

Huntley Centennial P.S Parent Council

Wed. June 6/12

Agenda June 6th 7pm at Library:

Welcome, approval of last meeting minutes

Treasurer's update (Louise McLarty)

Fundraising plans 2012-2013 & board policy discussion (see guidelines enclosed)

Crossing guard @Donald B and Langstaff intersection project (Jo-Anne Graham)

Task list and roles for 2012-2013 (see enclosed draft)

BBQ plans and date

Date for September meeting

Update from Teachers

Update from Principal & introduction of Ms. Irvin

Question to Principal regarding sustainability of student and staff population (Sue Grant)

Adjournment

Meeting called to order- 7:01pm by Tracey Brown

Thank you for coming. I will now call the meeting to order. This has been a difficult week for everyone. There have been many public comments by many people. While everyone is entitled to their own opinion, it is important that we stay focused on what is best for student learning. At school council, we have a responsibility to provide advice to the principal in areas of student achievement and well-being. Based on comments made we clearly have work to do in the area of well-being. I know many of you have come to talk about those issues and there will be an opportunity to do that. We have acting-principal MacFarlane here for an update on school activities; incoming principal Ms Irvin will address the audience and Superintendent Bennett is here to speak to us as well. However, we are going to start with regular business of council that is on the agenda per our normal practise, and we welcome input from parents. If you are interested in commenting on a particular item, please raise your hand and I may acknowledge you or I may not. Due to the large number of people here tonight we may have to wait for a future meeting for everyone to have a turn to speak. We are going to get through regular council business quickly so that we can get to what you are here to do. Now I would like to let you know that Council members at this table have motion and voting capabilities. We are not accepting motions from the floor, that being you the audience, or new items to the agenda.

As mentioned in the meeting notice, School Council Policy, P.014.SCO, states that Council members shall maintain a school-wide focus on all issues. Council meetings are not a forum for discussion about individual parents/guardians, students, staff, trustees or other council members. Under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (1989), councils cannot access information on individual students and staff. Individual members of the school community shall deal directly with the staff members and/or the principal to resolve specific concerns.

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Therefore, if a person at the table or in the audience mentions a particular student, staff member or even incident I will caution you and I may ask you to leave and if there are significant interruptions or discussions violating the act just mentioned, then I may have to abruptly adjourn the meeting. I would like to acknowledge that there are members of the media here and they are entitled to be here. I would ask that the media respect the sensitivities of our situation and that they appreciate that most of us here are not accustomed to being filmed, recorded or being subject to scrutiny. Please be respectful and request permission from those you may intend to put into the media before doing so.

Minutes from previous meeting- passed with no errors or omissions

Treasurer's report- Bank statements are available from Sept 2011-May 9/12 for anyone to view. As of May 9/12 we have \$33236.05. We still have outstanding cheques to pass thru the account for the lunch & milk programs & money already voted on to be spent. Tonight we have \$10000.00 to spend.

Motion by Diane B – Would like to see money spent on more SMART Boards for classes. Motion 2nd by Kim & Louise – put to council vote- all in favour- PASSED

Question regarding using some money towards buying an ice machine for the school office- A donation has been received from a school parent & would like to **Motion to use this money towards an ice machine- all in favour –PASSED**

Lunch Program (Stephanie K)

My plan is to continue to provide the weekly Wed lunch program alternating between Subs & Pizza. I still need to negotiate prices for next year with the suppliers.

I was also asked to look into a hot lunch program call MAZZOLA- this is a health lunch program with a variety of items to choose from people can sign up for 1 or all in the 6 week lunch periods. It is run completely by Mazzola so no parent volunteers are need to hand out just someone to get the original forms out. The orders can be done online, faxed or handed in. Website is www.mazzola.ca . I would be willing to oversee this program as well. **Motion by Stephanie to add a second lunch date a try Mazzola-all in favour-PASSED**

Fundraising- The guidelines for this are changing on how School Council can spend this money in support of the schools. More info on this to be available in the Fall.

