



ATTENDANCE: See Appendix A for members at large.

1. Welcome

- Heather Sinclair Parent Council Co-Chair, welcomed everyone and introduced Principal Erin Altosaar and guests Tracy Hayhurst, Robin Pilkey.
- Heather presented the agenda and June meeting minutes.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To accept the June minutes.

Moved by: Kristin Juschkewitsch Seconded by: Laurie Lyle Motion Carried.

3. Principal's Report:

Principal Erin Altosaar welcomed the group and gave a special thanks to Laurie Lyle for managing communications and sending out class assignments prior to the start of school.

- **School Superintendent Tracy Hayhurst to address school leadership:**
 - At the meeting, the school statement of needs developed by parent council (with input and feedback from parents) was passed around. This statement of needs will also be shared with student council.
 - Tracy welcomed the group and introduced herself.
 - Third year of being superintendent for Humbercrest, and she understands the questions and concerns from parents following the September 7th letter home.
 - She acknowledge and appreciates the critical role the principal and vice principal play in setting the tone and culture of the school in moving things forward. She also acknowledged that the many principals last year, and the change gave angst to some parents.
 - Tracy reaffirmed that Erin will be moving on to the position of centrally assigned principal (based on exceptional track record, leadership skills, mentoring capabilities , etc).
 - As of the 29th of August Erin was already in the school setting up for year ahead.
 - Erin was a great fit for the Humbercrest school statement of needs. The decision was made that Erin start the schoolyear, begin the work to lay the foundation and she believes the school will benefit from her being here, even if for only a short time.
 - Moving forward they want to honor school statement of needs as they search for Erin's replacement. In addition, she personally has a strong appreciation for the qualities the school needs. New parents joining for the first time are encouraged to let their voices be heard and provide feedback to the school statement of needs to Heather Sinclair before the next Parent Council meeting on October 24th.
 - In terms of Erin's successor, the plan is to take a name forward to the November board meeting and then work on a transition plan for Erin to move to new role. This will enable Humbercrest to benefit from at least three months of Erin's leadership in moving the foundation forward. There is a very strong learning plan in place for math, students and teachers and it will serve the school well.
 - Robin Pilkey also offered her thoughts and shared that Tracy will take the time she needs to find the right principal candidate to fill this position. If we don't make the November board meeting, it would be December, and if it stretches beyond that they would call a special meeting of the board.
 - Questions from the members at large:
 - Q: What's the timeframe when substitute principal would start?
 - A: There will be no substitute principal or in-between, because we want to ensure continuity.
 - Q: Would like a veteran principal vs a first-timer.
 - A: Include in the statement of needs.
 - Q: Is the recruitment process similar to a corporate environment - post and apply?
 - A: No. There is a transfer process by which principal's transfer from one school to another. Typically principals spend 5-7 years in a school. There is also a promotion list (reviewed end of October) whereby



vice-principals are applying to become principals. There is a rigorous interview process to get on the promotion list

- Q: Will Erin stay on and train the new principal in his/her new capacity?
- A: Part of Erin's exit plan will involve a rigorous transition plan with the new incumbent. Erin is staying in learning centre 4 and will always be available in a mentorship capacity.
- Q: Who decides what suggestions get included in statement of need?
- A: Parent Council, and Parent Council will bring a draft to the October 24th meeting.

- **Schoolyard update:**

- Process is still open until all of the work is complete (still some issues with turf where it's separating and coming up, along with a few other deficiencies that will be dealt up on 22-Oct). We are holding back final payment until outstanding items are fixed. Also need a bench and bunkers installed.
- If parents notice any issues on the schoolyard, please let Erin know ASAP.
- Additional 'No Dog' signs will be strategically placed on the schoolyard in the coming weeks/months. A reminder will also be included in the next newsletter.

- **Grade 5 and 6 re-org:**

- An additional teacher has joined the school (taught in France, with a French board, previous school was Northlea and started yesterday morning). A new half time prep teacher also started.
- Now have two 5 and two 6 classes.
- Half time prep teacher will spend time with Mr. Gueye and do some small group work with students in Miss Heller's combined 1 and 2 class. She will not work with the English 1/2 class as the numbers are much smaller.
- Set up timetable so minimal disruption to the school.

