Science and Tech club thanks those who have given donations. An updated list of donations that are needed will be made.

7. New Business

- a. A discussion was had concerning the red maple and silver birch reading programs. The books cost approx. \$2000 a year which the council funds via the needs assessment (therefore of the \$5000 that was given to staff in September (2009) \$2000 was used to purchase these books). First, the council discussed and confirmed support for these programs. Council then discussed whether the council wants to continue funding these programs through the needs assessment or if we should support them directly. It was decided (motion passed and all approved) that these programs will stay on the needs assessment; council will also boost the funds given to the staff. Council has asked that there be more visibility to these programs and reading in general (i.e. caught reading – given a tootsie roll). A more detailed explanation of the programs will be given in January as well as how many students are taking part in these reading programs.
- b. As a consequence of the above discussion, it was decided that the council will pass along the funds raised to the (GMS) staff from fundraisers that have already been successfully completed. However, each school year (September) will start with a bank balance of \$5000. Therefore, the \$813 that was raised with the bulb fundraiser was passed along to staff – motion by Carol Mason, 2nd by John Harvey and all approved.

8. Adjournment

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm with a motion by Kristin Ryan
- b. Next meeting – Tuesday, January 26 2009 @ 7pm.