



THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CENTRAL SCHOOL COUNCIL

CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY

April 14, 2015

ATTENDANCE:

Council: Angela Bromley; Belal El-Hassan; Cynthia Silversides (Chair), Chris Lauzon (Teacher Representative) Emily Ens (FundScrip Chair); Holly Etherington (Treasurer); Kathryn Litke; Kristin O'Connor; Laura Davidson (Vice-Chair); Laura Wohlegemut; Leanne Greenwood; Mario Zeoli (Principal); Melinda Cowan; Melisa Barnard (Lunch Chair); Samantha Bell; Sandra Mercuri; Sue Rapin (Secretary)

Regrets: Barbara Gibson; Bridget O'Shaughnessy (Fundraising Chair); Hailey Mercuri (Student Representative); Jen MacDonnell; Kristie Kuiper; Lauren Pitkeathly; Lindsay Padgett; Mehrnoosh Afnan; Midge Petrino (Community Representative); Nikolai Zydownyk; Oksana Glukhov; Tania Mercuri

Guests: Ashley Hall (Grade 5 Teacher), David Park; Ginelle Polmanter-Gentle; Jennifer Donato (Vice-Principal); Julie Arsenault-Howick (Grade 8 Teacher)

Secretary: Sue Rapin

SchoolScapes Program Presentation by J. Arsenault-Howick/Ashley Hall

Agenda Item C.1 (b) was provided to Council in advance of the start of the council meeting. A summary of EcoSchool efforts at Central was provided and a new initiative "SchoolScapes" was discussed and request for assistance was made.

SchoolScapes is a program to plant trees (15) and associated shrubs at the school and has a good connection to the existing outdoor classroom as well as has links to current classroom curriculum. The date for planting the trees is April 27 (rain date May 8) and is considered a delayed Earth Day event for the school. Recently a survey was sent out to parents to obtain support of this initiative, for materials/tools as well as some manual labour (i.e. picking up donated mulch prior to the event, and summer watering efforts, etc.). There is still a need for assistance on this initiative and parents are encourage to respond to the survey/offer assistance.

Action: Vice-Chair Davidson volunteer to contact the town Parks and Recreation group to see what support they may be able to provide/donate.

Action: Vice-Principal Donato will confirm if there is an outdoor water valve for summer watering efforts.

A. COMMENCEMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Call to Order and Noting of Members Absent

Chair Silversides called the Regular Meeting of the Council to order at 7:15 pm.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

B. BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

1. Adoption of the Agenda

**Moved by Sandra Mercuri.
Seconded by Kristin O'Connor**

“That the Agenda be adopted.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of Board Minutes

**Moved by Emily Ens.
Seconded by Melisa Barnard**

“That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Central School Council dated February 24, 2015, be confirmed as submitted.”

CARRIED

C. PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITION

1. Presentations

a) PIC, CPF, and Parent Council Survey Results, Presentation by Cynthia Silversides

Survey Results/Discussion

Approximately 25% participation rate. Based on results, a few actions were identified.

Action: Vice-Principal Donato will move the contact name/information for Council to the top of the Council webpage.

Action: Vice-Principal Donato will review opportunities to highlight volunteer requests on the school website. Also to include a link to the Paul Davis internet safety website.

Action: Chair Silversides to review opportunity to highlight council meeting participation does not require participants to be council members.

Action: In preparation for the first council meeting of the school year, a framework for fundraising will be provided (layering what council will do, school is planning, as well as community fundraising). Fundraising Chair Bridget O'Shaughnessy to work with Principal Zeoli and Vice-Principal Donato to prepare this list by end of year.

Action: For consideration for inclusion in the PRC, a parent plan for school year to include the topic of fundraising.

CPF Update

There are 22k members in Canada and 29 local chapters in Ontario. The role of the group is around advocacy, resources and obtaining funding for members. Parents are highly encouraged to review the website and possibly become members. If there 10 family members then a local chapter could be started.

PIC Update/PRO Grant

The funding received for 2014/15 (\$500) was used for the Parent Resource Centre (PRC). There is a PIC conference every Fall (next one is scheduled for November 4, 2015). There is another workshop open to parents on May 6, at 7pm providing updates on Teachers College and how that relates to our schools.

PRO grant is available for up to \$1000. This year, grant money was used by the school for the parent night workshops in Fall 2014. Ideas for grant proposal revolved around further resourcing of the PRC as well as an internet safety talk by Paul Davis (\$650/currently booked for November 25, 2015). This talk is highly recommended and was previously provided to Central School parents in 2013/14. The grant proposal is due May 19th and requires approval by Council prior to submission.

PRO Grant Proposal

**Moved by Kristin O'Connor
Seconded by Sandra Mercuri**

“That Council develop a proposal for the PRO Grant submission and present it at the next Council meeting for approval. Proposal shall be coordinated by the Council Chair and focus around providing additional resources for the PRC, using recent survey results to assist in the details as needed.”

CARRIED

b) SchoolScapes Program

Presentation provided immediately prior to the Council meeting; summary and action items provided above.

2. Recognition

Chair Silversides recognized all members of Council for their volunteer efforts with a token of appreciation.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion, voted by Email on March 4, 2015

**Moved by Sue Rapin
Seconded by Laura Davidson**

“That the Central School Council By-laws revision dated March 3, 2015, be ratified by the council.”

CARRIED

2. Motion, voted by Email on March 4, 2015

**Moved by Laura Noble-Wohlgemut
Seconded by Leanne Greenwood**

“That the Central School Council meeting day be changed from the fourth Tuesday of the month to the second Tuesday of the month with a start date of April 14, 2015.”

