

Huntley Centennial Parents Council

Wednesday 3rd June, 2015

In Attendance:

Stacy Tzavelas Jennifer James Lisa Murphy Donna Christie Tim Pychyl Jay Blauer Colleen Irvin
Donna Coutts Mark Tymowski Sue Grant Debbie Heuchert Carol-Lynn Fifield Mandy Eustace
Jo-Anne Graham Debbie Millar Sarah Smith

Apologies: Dan Oliver

Meeting called to order 7:06pm

Agenda Approved: Mark & Sarah

April Minutes Approved: Lisa & Debbie H

O/A Items:

- Arm bands: Received 2 quotes for 225 arm bands - \$1226 & \$2226.

Motion (Jennifer & Sue) : Approve \$1500 for purchase of arm bands. All in favour – passed by consensus.

- Teacher luncheon: date set for Monday 22nd June. Jo-Anne to confirm date works with Dustin at Alice's. Parent volunteers will be needed to cover staff recess/lunch duties.

Treasurers Report: Lisa

\$9259 available funds after all outstanding expenses. Remainder (after all approved expenses have been covered) to be earmarked for school greening project.

Principals Report: Colleen Irvin

- Thank you for the financial support and the parent support for the Spring events. Great to see so many parents supporting students at Track & Field & Regionals.
- Kindergarten Info Night on Wed 10th June, 6:30pm to 7:15pm.
- Staffing for next year is not yet finalized. Due to the drop in numbers for September (large cohort graduating from Gr8, but fewer registered for JK), there are, unfortunately, a number of staff being made surplus. EA – Jerry Lisk; Non-contract, long-term, occasional staff – Ms Chambers, Mille Wallace, Ms McPherson; Contract staff – Ms Artell, Ms Barbieri, M AJ, Mr Van Belois. Mme Laurin, Mme Loughton & Ms Brown are all going on maternity leave. Ms Skevington is returning.
- Budget is on track.

Wish List:

- New music stands: \$408+tax for 24 compact stands.
Motion (Jo-Anne & Tim): purchase new music stands. All in favour – passed by consensus.
- Freezies for Fun Day: Jo-Anne to check what remains in the freezer and purchase enough for entire school.
- Raz-Kids: Denise Klenk has taken over as coordinator. Licences already renewed.

Teachers Report: Donna Christie

Field Trips

- Gr.3/4 took pen pals on trip to Museum of History
- Gr. 1/2 went to the sugar bush
- Gr. 3's had free swimming lessons at Britannia Pool
- Gr. 6's had their "Transition Day"
- Gr. 7 had an outdoor education session at MacSkimming
- Gr. 3 & 4 went to the Museum of Nature

Clubs

- Clubs: Dragon Flies, Jr. band, Int. Drumming Circle, Primary & Jr. Choirs, New Spark singing group, Leadership Council, Pokemon Club, Garden club

Sports

- Jr. Basketball

- Int. Badminton
- Tennis Clinic May 4th (cancelled)
- School and Regional Track and Field Meets. Some students going to boards.

Art

- Musical, Peter Pan, April 28th, 30th and May 1st was amazing.
- Huntley Arts Festival May 8th & 9th was a big success. Thank you to all involved.
- National Art Gallery Looking at Pictures program April 9th & 10th – volunteer came and brought art into the school
- Performance of Polyphonic Poetry for Intermediates June 17th
- Almonte Dance Academy will perform later in June for the whole school

Events

- E.Q.A.O. for Gr. 3 & 6 (cancelled)
- Earth Day Assembly on April 24th
- April Spirit Day was Hat Day; May's was Crazy Hair Day, June's: Canada (wear red, white &/or flags)
- Apr. 17th the Gr. 8's took a Vow of Silence for Social justice in honour of the people around the world who do not have "a voice"
- A speaker from the board came in to talk about the consequences of recycling (cancelled)
- Public Health Nurse spoke to some classes about healthy eating
- Gr. 7 & 8 participated in the U. of Waterloo Math Contest
- April 23rd the Gr. 7's took part in "Clean Up the Capital"
- May 4th – 8th was the Gr. 8 Mini Enrichment Courses

