

## Huntley Centennial Parent Council

Wed. 5<sup>th</sup> February 2014

### **Attendance:**

Mark Tymowski Deborah Bradley Tim Pychyl Amy Durant Sue Grant Donna Christie Donna Coutts  
Dan Oliver Jo-Anne Graham Jason Blauer Colleen Irvin Debbie Millar Sarah Smith Dianne Bramble

### **Meeting called to order 7:10pm**

Apologies from Jennifer James and Karen Parker Zander

**Agenda Approved:** Sarah & Tim

**November Minutes Approved:** Tim & Mark

### **O/A Items: Jo-Anne**

All action items are currently up-to-date or are covered by sub-committee reports below.

### **Treasurers Report: Amy**

All cheques for the second half of the lunch program were deposited today.

QSP magazine fundraiser - \$866 cash & cheques deposited. Funds from online orders will be received in February. Online orders are usually significantly more than those received by cash & cheque.

Still no payment received from Mazolla lunch program. Amy will follow up.

\$3000 carried over from last year was earmarked for technology. Each Epsom projector costs \$1400. Those ordered in September are now finally fully installed. Total cost including installation \$2500. Epsom preferred by teachers (over Smartboard) as they can be used as a magnetic board, white board & interactive projector. Councils goal has been to have technology in every classroom. 5 classrooms still remaining without (Bell, Stone, Chick, Coutts, O'Neill).

**Motion (Jo-Anne & Sue) :** Allocate \$4000 (plus \$3000 carried over) to purchase 5 Epsom Interactive Projectors (\$1400 each, total \$7k). All in favour.

### **Principals Report: Colleen Irvin**

- Thank you so much to everyone who helped put on your first speaker night. It was well attended and sparked great conversation about math and a home-school relationship. Interview on CBC brought more attention to the school.
- We welcome staff back to our building: Laura Bell (gr 5/6), and Amanda Zeyl (ETFI).
- We have presently have 24 JK registrants for next year. We expect to have more registrants over the next few months and start September with a larger number of students. Please encourage any families that have children born in 2010 to come and register.
- We have received our transfer cap for next year; once again it has been set at "0". The transfer process is described on the OCDSB web site and we have information available in the main office.
- We are still on target with our overall budget expenditures. We have spent over \$55 000 of our Operating Budget (\$139 000) and we will most likely finish the year on target. We hope to use this opportunity to purchase more interactive projectors.
- Synervoice is a communication system using the phone lines. The Board will be spreading the opportunity to use this technology to all schools this year. We will be giving it a try in the next month or two.

- Our staff have been busy with our math initiatives in their division and in their classrooms. We recently had our Math Challenge in which all students had to find the height of a “gorilla” given a photocopy of a hand. Everyone was engaged and enjoyed this school-wide task. We are planning to do a couple more before the year is out.
- We have begun our litterless lunches at Huntley. Thanks to all our families who are making changes and supporting this initiative.
- We have a character assembly on Valentine’s Day with all our students at 8:30am. Everyone is welcome to join us for our assemblies. We will be introducing the trait of “Friendship”.

### Teachers Report: Donna Christie

- Arts Committee will hold “Blues in the Schools” daily (9-10am in Gym 2) during the last week of February (24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>). This will involve blues performances from various artists and culminate in an all-school assembly on March 6<sup>th</sup> with a performance involving selected intermediate students.
- Arts Festival will take place this spring. Donna has booked the Ag. Hall for the May 9<sup>th</sup> Fri. p.m., 6 - 8 and Sat. a.m., May 10<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 – 11:30. This is Mother’s Day weekend. Art grids are reserved with W.C. Art Society. Committee met and all is in place. All students will have opportunity to have visual arts on display. Ongoing performances by Int band, Drumming Circle and Soundwave.  
Opted not to do book sale at this event. Sue will be seeking parents to help run the refreshment booth and assist with take-down. Members of Parent Council will also be required as ‘greeters’.  
School sports teams continue to practice and compete.
- The Jr. division has prepared their wish list for a science material centre and are busy shopping. Jo-Anne also mentioned that a parent has offered the possibility of providing some more microscopes. She will follow up.
- Intermediate students (Social Justice/Character Dev.): Build-a-Brick program launched to raise funds to construct a school in Rajasthan, India. Olympic Challenge ongoing to raise funds: teachers vs students competing in northern games competition during morning recess, Feb. 18. Mme Stones’s Gr 3 class are also selling bracelets.
- Primary & Jr. choirs, Int. winds ensemble, Int. drumming circle, Dragonflies Club continue. New: Sports Stacking Club Thurs. pm recess with Mrs. Racine and contemporary singing groups with Ms. MacDonald.
- Prep (planning & rehearsals) for the school musical, Alice in Wonderland, is now full-tilt for their performance in May.
- Ski Days for Juniors and Intermediates at end of month, (Jrs – 20<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, Int - 11<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>)
- Most classes will go skating at the local area by March Break
- Spirit Day will be red/pink/white & or hearts day on Feb. 14 as will the assembly for the month
- Gr. 3 CCAT testing was completed.
- Popcorn days have begun to raise money for Gr. 8 Grad. Gr. 8 yearbook is done and Grad photos have been taken, trip planned, high school registrations done
- Many classes are having curriculum related field trips and visits such as Gr. 3’s to MacSkimming, Gr. 4’s have Medieval presentation, Scientists in School for several grade levels have occurred or are about to do so.