CARRIED

3. Motion, voted by Email on March 4, 2015

**Moved by Holly Etherington
Seconded by Laura Davidson**

“That the Central School Council apply for a 1 year membership and pay the \$60.00 fee for Central Public School to be a Canadian Parents for French (CPF) Associate Membership Organization (AMO).”

CARRIED

4. Motion, voted by Email on March 4, 2015

**Moved by Belal El-Hassan
Seconded by Melisa Barnard**

“That the 2014-2015 PIC Grant in the amount of \$500.00 be used to purchase books and learning resources promoting parent engagement for the Central School Council Parent Resource Centre.”

CARRIED

G. Operating Budget and Commitments Summary

Not covered at this meeting.

F. NEW BUSINESS

None identified at this meeting.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Chair Report

a) French language courses were reported to have a very good turnout and there is enough interest to offer the programs again in the Fall 2015.

b) PRO Grant information was covered earlier in the meeting.

c) Internet Safety Speaker information was covered earlier in the meeting.

2. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Etherington reported Council Financial Report. There is \$21257 is currently in the Council bank account. However, several checks were issued the night of the meeting to cover such things as the school sign donation from the proceeds from the McMillans fundraiser (\$1120); a Grade 8 graduation donation (\$500) and expenses to conduct the parent survey (\$30).

It was noted that the last pizza week will be June 18th and there may be one more Lunch Lady event as well as the Spring fundraiser accounting for the remaining budget increases for the remainder of the school year.

3. Fundraising Report

Kernels Popcorn is now available for purchase (\$2.50/bag) the day of the remaining monthly events (for students that did not purchase in advance).

The spring fundraiser is being planned, a dance-o-rama for May 14th. A request for volunteers was made and a signup sheet was circulated during the meeting.

There will also be fundraising during the track & field day, with an offering of Mr. Freezies. A signup sheet was circulated for volunteers during the meeting.

4. Principal Report

Principal Zeoli handed out a Principal/Vice-Principal Report with updates and comments:

- A review was completed to see if a visit from PACHI (Pan Am Games Mascot) aligned with current school curriculum. Unfortunately no strong connections were found.
- An update was provided on the school playground inspection. All structures passed inspection with the only deficiency around the pea gravel which has to be rototilled to bring it back up to required height. The playground has been placed out-of-bounds until the work is complete (playground to be opened by next Monday).
- Central has requested participation in the expansion of the pilot program for online payments. If chosen, this will commence in September. If interested, Orchard Park has screenshots of the payment system available on their school website.
- The school wish list was updated and the school is requesting Council to review and make motions to support one or more of the following suggestions.
 - chairs for performance/gym presentations, \$4k
 - school sports uniforms (basketball), \$2k
 - non-LED sign, \$5k
 - Boot/backpack racks, \$4k
 - equipment for fitness break, \$1k
 - technology (otter boxes for ipads), \$1k
- Grade 3 and Grade 6 EQAO dates were provided, Language and Math, May 28-June 5 with results available in September.
- Preliminary school staffing, current projections are down from this year (possibly one less classroom in the upcoming school year)
- Track and Field is being held on May 5 (field at Central) and May 6 (track at GSS).
- Year-End trips are in the process of being determined and will only happen if there is a good connection to current curriculum. This is different from the Grade 7/Grade 8 trip next year which they are currently looking into (destination, timing). Currently planning for the Tuesday following the May long weekend, for three nights. Costs are currently around the \$600 range and if deposits are made earlier (i.e. end of this school year) there would be some savings.
- Surveys, the school will be conducting a survey at the end of May (with some questions similar to Council survey). This is at the request of the board. Also, a recent survey "Tell Them from Me" is to be conducted with the students on April 20-21
- Scholastic Book Fair results from last weeks efforts, \$3900 sales with a 60% commission

Action: Secretary Rapin to update the business plan and provide a proposal to Council at the May meeting taking into account the Council survey results and the updated wish list provided above. The goal would be to make decisions/finalize how to spend the fundraising dollars for the 2014/15 school year.

5. Student Representative Report

There was no student representative report. An email report was provided by Hailey M. received after the meeting and summarized below:

Shrek

- Students are really missing indoor practice, rehearsals, makeup and costumes.
- Many students who did not participate in Shrek said it was well done, and great comedy.
- Some students have the question if frozen yogurt sales will still be happening on Fridays and Tuesdays. Many students enjoy the new angry birds theme. Some are wondering of their will be new flavors coming.

Sports

- badminton (a new sport for many, and a cool learning experience)
- gymnastics (Plenty of students were very content at the fact of having a gymnastics team this year, since they had been questioning since day one. The competition is coming up very soon.)
- volleyball (very successful this season and hope for even more next year.)

Grad

- Sweaters have officially arrived, students are loving them and wearing them lots.
- Prom project is no longer optional since April 11 has passed.

6. Parent Resource Centre (PRC) Committee Report

Sandra Mercuri provided an update on the PRC efforts to-date. The PRC will be divided into core areas for action/division of resources. The focus will be on books, games and the website. A brochure will be developed by end of year as a communication tool to let parents know about this new resource centre. Initiatives underway:

- teacher survey to ensure materials being provided align with current curriculum and cover all grade levels.
- sign out process under review
- book donation request
- location for materials (space in school library)

7. Playground Committee Report

There was no Playground Committee Report.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

CYNTHIA SILVERSIDES, Chair

SUE RAPIN, Secretary