

Huntley Centennial Parents Council

Wed. Jan 8/14

Attendance:

Mark Tymowski Tim Pychyl Amy Durant Jennifer James Sue Grant Donna Christie Donna Coutts
Jo-Anne Graham Jason Blauer Colleen Irvin Debbie Millar Stacy Tzavelas Sarah Smith

Meeting called to order 7:05pm

Agenda Approved: Jennifer & Tim

November Minutes Approved: Sue & 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

Xmas Bazaar made \$2301! The volunteers did an amazing job and worked hard making it such a big success again this year. Thank you to everyone involved.

QSP magazine fundraiser is now over. Funds will be received in February

Principals Report: Colleen Irvin

Thank you so much for all the support you gave our school in November and December. Our students loved the ragtime brass performance, Christmas bazaar, and our families appreciated your support for mini-enrichment courses and Christmas baskets. We had many activities at the school including a kindergarten concert, character assembly, and holiday craft and activity rotations.

We will be saying goodbye to several staff members this month: Severine Deveau, Blair Moore and Tasha Stoodley. We welcome Amanda O'Neil (grade 1/2 EFI), Laura Bell (grade 7), ETFI teacher Amanda Zeyl back to the school after their maternity leaves.

Kindergarten Registration takes place beginning Monday, January 27. Please tell your neighbours and friends that might have young children to drop by the school and register. We will be having an all day Kindergarten Open House on Friday, January 24 form 8:30-2:30 for individual tours. Information will be available on our website, in the newsletter and on the Board web site.

We have currently spent less than 40% of our yearly school budget which is our target for the start of January. I am confident that we will once again finish the year within our budget.

Report Cards go home on Wednesday, February 5 for grades SK-8.

We are continuing to work on our Numeracy School Improvement initiatives with our staff. As a special event, on January 15 each class will be given Mrs. Irvin's and Mr. Blauer's Marvellous Math Challenge to complete and post their solution in the hall. We look forward to seeing how each grade approaches this

problem. On February 19 we welcome author, professor and speaker Dr. Marian Small to the school to work our staff to further enhance our delivery of mathematics.

We are getting ready to begin Litterless Lunches in February. Students will be asked to pack using reusable containers. Any recyclables can be placed in our classroom recycling. All garbage must be packed back in the lunch kit and taken back home. It will be interesting for you to see not only how much garbage your child's lunch generates every day, but also what they are eating and how much of each item. It may alter what you pack for their lunch and get you to include them in the process to make good choices. We hope that you will support this initiative.

Teachers Report: Donna Christie

Arts Committee had Rock-the Arts Puppetry in Dec. It was very successful, very engaging. This month we have a French performer: Roland Bibeau. Invoice submitted to Amy.

Arts Festival will take place this spring. Donna has booked the Ag. Hall for the 2nd Fri. pm and Sat. am. We must be out by noon. We're not doing the 1st weekend due to school musical. A committee has been created for the Arts Festival in the spring.

Sue will be liaison from School Council. In the past School Council has run the refreshment booth and book sale. Will also help with any setup/teardown

Our school sports teams have been doing well at the board level and are proudly sporting the new athletic clothing you provided.

School clothing order was placed.

The Jr. division is preparing a wish list for a science material centre.

School winter clothing drive for R.E. Wilson was very successful.

Candy Gram sales raised over \$1100.00 for the urban buddy program.

Primary & Jr. choirs continue. Int. drumming circle also continues.

Int. winds ensemble gave their first performance at our Christmas assembly.

Kindergarten concerts in Dec. were well received.

Prep (auditions, planning & rehearsals) for the school musical, Alice in Wonderland, is now underway for their performance on first weekend in May.

Vice Principals Report: Jason Blauer

Skiing – two days Junior/Intermediate. Junior = Pakenham, Int = Calabogie. Looking at two days spanning Feb and March. Just trying to line up buses with available dates from the ski hills.

PE Supplies – Parent Council did a great job with outdoor equipment; staff are finalizing wish list for indoor equipment

Attending a session on TTFM – report to follow next meeting

Inclement Winter Weather: During inclement weather, and especially at this time of the year when our yard is icy and frozen solid, parents should use the nearest entrance to gain access to the school.