- **EQAO & Math:**

- Across Ontario, grade 6 EQAO scores are low and Humbercrest scores are low.
- Scores are not differentiated between the English and French track. Grade 3: math was 73% (62% TDSB, 63% province). High school teachers say they can see the math issues on their end in the areas of: fractions, integers and algebra.
- Erin has done a thorough deep-dive of the results and her observations are as follows:
 - Need to work on thinking skills, number sense, measurement and geometry. When she looks at scores on aggregate, where we did worse are thinking or application questions. We need to teach students how to articulate their thinking on paper and this starts when they are young. They need to write out their steps so we can see where they are going wrong.
 - Erin brought sample EQAO questions to share with parents and brought specific examples to life (in a series of multiple choice questions, there are always answers that are close to the right answer, but not right. We have to teach them "how" to answer the questions). Overall we had low percentages in the multiple choice questions. It's both a math issue and a test-taking issue.
- Erin is already applying her best practice learnings from Rotman on integrated thinking to help shape how the math curriculum is delivered.
- There are a series of professional development sessions set up for primary, junior and grade 7 & 8 teachers.
 - Already started with K-3. They came together to review and discuss how they have math talks and show the thinking process. Teachers will come back together in November to discuss what worked, what didn't and continue to evolve how they deliver the curriculum moving forward.
 - Additional training sessions planned for teachers in junior and 7/8 in the coming weeks.
 - Also, they are leveraging a new diagnostic tool called 'leaps and bounds assessments' to help with diagnosing opportunities and developing action plans.
- Last year changed the staffing model by putting math on rotary (vs home room) with three dedicated math teachers.
- Also focused on bridging junior to intermediate math and then bridging intermediate to high school (different teachers coming in to Humbercrest to share knowledge and learn).



- How kids do in grade 6 can dictate how well they do in grade 9.
- Important to keep in mind, EQAO is a three day snapshot of what students know. When analyzing the data, some grade 5 teachers were very surprised (because the children who typically excel didn't always score strong).
- Individual student reports have just arrived at home and you can see on individual reports how your child did.
- For this school year Humbercrest has complied with the mandated 60 minutes of math/per day for every grade.
- Q: What resources exist to support the students?
- A:
 - Table set up for math, they can come out and get extra support; also run a homework club.
 - For grade 4, 5, 6 have teachers that go in for supplemental support (multi-subject, French & English)
 - Resource teachers: 2.5 for the entire school
 - Next parent council meeting we will review proposal for a website that parents can access at home with math resources.
- **Terry fox:** target was \$4,700 already north of \$6500; huge success.

4. Introduction of 2018/19 positions and committees

- A couple of weeks ago all parents received a parent council self-nomination form. From last year many of our parent council positions have self-nominated to do the roles again this year including:
 - Parent Council co-chair: Heather Sinclair, Johanna Weaver
 - Treasurer: Jim Witty
 - Secretary: Tammy Cruji
 - Communications: Laurie Lyle and Greg Schneider
- 4 key committees:
 - So Fun chairs: Kristen Juschkewitsch and Irene Papadimitrio
 - Environment & Sustainability chair: Georgina Bruinsma-Cajic
 - Allergy chairs: Jane, Jenny Vervena and Tee Schneider
 - Caring & Safe Schools: Ibi Olabode, Michelle Parker and Scott Venton will be parent liaisons.
- Attendees at Sept 27th meeting: everyone present is considered to be a member at large. Going forward they can vote at future meetings.

MOTION: To accept new parent council positions.

Moved by: Ashlyn McConvey Seconded by: Scott Venton Motion Carried.

5. Elections if needed

- n/a

6. Communications Report

- Parent council website is being updated. Greg Schneider is web-master and can update content whenever needed for the committees.
- [Humbercrest Twitter account](#) is active. TDSB active twitter feed as well. [Erin](#) also has an active twitter feed. Next step: Amy Dickson to provide consulting support on how best to leverage twitter.

MOTION: To buy a subscription for signup.com for \$24.00/month

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



7. Treasurer's Report

- See Appendix B
- Inviting parents and staff to think about how to best allocate funds raised last year and bring proposals/ideas forward for the October 24th parent council meeting.
- Erin will look into air conditioning options and we'll discuss at next parent council meeting.
- **Limitations:** Can't buy anything that is a capital expense (ie anything attached to the walls or text books), can only be supplemental items (e.g. leveled books, take home reading programs, stands on a cart, performances & microphones, etc)

8. 2018/2019 Fundraising Allocation

- Carried forward to October 24th parent council meeting.

9. Drop Zone Update

- **Update:** Brought it back this year, still seeing drop-off activity on St. Marks and Brookside. More volunteers required ([sign up here](#))
- **Between 8:45 and 8:55 a.m.:** There are teachers in the schoolyard.

10. SoFun Update

- First meeting tentatively scheduled for October 10th @ 8:00 p.m. (will discuss upcoming events, expectations of leads, contacts, communication strategy, how to engage allergy committee, etc.)
- **Storage room:** Need volunteers to help organize the room October 3rd
- **Pub Night:** Thursday, Nov 8th @ 30-30 on Dundas at 8:00 p.m.