### Vice Principals Report: Jason Blauer

- 2013-2014 Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Survey - [TTFM](#) is an online survey tool that the district uses to collect data about school climate, bullying, school safety and student engagement. The TTFM survey was first implemented during the 2012-13 school year. This year, there will be a TTFM student survey and a parent survey. To learn more, visit the [Student Survey page](#) or the [Parent Survey page \(http://www.ocdsb.ca/Pages/TTFM.aspx\)](http://www.ocdsb.ca/Pages/TTFM.aspx). As soon as we have finalized a date for our school survey, information will be forward to parents.
- Skiing – Two days for each division - INT Feb 11<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> to Calabogie and JUNIOR 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to Pakenham

- PE Supplies – wish list - three levels. 1<sup>st</sup> is what would be really appreciated now. The second and third list is what is wished for over time. Duplication in schools of many sports that are already provided in the community. Looking more towards non-traditional sports.  
**Motion (Jo-Anne & Mark)** : Allocate \$4300 for all items on sporting equipment wish list. All in favour.
- School clothing – may look at a secondary order if interest. Discussion of doing it again in the spring, or just look to a new order in September 2014

### **Speaker Series Sub-Committee Report: Tim Pychyl**

February 26<sup>th</sup> : Tina Daniels will speak on bullying and social relations

April 9<sup>th</sup> : Robert Coplan will speak on shyness; the challenges shy children face and how parents and teachers can help

This is open to everyone. Sue suggested that next time a sign in sheet would be helpful for the babysitters.

Tim will be posting the video from Dr Jo-Anne Lefvre's evening on YouTube. No members of the audience were included on the video and Tim has permission from Dr Lefvre. A link to this will be added on the Parent Council website.

### **Donation Campaign Report: Sue Grant**

Donations campaign letter did not go out in November as it was left too close to Xmas.

Debbie Bradley & Sue will work together to get Fundrazr campaign going ready to launch in September

### **Grad Committee Report: Dan Oliver**

Popcorn fundraiser already underway. Not doing a frozen fruit fundraiser this year.

Planning 2 bottle drives, first in March. 2<sup>nd</sup> possibly to coincide with e-waste fundraiser.

Can also benefit from money leftover from PROFund .

Percent from milk program also goes to Grad committee – Amy to check amount with Claire Atherfold.

### **Tech Sub-Committee Report: Debbie Millar**

Website is working well.

Labels Labels fundraiser set up and link added to the website – need to include mention in next school newsletter.

HotLunches.net trial now running with Mucho Burrito lunch option. Had 1 issue which was fixed & temporary issue with the email address set up for PayPal. Lots of orders already and some (mostly positive) feedback. Orders must be in by end of day on Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. Reminder will be going out to parents. Final pricing was \$3.80 for mini and \$4.90 for small. This includes 40c profit to Parent Council.

### **OCASC: Mark Tymowski**

Play Structures : Mark Fischer (School board trustee) will be tabling a motion to address the issue of OCDSB not paying for play structures. The goal would be to get more funding for school play structures.

OCDSB want City to pay as outdoor play structure only used 4 months of the year so of little value. It is esp hard for some schools to raise funding. Rules state that cannot duplicate a play structure that is within 1km (eg park by soccer pitch and fairgrounds). There are no standard accessibility rules, so concern that if a play structure does not meet the rules it could be pulled down.

It seems worthwhile waiting until more is known about the outcome of the motion. Review again at next meeting

Every school reported having head lice problems. Other schools are doing lice checks.

On Feb 27<sup>th</sup> at Earl of March school 7-10pma speaker will talk about Sex Education and Social Media. This is open to all.

Mary Claude Lang did a presentation on walking to School. "Walking School Bus" – drop off near the school & then walk en mass to the school. Safety at drop off times is still an issue. Sue said that school zones signs were going to go up at the back gate (temporary ones for now).

Colleen will add an item in the newsletter encouraging parents to drop off at the back gate to avoid the congestion at

the front. Another suggestion was to have a crossing guard in front of the school from the Medical Centre to the far side of the car park.

Also, the current bus lane extends down Langstaff to Donald B Munro, however all buses are lined up directly in the bus lane in front of the school. Jo-Anne suggested moving the bus lane sign further up to allow more space for a drop off lane for parents.

### **New Business**

Facebook Page: Jim McKaig has offered to set up a Facebook page for the school. This will tie in well with the Fundrazr campaign once it is launched.

E-Waste Fundraiser: the canoe club has teamed up with another school. Mark will contact the e-waste company to set up a weekend in April (likely after Easter). Also suggested that this could be combined with a bottle drive for the Grad fund

Speakers: Jo-Anne raised the opportunity of having accountants come in for free to talk to parents about how to teach kids to learn about money management. Jo-Anne will get more info for next meeting.

UCreateit website: This is a community portal set up by Richard Longsworth.

Dr. Barry Bruce of Carp Medical Centre & Richard Longsworth (on behalf of the new website <http://www.ucreateit.ca/>) would be willing to provide a monetary award at the end of the year for the "most improved math student." It should provide an incentive for the parents/students and a means of promoting the website. It was felt that a single award for a single student might not be the best way to go with this. There already many awards and it would be hard to decide who the winning student should be out of so many possible candidates.

Colleen will review the website and consider asking them to attend the meeting in April for further discussion.

OTIP Awards : Sue proposed nominating Marg Graff for an award. \$1K for the recognised teacher, \$1K to the school. Nominations to be in by 31<sup>st</sup> March. See <http://en.teachingawards.ca/> for further details and to nominate. Sue will pass the details to Debbie Millar to add on the website to allow any parent to nominate a teacher.

Jo-Anne reminded all voting members of school council that if 3 consecutive meetings are missed, then council has the right to replace them. Please contact Jo-Anne or Dan if you are unable to attend a meeting to ensure there will be sufficient voting members present.

### **Motion to adjourn : Jo-Anne & Mark**

Next meeting: April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014, at 7pm in the school library. All welcome!