Crossing Guard (Joanne G)

Many are concerned about student safety of those walking to school in specifically Donald B & Langstaff. Joanne has been in contact with the Ottawa Safety Council & the City. The Safety Council has a program called "School Zone Traffic Safety" they come into the schools for free to teach about safety & safety procedures to kids. They just require the parent council/school administration to contact them. **This to be done in the fall**

The City has a Traffic Specialist that they are sending to monitor the area & will do so a number of random times. A report is expected in the next few weeks to be given to Joanne, which she will share.

Question: Could we also have Cavanaugh & Langstaff as well as Juanita & Langstaff looked at as well? Joanne to contact the Traffic division & add those spots to be checked.

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BBQ- Huntley has an annual school BBQ that Stephanie K has overseen for the last 4 years but is stepping down from this. A volunteer is needed to oversee the planning & shopping of this; we have a bunch of volunteers willing to help with the actual event on the day of. **Annie C from the Huntley Community Assoc. stepped forward & said they will take this on.** BBQ date discussed & set for Wed Sept 12/12 & a council meeting will follow

Teachers:

Corbett, Bowie, Simpson, Graff, Diotte & Herbert present to discuss the different divisions a give a synopsis of all the exciting things that happened this year.

Resource started by saying what a great year they had. They had a Boys Literacy program in the Intermediate division that was well received. Currently there are renovations going on in the resource room.

Kindergarten had a great year & is excited for the addition of full day Kindergarten in the Fall. We have been very busy with the planning of this. There will be 5 classes & 6 ECE's.

Primary- this year also has been a lot of fun & the primaries were given a chance to join extra curricular activities held at recesses. They did yoga, dance, skipping, craft club & the Big Bounce.

Juniors- this year saw many juniors sign up to be Lunch Monitors in Gr5 & 6 (big right of passage). Have a Wax Museum the week of June 19, which the kids are researching to become the wax sculpture!

Intermediates- This year a lot of focus was put on Leadership. It was a very positive year & had many great things come out of it & organize/run by the students.

Principals Report (Diana MacFarlane)

Thanks to council for all their hard work & support this year, it has been a wonderful working with you. Thank you to Deb Millar for update & working hard on the school website.

<http://huntleycentennialps.ocdsb.ca/>

This year the staff brought in & oversaw numerous self-development plans which they were able to take back to classes. We also worked with Coaches from the Board to develop & improve.

Full day ECE's have been hired (6). We will have 2JK classes, 1 JK/SK & 2 SKFrench Immersion classes. It has also been announced we have been approved for a before/after school care program which will be available for kids in JK-gr6. Information will be sent out on the community server about this.

4 portables will be used next year. The computer lab being changed into a classroom & Huntley is getting WIFI & 24 laptops, which will give a portable computer lab.

Staffing is still being finalized.

Would like to introduce our new incoming principal –Colleen Irving

Colleen- grew up in the Carp area & attended Huntley as a child. Recognizes a few faces in the crowd from attending school & a few faces she taught when she was a teacher at West Carleton. 1st teaching

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job was at West Carleton the year it opened & taught there for a few years. Was a Principal at Torbolton PS & been at John Young in Kanata the last 5 years.

Was also part of the District Review team that came to Huntley & gave it such high marks

Question-Who makes up the District team & what is the review.

Superintendent Jill Bennett – the Board selects 7 principals from Ottawa thru the Staff Curriculum Services come in over a 2-day period. They visit with the Principal, staff & go in & watch classes taking place & even speak with some students. It was found that the learning at Huntley Centennial is 2nd to none & the staff is very dedicated to teaching the students & learning themselves. It was dated March 31/11. Some highlights of the reports are that it is a welcoming learning environment, lots of cooperation among the staff & an alignment of the teaching approaches.