June Upcoming Events

- Junior grades Wax Museum June 4, 11 - 12:30
- June 9th, Track & Field Regionals
- June 12th, Gr. ¼ Urban Buddy B-B-Q
- June 15th, Public Health nurse speaks to some classes about helmet safety
- Parent Volunteer Tea June 15th...PLEASE COME, WE WANT TO HONOUR YOU!
- K - Gr. 2 Dental Screening
- Gr. 1 Community Walk
- June 18th – Senior Kindergarten concert
- June 19th Play Day and Bubble Day for Kindergartens
- June 23rd Report cards go home
- June 25th End-of-Year Assembly and Spirit Day: Red, White, Maple Leaves

Asking for pre-approval for \$4k for Arts funding to allow bookings to be made now for performances for next school year, plus \$100 for garden club.

Motion (Debbie M & Sue): approve funding. All in favour – passed by consensus.

VP Report: Jay

Tell Them From Me: data beign collected. Full report will be available in September. Focusing on year-to-year changes.

OCASC: Mark

Pino Buffone, OCDSB Superintendent of Curriculum Services, spoke about the new curriculum. Discussion about math - failing students. French - results improving & increased enrollment in immersion. Trying to reverse tide of students pulling out of later immersion. Looking at bringing in a European style rating system to standardize language proficiency. Also interest from Fed Govt. English – grammatical structure/syntax below acceptable levels. Sex Ed – parents feel they weren't sufficiently consulted on new curriculum. Teachers like it and have seen improvement from current standard. (NB Debbie M to post link to new curriculum on Parent Council website. Colleen also suggested that she could do a presentation).

OCASC Board elections held.

Arts Festival Sub-Committee: Mandy

Thanks to Alice's for donating coffee for Saturday. Free juice was very popular! Suggestion that next year could be run as a 'lemonade stand' with all drinks & treats 25c

Gr8 Grad Committee: Sue

- Sue is collecting a binder of information to pass to Jo-Anne ready for next year.
- Car wash was very successful and financially in good shape.
- Ceremony moved to the arena due to large number of students plus guests; party afterwards in the Ag Hall.
- 'Gift' to school will be the donation of a bench & plaque as a kick start to the new greening project. Total cost \$1420. Grad paying \$1000, Parent Council to pay remainder.

Motion (Sarah & Jennifer) : Parent Council to pay \$420 towards bench. Passed by consensus.

School Greening Sub-Committee: Tim (on behalf of Beth)

8 new trees to be planted and paid for by the board. Locations being marked this week.

Still trying to get directions from the board about what can be done for the greening project. No wild flowers (attract ticks) or fruit trees (attract bees) allowed .

Speaker Series: Tim

Procrastination talk for parents in October. Plan to survey parents to find out what they are interested in hearing about and then schedule other speakers accordingly. Tim would like to focus on Devt Issues, Executive Function & Emotional Intelligence.

Tech/Lunch Sub-Committee: Debbie M & Debbie H

- Concern that much of the items offered on the Mazzola menu do not meet OCDSB nutritional guidelines. Plan to cut out these items and offered a reduced menu as its convenient for parents. Also comments that many kids are not eating the Mazzola meals and throw them away at school so parents wont realize.
- Booster Juice has been extremely popular. Plan to repeat for 8 weeks in Fall and Spring next year. More labour intensive as 4 volunteers are needed to distribute it every Thursday.
- Pizza & Subs will continue as usual on alternating Wednesdays.
- Next year there will be 2 sessions, same as this year, with re-ordering in January. There will be no option to pay for the full year which will hopefully reduce any confusion in February when the 2nd session begins.

Concern that the parent council mailing list is still being used by the school to send out newsletters etc from the school. Colleen is waiting on tech from the board to roll out a new school website which would include a mailing list. Congratulations to Colleen for her award for Innovation.

New Business

- Air conditioning in the portable: as there will be fewer students, hence fewer classes next year, only 2 portables will be in use. 1 already has a/c and there are lots of fans (min 2 per portable). Review again in September.
- Back to School BBQ: Tim & Mark have kindly agreed to be the coordinators again. Thank you! As school does not start again until 2nd week in September, BBQ will be help on Thursday 17th September.

Next meeting: Wednesday 16th September 2015, at 7pm in the school library.

Motion to adjourn: Sue & Mark