



ATTENDANCE:

Claudia Bennett
Ibi Olabode
Maria Madeira
Terra Attard
Heather Sinclair
Ann Perez
Shauna Davidson

Kristen Juschkewitsch
Angie Forster
Sandra Carr
Theresa Catania
Johanna Weaver
Brenda Bennett
Krishpa Kotella

Jim Witty
Sandra Witty
Lesley Scullion
Laurie Lyle
Georgina Bruinsma-Cajic
Silvia Tiareuts
Greg Schneider
Kelly Wayland Smith

1. Welcome and Approval of May Minutes

- Heather Sinclair Parent Council Co-Chair, welcomed everyone and presented the agenda and past meeting minutes.

MOTION: to accept the May minutes.

Moved by: Tammy Cruji Seconded by: Laurie Lyle. Motion Carried.

2. Treasurer's Report

- Year to date financial summary discussed (financials include estimates for events yet to take place e.g. party in the playground, last pizza day, etc)
- After deducting \$5000 to carry over and leave in the account for next school year, approximately \$21,255 remains to be distributed as follows:
 - (i) \$6000 performances
 - (ii) \$10,655 technology (variable - will go up or down based on total funds raised at party in the playground)
 - (iii) \$1,600 tent for physical education program
 - (iv) \$3000: music program instruments

MOTION: to allocate the \$21,255 per direction outlined above.

Moved by: Tammy Cruji Seconded by: Ibi Olabode Motion Carried.

3. Construction Update

- Construction is progressing; taking slightly longer than expected (according to initial schedule should've been finished by now).
- Hoarding remains in place until the blinds are in (provides filter from sun).
- Low risk that the work won't be done by September; no further construction anticipated prior to September.
- New benches in the hallways for guests; co-ops students in the board made the benches.
- Schoolyard:
 - Waiting on a storage shed to house equipment (to be used at recess and lunch); problems bringing it into original location given wires and cranes.
 - Some deficiencies noted that need to be rectified (e.g. more fill, more sand to be added to the sand pit, hockey areas to be painted).
 - Because we're waiting for the shed to be delivered, we still haven't gotten the final bill for the schoolyard.
 - Anticipating a bill in the range of \$40-\$45k.
 - \$36k: left over from initial improvement project (dedicated to schoolyard improvement).
 - \$30k: dedicated from last year's budget for schoolyard improvement.
 - Once outstanding balances are paid, potentially \$21k left over from the original funds and they'll look to parent council for direction on where to spend it (e.g. schoolyard items, etc).
 - **Next step:** In prep for parent council meeting in September, engage members of previous schoolyard improvement committee (ie Scott) to make suggestions to the committee in terms of where to spend



the extra funds; and speak to physical education teachers to get their recommendations in terms of how best to leverage the funds.

4. Principal/Vice-Principal's Report:

Principal Ann Perez welcomed the group and provided an update.

- **Staffing & Organization Planning:** Busy over the last month with staffing and organization planning for next year, including interviewing for staff changes, time-tabling and reorganizing classrooms.
- **Bike Rodeo:** Counted 130 bikes at school; great to see the fences lined with bikes and scooters.
- **Hoppers & Hoopers:** Successful performance and this last Sunday performed at ride for heart. Great leadership opportunity for the children
- **Learning Coach:** Robert Desrochers has been working with teachers; did a number of focus groups with 7 and 8 students to learn more about how they felt about every aspect of school life (teachers, comments that happen in hallways, bullying, school work). Robert and his colleagues have collected data and tomorrow the grade 7 and 8 teacher will be released for part of the day to hear feedback and debrief on comments.
- **Dental Screening:** Public health came in and successfully completed comprehensive screening program.
- **Sheldon Outdoor Education:** Successfully complete for grade 6.
- **Gauss Math Content:** Open to grade 7 and 8; 60 students participated (voluntary). Some students did very well.
- **Grade 6 Transition Meeting:** Invited grade 6 students from King George and Warren Park schools to visit. The students are provided a tour and then in the evening the parents are invited to an info night and tour. A big part of grade 7 orientation involves a 3 day trip to a camp Wahanowin in September, to do team building and activities so that they come back feeling like they know each other.
- **Track and Field:** Underway since the end of April; 10 students moving on to city finals.
- **Grade 8 Grad Trip:** Went to Blue Mountain, participated in numerous outdoor activities, rock climbing, gondola, games night, it was the first time for this trip and it worked out extremely well.
- **Mad Science:** Free presentation for JK/SK and grade 1.
- **Stem Night:** June 21st (5-7 p.m.)
- **Music Night:** June 20th (7 p.m.)
- **Other:** STEM challenge at Humber College today; Grade 4 released salmon into the Humber river.
- **Primary play day:** Older students organize games and stations for younger children.
- **Volunteers needed for Party in the Playground:** Sign up list for party in the playground available to grade 7 and 8 students.
- **Grade 7 and 8 homeroom and rotary subjects for next year:** Math will be taught by specialist teachers to ensure consistency across the classes. Science, Music, Gym, Core French/ English will be taught on rotary while Homeroom will consist of Language, History/Geography, Art and Drama. Homeroom teachers will be focusing on a cross curricular inquiry based approach with their classes.
 - Some parents expressed a need to bring a specialized arts program back:
 - Art is a curriculum subject and there is a curriculum that is followed by all teachers. Students will still be taught the curriculum but by their home room teacher.
 - Many teachers are excited to teach art. They know they need to encourage children to get their portfolios going, for those children who want to enter a school of the arts.
 - The art room and supplies will stay
 - Overall, this decision was made in consultation with the staffing committee (that considered everything from supervision, to timetable, to classroom organization, what subjects are taught by whom, etc.)
 - **Suggestion:** Communicate this information more completely and swiftly to parents in future (in absence of this, it was perceived as being a cut). When presenting the classroom organization model in future, present these types of changes as well.
 - **Next step:** Add to February 2019 Parent Council agenda as a check-in to see how it's going and evaluate what makes sense for the following year.
- **Teacher Attrition:** At every school you can expect to see a 5 to 10% rollover with staff. Some people want to be closer to home, some people want different leadership opportunities, etc.
- **Curriculum Change for 2018/2019 School Year:** Mandated that kids do 60 minutes of math a day.



