

School Council Meeting Minutes October 19, 2016 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Executive Attendees

Chair: Lisa Vandermeer
Vice-Chair: Daniela Humeniuk
Secretary: Sarah Futterer
Fundraising Coordinator: Magda Anderchuk
Communications: Nicole Baker
Volunteer Coordinator: Lisa Nicol
OSASC Representative: Danna Campbell
Movie Night Coordinator: Nicole Duguay
Multicultural Arts Coordinator: Sarah Futterer
Spring Fling Coordinators: Daniela Humeniuk and Nicole Duguay
Director at Large (Outreach): Pam Cameron
Director at Large (Active Kids): Julie Findlay
Director at Large (Student Well Being): Tara Finlay

Principal: Megan Egerton

Vice Principal: Monik Beauchemin

School Board Trustee: Theresa Cavanagh

Total number of persons present (including above): 40+

1. Welcome and introductions (Lisa Vandermeer)

2. School Yard Safety – Town Hall Discussion

- KINDER YARD ~ the man was arrested who was involved in the incident a few weeks ago in front of the kinder yard.
 - i. Office staff and kinder staff are keeping keen eyes on what is happening beyond the fence in terms of people walking by
 - ii. Fencing options are being explored
 - 1. We are waiting for pricing quote from the company Put in Cups
 - iii. Nicole suggested that Dan Duguay could help discuss option.
 - iv. *IMP ... anyone with suggestions please send them directly to Megan.
- OUTSIDE FOOD – we have many students and staff with anaphylactic food allergies.
 - i. Consider not bringing food in for special events, etc... If food is coming in then please contact the teacher directly to make sure that all necessary precautions are taken.
- SCHOOL GATE
 - i. Information provided by Principal Egerton:

Issues and Information:

* EDP has full use of the school and yard from 3pm until 6:15pm

* Approximately 180 students are in our school's EDP program

- * EDP staff cannot monitor non-EDP students – this is a liability, supervision and safety issue
- * EDP staff cannot monitor the use of the gate, adults in the yard and also safely supervise students

Concerns and Safety:

- * Concerns about open gate and ability for strangers and non-custodial parents to have access to children in the EDP program
- * Concerns that EDP students have left school property out of the open gate
- * Concerns that EDP parents have paid for the use of the school and to have their child in this program and therefore the yard is actually not available to the larger community
- * Concerns that staff are unable to ensure that students are supervised and safe
- * Concerns that children who are walkers are not leaving school property after school and are unsupervised in the yard.
- * Concerns that strangers are also using our yard and some without any children with them
- * **For specific students: immediate and real safety threats to their personal safety (personal story shared to emphasis this point).**

Consultations: Police Services, School Resource Officer, School Board Security staff, School Board Facilities staff, Staff, EDP staff, Superintendent, Parents - on going

Recommendations:

- Gate needs to be locked during EDP time
- Students in EDP could wait indoors, have a snack and attendance could be taken while parents/students are able to connect in the yard.
- A bell would go at 3:25pm reminding people it was time to head home or to the park next door and then the gates will be closed and EDP students can come out and use the yard.

Q: What is going to happen to families who have children in after school programs? Will they be allowed in the yard during this lesson/activity?

A: Unfortunately not if it's during EDP times.

Q: Lockhart gate opening on time for pick up? Concerns over winter with a locked gate?

A: Principal Egerton will work hard to ensure that gates are open on time (2:55pm).

Please make city accountable for unplowed sidewalks. Custodial staff will have the walkway in the school as a priority for snow removal during winter months.

Q: Lock code on the back gate for access?

A: Unfortunately, police services will not allow this as a possible solution. Key pad is being looked at for the front door.

Q: Could a possibility of making a fenced off area accessible only from the school a possibility?

A: This is something to look into further but would not be an immediate solution.

Q: If safety issues are happening are police services involved?

A: Yes police have been involved in the community over the past 4 weeks

Q: Is there a possibility for alternate solutions to be made and executed?