11. Meeting Dates for the school year

- October 24th @ 6:30 p.m.
- Schedule for the year to be reviewed at next meeting.

12. Other Business

- **Direct donations:** One year we didn't do QSP and went with direct donations. We tried this historically as an option but no plans to do it this year. Erin feels strongly that we build a community through events and has a hard time taking money without giving something/providing an opportunity to the parents/families in return.
- **Buddy Bench:** Proposal to install a buddy bench; kids are taught to go to this space when they feel lonely, don't have a friend.

MOTION: To buy and install a buddy bench for \$1200 - \$1500

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

13. Next meeting

- October 24th @ 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.

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



Attendees at September 27th, 2018 Parent Council Meeting

Agnes Zak	Michelle Parker
Amutha Haslam	Reena Goyal
Amy Dickson	Rick Adams
Angie Forster	Sandra Carr
Ashlynn McConvey	Sandra Witty
Cassandra Harding-Whatman	Scott Venton
Ceyrina Craig	Shannon Petrolito
Chris & Helen Koinis	Simon Gebski
Christine Toczeck Skarlatakis	Susan McDonald
Claudia Bennett	Tee Schneider
Colleen Raymond	Tessa Liu-Man-Hin
Daniela Dighi Hawkins	Thomas Silcox-Childs
Dara Lambie	Tammy Cruji
Deborah Pinchev	Claudia Sinclair
Deirdre Currie	Amit Bhalla
Elisa Alby	Jigna Bhalla
Erin Brady	
Georgina Bruinsma-Cajic	
Greg Schneider	
Heather Sinclair	
Helen Hsia	
Hope James	
Ibi Olabode	
Jeffrey Dickson	
Jen Rosiak-Wong	
Jenn Devereaux	
Jim Witty	
Johanna Weaver	
Joseph Alejandria	
Katherine Stevens	
Kristen Juschkevitsch	
Kristen Nugent	
Lesley Scullion	
Lisa Morlock	
Maria Madeira	
Maria Papadakis	
Melissa Venton	
Michelle Haurilak	



SoFun
Fundraising
2017/2018

	2017/2018				Estimated Net Raised	2016/2017	Estimated Increase (Decrease)
	Raised	Spent	Net Raised	Revenue (Expenses)		Actual Actual Net Raised	
Pizza	22,188.50	(10,468.76)	11,719.74	-	11,719.74	9,632.42	2,087.32
Popcorn	8,970.00	(5,618.75)	3,351.25	-	3,351.25	3,176.25	175.00
Dance-a-thon	5,010.00	(1,695.00)	3,315.00	-	3,315.00	4,615.45	(1,300.45)
QSP & Direct Donations	4,378.66	(326.00)	4,052.66	(100.00)	3,952.66	9,746.42	(5,793.76)
Movie Nights	1,185.00	(580.85)	604.15	-	604.15	1,054.03	(449.88)
Holiday Concert Video	575.00	-	575.00	-	575.00	265.00	310.00
Carnival/Talent Show	30.00	(1,081.35)	(1,051.35)	-	(1,051.35)	(556.84)	(494.51)
Fall Fair	689.05	(319.22)	369.83	-	369.83		369.83
Spirit Day	-	(1,204.28)	(1,204.28)	-	(1,204.28)	(1,454.45)	250.17
Wish and give	305.44	-	305.44	-	305.44	-	305.44
Bingo	4,922.85	(2,068.47)	2,854.38	-	2,854.38	3,232.69	(378.31)
Hoop troop	503.20	(523.23)	(20.03)	(100.00)	(120.03)		(120.03)
Party in the Playground	20,666.15	(11,511.93)	9,154.22	-	9,154.22	(220.92)	9,375.14
Graduation	-	-	-	(2,000.00)	(2,000.00)	(1,436.05)	(563.95)
SoFun & Other Expenses	-	(1,057.13)	(1,057.13)	-	(1,057.13)	(690.42)	(366.71)
Christmas Craft Sale	-	-	-	-	-	2,106.39	(2,106.39)
	<u>69,423.85</u>	<u>(36,454.97)</u>	<u>32,968.88</u>	<u>(2,200.00)</u>	<u>30,768.88</u>	<u>29,469.97</u>	<u>1,298.91</u>
					Less: operating funds		<u>(5,000.00)</u>
					Funds to be allocated		<u>25,768.88</u>
					Allocated as follows:		
					Performances		6,000.00
					Tent for Phys-Ed Activities		1,600.00
					Muzio program instruments		3,000.00
					Technology		15,168.88
							<u>25,768.88</u>