5. Committee Updates:

Ward 7 - update

- Currently doing a study in Bloorwest Village/High Park Avenue area; assessing capacity and looking for insight and information. If interested, or any concerns re class sizes, please review on TDSB website for more information.

SoFun - update

- **Bingo:** great success, raised \$3k, bought a permanent bingo machine; two leads will lead again next year.
- **Party in the Playground:** Thursday, June 14th, planning well underway. Need parent and student volunteers.
- **Volunteer & Teacher Appreciation Breakfast and Pride Day:** 22-Jun
- **Graduation:** 26-Jun; planning well underway
 - **Next steps:** At September 2018 Parent Council meeting, allocate funds for next year's grade 8 graduation.

Environment & Sustainability – update

- Great bike rodeo; applying for more bike racks.

Allergy – update

- Successful allergy awareness campaign and great partnership with SoFun committee to advise on products for this school year.
- Tee and Shauna met to review the success of different initiatives this year and have a roadmap for changes to put in place for next year.

Grants– update

- n/a

Communications - update

- Parents will get a letter shortly indicating absence reporting is changing for next year.
- Need to test the integrity of parent email list; will be sending home paper confirmation slips.

French/English Collaboration - update

- n/a

Caring and Sharing School - update

- n/a.

Drop Zone

- Asking for parents to volunteer either once/week, every other week, or once per month.
- Will run similar to how it was before (20 minute window in the morning).
- **Next step:** When we send out class confirmation emails in August, include sign- up sheet for volunteers and reminder notice about drop zone.

6. Other Business:

- **Buddy bench in the front yard:** Recommendation to establish a buddy bench in both the front and back yard.
 - Follow-up: During schoolyard improvement project, landscape architect included recommendations on suitable spaces for buddy bench. Follow-up and include in planning for next year.
- **Reading of the shelves in the library:** Librarian is looking for parent volunteers to review the shelves in the library and ensure the books are in the right place (can be done in staggered shifts).



- **SoFun Refrigerator:** Need a new refrigerator for the SoFun kitchen if anyone has a fridge to donate.
- **Ann's Retirement:**
 - On an annual basis, Parent Council needs to provide a school statement of needs (profile of what would make a good principle at Humbercrest).
 - Parent attending the parent council meeting asked that the following be included in the school statement of needs:
 - Prioritize candidates for the new principal position with experience, aptitudes and a strong interest/commitment in strengthening the school's 7/8 programme in terms of:
 - (1) the structure of the academic programming,
 - (2) the creation of leadership opportunities within that age group and
 - (3) the hiring/retaining of teachers who are committed to and enthusiastically embrace that age group.
 - To the last point concerning staffing, I would hope to see a principal selected who can provide strong and positive leadership to the staff, so that they will remain at Humbercrest and engage in enhancing intra- and extra-curricular activities.
 - Next steps as it relates to the hiring process:
 - Heather Sinclair and Terra Attard will meet with the superintendent tomorrow and be provided an overview of the new principal candidates.
 - Heather and Terra will meet prospective candidates; however, they don't necessarily get a vote in terms of who will be the final hire. The superintendent respects the partnership of the Parent Council and wants them engaged to ensure nothing is overlooked.