

# Humbercrest P.S. – School Parent Council

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

## MEETING MINUTES

### ATTENDANCE:

Jennifer Anderson	Kristen Juschkewitsch	Heather Robbins
Terra Attard	Jennifer Kwong	Laurie Robertson
Shay Benedict	Laurie Lyle	Greg Schneider
Georgina Bruinsma-Cajic	Maria Madeira	Heather Sinclair
Natalie Cakebread	Marcia Martin	Leigh Thornton
Sandra Carr	Susan McDonald	Linda Winter
Edwina Chen	Lisa Morlock	Jim Witty
Thomas Silcox-Childs	Ann Nethercot	Sandra Witty
Jane Craig	Ibi Olabode	Pauline Wong
Tammy Cruji	Irene Papadimitriou	Rebekkah Zois
Katherine Dillon	Shannon Petrolito	
Jane Dimoff	Karen Raittinen	

### REGRETS:

Tracy D'Cruz	Val Pletch	Annabel Zbogar
Dwayne McConney	Thomas Silcox-Childs	

### 1. Welcome and Introductions:

Heather Sinclair, Parent Council Chair welcomed us and presented the Agenda and past meeting minutes.

**MOTION:** To accept the April minutes.

Moved by: Laurie Lyle                      Seconded by: Katherine Dillon                      Motion Carried.

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### 2. Principal / Vice-Principal Reports

Ann Perez, Principal, welcomed the group. Discussion began on how the school will provide integration for the French and English students in the school. Grade 7s went to camp for three days, both English and French streams together. The students had a blast. Additionally, the school will begin moving toward a “house” structure with eight groupings. The houses will focus on various skills and integration techniques. The Grade 6 students have been working on mixing French and English classes for various tasks so that they can integrate better at the Sheldon trip in spring. The school’s EQAO results were amazing with 100% of the Grade 3 students reading at or above provincial standards and 91% at or above provincial standards in math. The school and the province together are working on developing better math programs.

Vice-Principal Shauna Davidson introduced herself and thanked us for the warm welcome she has received thus far. She discussed that the school sports events were off to a great (and fast) start so far. The Terry Fox run returned this year and raised almost \$500. The students participated in “Orange Shirt Day” to represent their support of the Aboriginal community. The school is working on its character education programs, such as “respect” and “responsibility” in all grade levels.

### 3. Election of Parent Council

Heather Sinclair agreed to stay on as Parent Council Co-Chair.

Heather reported that Dwayne McConney would be stepping down, so there was a call for a new **Co-Chair**. Terra Attard agreed to be the new Co-Chair with Heather.

Ann Nethercot indicated she was stepping down as Parent Council **Secretary**. Tammy Cruji agreed to be the new Secretary with Ann as backup.

Jim Witty agreed to remain as Parent Council **Treasurer**.

The group agreed that our Parent Council Sub-Committees would remain the same this year. Committee chairs were identified as follows:

- **SoFun** Committee Co-chairs will remain Irene Papadimitriou and Kristen Juschkewitsch
- **STEM** Committee Co-chairs were confirmed to be Doug Morgan and Eric Nethercot
- **Environment and Sustainability** Committee Chair will remain Georgina Bruinsma-Cajic
- **Caring & Safe Schools** Committee Chair will remain Katherine Dillion
- **Grant and Corporate Donations** Committee – tabled. Heather to contact last year’s chair to determine if she is returning or whether a new chair is required.
- **Communications** Committee Co-Chairs will remain Laure Lyle and Thomas Silcox-Childs

### 3. Committee Reports

- **SOFUN:** Irene reported on upcoming events. We discussed the calendar and fundraising initiatives for the year.
  - Popcorn Day and Pizza Day was off to a positive start.
  - There was a call for a new Dance-a-thon lead and Linda Winters volunteered.
  - Jim Witty, the Treasurer read the financial report. He discussed that SoFun experienced a slight deficit for the 2015-2016 school year, however we still raised \$39, 639.16. **ACTION:** Jim will send the financial report to Thomas so that he can post it to the school website. Ann will answer the question “Where does all the money go?” by preparing a report. We purchased 30 iPads, 20 Chromebooks and 30 laptops last year. We all agreed that we need new and fresh fundraising initiatives for this year and going forward. Some ideas were: videotape the Christmas concert, sell professional pictures with Santa at the Pancake Breakfast or Craft Fair.
- **STEM:** Doug Morgan will remain as co-chair and Eric Nethercot has volunteered to join him. There was an anonymous donation of six SMART boards to the school. We are currently awaiting a carpenter to install them.
- **ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY:** Georgina will remain the representative however is looking for help. Schoolyard Clean-up happens this fall, however a date has not been selected. Bring gloves and gardening tools.
- **CARING & SAFE SCHOOLS:** Will report at next meeting.
- **GRANTS & CORPORATE DONATIONS:** We discussed the various grants available and those we plan on applying for. Waiting for a Chair for this committee. There is a call-out for someone with experience in grant writing to assist.
- **COMMUNICATIONS:** Laurie Lyle reported that there was not a parent’s survey (regarding fundraising and communications) done last year, but it could be revised in 2016-2017 if necessary. Laurie reported that Thomas had launched a new school website and that he and Laurie would continue to populate it as the year went on. Please email Laurie if you have suggestions or see areas missing information. **ACTION:** Laurie agreed to work with administration to post extracurricular sports teams and club information on the web so parents could review it. Laurie also reported that we have 99% of email addresses for Humbercrest families – which is significantly reducing the amount of paper being sent home and photo copying charges.

#### 4. Council Representative Reports

- **WARD 7 REPS:** Ward 7 Reps were confirmed as Jane Dimoff, Jane Craig and Heather Robbins
- **TEACHER REPS:** As no teachers were present, confirmed the Teacher Representative was tabled until next meeting.
- **SUPPORT STAFF REP:** There was no one present to take over this role this year. Heather to work with Ann to seek rep to attend the next meeting
- **COMMUNITY REP:** Ross Murray, a community member and guidance counsellor at Runnymede Public School volunteered last year. He was not present at the first meeting. Laurie to contact him to see if he's interested in staying in the position this year and attend the next meeting.

#### 6. Other Business

- The first Ward 7 meeting is on October 18 at Keele Street Public School at 7pm.
- There was concern raised by a parent regarding the Grade 7 ski trip initiative. A motion to reinstate the trip was made so that all students have the opportunity to experience skiing in another province. Ideas presented to fund the trip were having the students sell something, asking for donations, etc. There was much controversy surrounding the topic with other parents stating that it is expensive and many days away from school. Ann mentioned that they had moved away from the idea because it was not inclusive of all families from a cost perspective, considering that the trip costs more than \$700 plus equipment necessary.
- Heather reminded us to email her if you require a time block to speak at Parent Council.
- Shay brought up the question of police checks and wanted to know what was required of parent volunteers who work in the school and go on field trips. What is the policy? **ACTION:** Information will be circulated to all parents.
- Heather Robbins asked about the Milk Program for the JK/SK classes. **ACTION:** Ann will look into seeing if they could accommodate the program for the kindergarten grades.
- Future Parent Council Meeting Dates have been published on the web site. There will be no meeting in December or March.
  - Wednesday, November 9
  - Wednesday, January 18
  - Wednesday, February 22
  - Wednesday, April 5
  - Wednesday, May 10
  - Wednesday, June 14

**MOTION:** To adjourn the meeting. Moved by: Susan McDonald Seconded by: Laurie Lyle Motion Carried.