Graduation Portraits will take place on January 28th in the lower part of the Library

Sports teams have been very successful participating in bordenball (Junior) and basketball (Intermediate – with the boys winning silver)

Int & Jnr Science wish list – total \$988.31

Motion (Sue & Amy) : Allocate \$1200 each for Int & Jnrs for Science materials. Total \$2400 (to allow for tax & any slight change in initial quotes). All in favour. MOTION PASSED

Speaker Series Sub-Committee Report: Tim Pychyl

January 22nd : Dr Jo-Anne Lefevre speaking on how children learn math and how parents can help.

February 26th : Tina Daniels speaking on bullying and social relations

April 9th : Robert Coplan speaking on shyness; the challenges shy children face and how parents and teachers can help

Babysitting will be available as well as refreshments. The venue has been changed to the Arts Room, instead of Gym 1. This is a smaller and more appropriate space, and also has the advantage of a Smartboard. Much more conducive for questions and discussion. West Carleton EMC has been contacted and included the details already. Reporter, Derek Dunn, will be attending and will be doing an article.

Any other suggestions for topics to be covered by future speakers can be passed on to Tim.

Tech Sub-Committee Report: Debbie Millar

The new council website has been set up and should go live by Monday 13th January.

www.huntleycentennial.org.

Email address has also been set up : parentcouncil@huntleycentennial.org

Forwarding emails for info, milkprogram, lunchprogram, volunteer, principal and webmaster have also been created

Council members email addresses have been imported into the new Mailing List within the website. A trial message will be sent to council as soon as the website is live. If it works well, plan to import all parent emails asap to get a community mailing list running properly again.

Parent Council PayPal account has been set up. Can now set up a trial of HotLunches.net for online ordering for lunch & milk programs, with the hope that it'll be ready to go for September 2014.

Donation Campaign – in order to give out tax receipts, donations need to go through the school account (the Parent Council is not a non-profit organisation so cannot give tax receipts)

Action: Colleen & Brenda (Office Staff) will set up a school PayPal account before the end of February. Can then set up a Fundrazr campaign.

OCASC: Mark Tymowski

No trustee at the meeting.

Held elections for Exec Committee (eg Spec Ed Advisory Committee)

\$35 membership paid for the year

Extended day & childcare programs have been finalized. More info on OCDSB website

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/Consultation%20Docs/Extended%20day%20and%20child%20care%20policy/Draft%20Policy%20-%20Extended%20Day%204.pdf>

New Business

Mucho Burrito: Andrew Oestreich from Mucho Burrito, Kanata, provided sample burritos as a possible new lunch option.

Mini burritos (for younger grades). Contains flour tortilla, rice, cheese & chicken. \$3.25

Smaller burritos (for older grades). Same ingredients as mini, plus beans and portioning is bigger. \$4.50

The gluten free will be the same price - remove the tortilla and place the contents in a bowl.

Delivered hot, wrapped in foil. Sour cream & salsa (made fresh every day) are provided in containers (plus serving spoons) for each class. Some discussion about the logistics of having lunch monitors or students serve themselves.

Plan to trial 2 weeks in March. Debbie will set up HotLunches.net to use for trial.

Mabels Labels: Mabels Labels are a popular way to label childrens clothing. Easy to set up fundraiser, with minimum effort required.

Motion (Jo-Anne & Sue) : Debbie to set up Mabels Labels fundraiser and add info to website. All in favour. MOTION PASSED

Wednesday Lunch Program Caesar Salads : Caesar Salads currently from Browns in Stittsville. Size has got significantly smaller, but same price. Sue has contacted Sobeys about switching suppliers. Sobeys also have suggestions for other lunch options. Sue to get more info

West Carleton Review/EMC: need to try and provide details of activities going on in the school to the newspaper to get more coverage for school.

World Vision Sponsorship: Sue asked about sponsoring a child through World Vision. After some discussion it was felt that the twinning with RE Wilson provides a great connection for students and is sufficient.

Motion to adjourn : Jennifer & Sue

Next meeting: February 5th 2014, at 7pm in the school library. All welcome!