Question-is the review public information? It is not online but available in the school for anyone to look at. Anyone wanting to know how it is formatted can go to the Board & find it on the website.

We are aware of parents concerns & we are working on this & want positive results for all concerned. We are also aware that there are many parents in support of the school. The Board takes everything very seriously as students are the 1st consideration! If someone has concerns, they should contact the Principal & if this is not resolved than contact the Board who will meet with the Principal.

Sue Grant- I believe we have many great teachers but feel there are areas of concern at Huntley. We have set up an email group , which is : huntley.concerns@gmail.com if people would like to sign up to be part of it & voice their concerns. The group held an open meeting 2 nights before which about 80 people attended. A Survey was available which 46 were filled in. (One parent stood up to say she had attended meeting but felt the survey was very biased & one sided so she did not fill it in) Sue then proceed to give us a break down of statistics of her survey.

Question to Jill- How do we attract teachers? Existing teachers are given a chance in early Spring to voice what they would like to do in the upcoming year. Then any vacancies are posted on the internal teaching system. Sometimes teachers move for grade changes or to be closed to home.

Question-Has anyone ever collected information of parents talents, backgrounds or careers? This could be useful to topics in the school. This has been done in the past but is out of date. A request was sent out a week ago looking for parents in the community to come & help with a Career day. It could be useful to survey people & we could look at this in the fall. Sophia Khan to look at this in fall.

Question- What are your thoughts on the Fraser Institute Report & our low rankings?

The board does not use this report as it has been found to not be statistically sound. Different provinces have different ways of marking/delivering their curriculums. They look at the report & may reference it but it is not used a base. Please see board website: <http://www.ocdsb.ca/Pages/default.aspx>

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Question about EQAO : An explanation was given, here's the website <http://www.eqao.com/results/> come to school council meetings Nov, Dec. January to hear about EQAO results and how results impact school improvement plan adjustments

Question regarding suspension statistics: Answer Jill will find out what info can be released and provide whatever data that can be provided while still maintaining student privacy to be presented by Colleen on Sept 12th meeting.

Several parents stood to welcome Colleen to the school & community.

Annie Craig on behalf of Huntley Community Association- would like it to be know that they passed at their last meeting to support Huntley Centennial again next year & will be making a donation at the fall meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting @8:30pm

Attendance Attached.

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Stephanie Kola - 

Derek Dunn - 

Dianne Bramble Dien Bull Heritums.

Annie Craig

Charlene Kunder

Laurie Dillon

Yakam

Jill Shepherd.

Denise Benderson

Debbie Millar.

Jan Baird

Evelyn James.

Danielle Goddard.

Sarah Smith

Deborah Bradley

Mark Tynowski

Charmaine Payne

Heather MacCuaig.

Stephanie Farrington

Sarah Roloff.

W Sullivan

Mandy van Vliet

John van Vliet

Jamie Lynn Vaakkola

Jennifer Stirling

Sandra Wallace

Patricia Crawford

Dan Oliver

Claire Atherfold

Beth Rohr

Amy Durant

Jessica Whitely

Kimberley Dune

Jo McGill ^{vrou}

Attendance:

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LUCE GAUDET.
Jennifer Sparks
~~Q Wladstone~~
Dan Wladstone
Melene Harrison
Claire Price
Heather Brown
Stacey MacMullin
Heidi Buchanan
Tracy Facchin
Angsuan Rudra
Alison Weatherston
Julie Morney
Mona Mousler
Bonnie Peebles
Sandra Mitchell
Dawn Jaynew
Connie Rivington-Howie
Colleen Armstrong
SUE GRANT
Brenda Kerr
Debbie Betty
Colin Puchala
Shawn Kerwin
Rita Kerwin
Nancy Wawia Robb
Michael Robb
Kendrea Shaw
Ross Trustler
Denny Schroeder.
BRIAN BROOKS
Pat Ross
Allison Erickson,