A: Parents can email the principal with suggestions or questions. Ideal to copy the WAPS email address or the WAPS chair

~one solution proposed was lanyards for non EDP parents and children to identify them. They would have to enter and exit via the school and have a 4pm time limit.

~ another suggestion is opening the yard for parents and children after 4:15, once the EDP program has gone inside for the remainder of their day.

~ parent asked if they could opt-in for EDP so that children wishing to play and stay at school occasionally could happen. EDP is a grow to demand service so there would always be space for new students.

EDITED after: Principal Egerton's final recommendations were sent to all parents on Friday Oct 21st via email stating that the gate must be locked at 3:15.

3. Updates from Principal and Vice Principal

- Removing the 'invisible lines' of the junior and primary yard. Junior soccer field and play structure remains for juniors only and the primary structure remains for primary students. Students and staff excited about this opening up of the yard to allow friends in different grades to play with one another and to allow all students to access the Buddy Bench
- Portables are currently not slated to be moved (although only two are in use).
- Synervoice will be used to tell parents that emails have been sent and school website is updated. Megan will investigate why parents can no longer sign up to receive updates to their inbox.
- Churchill is viewing the movie Beyond Measure (same producer as Race to nowhere). All are invited to attend. Wed, Nov 9th at 7pm in the Nepean HS auditorium. Cost is \$10.
- Teachers will be soliciting volunteers to help with the Halloween parade which will happen at 11:15 on the 31st.
- We are currently at a ¼ of our target for the Britannia food cupboard.
- 5B is running the haunted house this year for students grades 3-6 who wish to participate. A canned food item is required as entrance.
- The Me to We club will be going to WE day again this year.
- WITS is having a poster contest for students.
 - i. There is also a video contest that was just sent out as a class or small group project for WITS to be used for the anti-bullying week. Contest closes Nov 18th and winners will have a pizza lunch
- Parent volunteers are needed for a Monday Lego club (2nd recess)
- Tradansa (traditional French dance troupe) will be coming to teach all students in January.
- Remembrance Day ceremony at 10 am for grades 1-6. Service members invited to attend. Other parents may join the Kinder ceremony at 9am.
- Mme Rioux will be retiring in December 2016. An LTO will be hired to replace her from Nov-Dec and a new contract position posted for January 2017.

4. Reports from Sub committee

- **Healthy Active Kids**
 - i. Monday soccer club is running in both gyms. A second set of soccer nets have been purchased which the school will be able to use as well.
 - ii. Sports volunteers will be coming in to run speciality learning workshops for kids prior to intra-murals to help teach skills and inspire more to participate
 - iii. Ski and snowboard club for grades 4-6 will have sign up soon through Dovercourt. Registration includes a 1 hour ski lesson, lift pass and transportation. Sign up will be soon and information will go home with parents. Subsidy spots will be available through the office for anyone that needs financial support. Please contact Megan Egerton.
- **Emotional Wellbeing**
 - i. November 10th workshop on learning styles available to all parents of grades 4-6 students. Registration is required
- **Carlingwood Gift Cards**
 - i. Handouts for all parents will be coming out this week with three weeks to buy. This is a great fundraiser for the school as we receive 15% of all sales back to the school.
- **Teacher Project Grant**
 - i. This initiative is open to all staff. \$500/project is given. Parent council looks for projects that address Culture and Diversity, Science Tech Engineering and Math, Literacy, Healthy and Physical Fitness, Emotional Well Being and the Environment and Green Initiatives.
- **Multicultural and Arts Programming**
 - i. Laternefest is the first project for 16/17 school year. Grades 4 and 5 students will be making lanterns for all classes to carry during Halloween parade
 - ii. Committee is looking for additional volunteers to help coordinate projects. Also looking for any parent/community artists willing to donate their time. Please contact Sarah Futterer directly at sarah.futterer@gmail.com

5. Chalk it up

- Nothing more brought up

Chair adjourned the meeting

Next meeting – Wednesday January 18th, 2017.