

École J.B. Mitchell School
Minutes of the Parent Advisory Council
Monday, October 20, 2008

In Attendance:

Call To Order: 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda.

Moved by _____. Seconded by _____ Carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes from September 22, 2008.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Carried.

Correspondence:

Parent Council received a Letter from _____ Chief Superintendent regarding Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (Piped). To review the letter please refer to the Parent Council binder in the Library.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Our ACF Licence for the showing of Movies for Movie Night has been paid by cheque.

BUDGET:

Motion to approve the \$7000.00 Yearly Wish List.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Motion Carried.

We also discussed the walk-a-thon money from last year helping to cover computers in the school and this year walk-a-thon money will also go to help cover the costs. All of the money we give to the school helps to supplement the cost of the ICT technology in the school.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the 2 Smart Boards, Stands and Projectors. The Kinesthetic value for teachers is a helpful assessment tool. We discussed the value of teachers being able to use as a learning tool. We discussed the value of all techniques being used in the classroom, not only technology.

One question posed to the PAC regarding the above motion; why it is so expensive? When purchasing the above equipment, we purchase as a package and also packages that are specifically used for school use.

One of our teachers _____ who is at the meeting to represent the Staff is willing to give a small presentation on smart boards at our next PAC meeting for parents. There will be a notice sent out to inform our community of the presentation.

It is also presented to us that teachers do not automatically receive the technology, there is a protocol followed by the school.

Motion to purchase above equipment.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Motion Carried

There will be a deficit for this school year (due to the fact that we are giving so much for technology). We will be able to continue with the support for the ICT Continuum for the school year.

We would like a lap top to support PAC. We would use it for many different items. For example: Standard forms, Lunch Program, correspondence and fundraising are just a few. _____ will talk to _____ and there will be no cost.

The school would like a new freezer for their use.

Motion: to buy freezer for PAC to a Maximum of \$500.00.including taxes

_____ moved _____Second Carried.

HAMPERS:

PAC had a surplus last year of 422.00 in the hamper line of the budget. The budget did not reflect the surplus. _____ will look at the budget lines and have the budget reflect the hamper. It will show on the books money coming in and money going out.

We need to amend the budget to reflect the surplus.

Budget read as \$17,391.70 Amended to \$22,622.06

Motion to move the Budget as Amended.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____ Carried

_____ has asked for the classrooms to each make up a Hamper this year. The teachers will be responsible for their classroom in donating the dry goods. The hamper committee will still buy the Perishables and the gifts.

BUSINESS ARISING:

Thank you to all who helped with security at the Elections. It was appreciated.

We would also like to thank the Parent Volunteers for attending the Volunteer Appreciaton.

An issue has arisen regarding supervision in a classroom and class size. There is a concern a teacher is not getting relief from the class. _____ explains how policy works for a Educational Assistant to be put into a classroom. There needs to be a magic number for an EA in the class. The Magic number is 26. Our concern is that the children are far from being independent learners and we would like to see more supervision for the teacher.

PAC also would like to know where we can raise these types of issues. We may raise these issues with South End Advisory, School Trustees, Minister of Education.

We also asked if the teacher can raise the issue, there is an outlet for them. The teacher has not expressed to administration, at this time, that there is a problem in the class for relief of her time. The parent's are expressing the concern on their own.

We also discussed the locker issue of children sharing lockers. We will not receive approval for additional lockers to be installed in the school.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There will not be a Holiday Raffle this school year.

_____ did not have a Bank Reconciliation for us this month as he had just received the reconciliation the same day as our meeting. He will have reconciliation to paper for the November meeting.

FUNDRAISING:

Magazines are coming in slowly and deadlines are this Friday for the all occasions. Our on line Magazines are doing quite well. We will put in the Newsletter.

The fundraising committee is not selling Chocolates this year. We are not due to the language barrier in sending them home. There are too many EAL students in our school and we are not doing any fundraisers where a product is sent home and we are stuck paying for it , when the money/and or products is not returned.

LUNCH PROGRAM:

_____ went over the Lunch Program Handbook draft with us and we made Amendments as follows:

1st MOTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

#16: in the directors absence he/she will appoint someone to assume his/her role and responsibilities.

_____ moved _____ Seconded _____ Carried.

2ND MOTION: TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

#2: The directors hours shall be from 11:30a.m. – 1:00 pm daily. Any additional time will be paid accordingly.

_____ moved _____ seconded _____ Carried.

The Motion was made to add all Lunch program motions into the Handbooks and Constitution of PAC.

_____ moved _____ seconded _____ Carried.

ADMINSTRATOR'S REPORT:

Thank you for the money towards Technology.

We had a concern regarding the holiday concert not representing Christmas. We all agreed that it is a Christmas concert. _____ does an amazing job every year and represents all cultures equally.

Parent Teacher Interviews are on November 20 and 21, 2008.

We have good news. 2 new Educational Assistants have been hired for French Immersion and for English. The numbers are at 31 and 32.

EAL dinner was held and each family brought a dish. It went well.

November 7th, Fabu Daki drummers

November 10th Remembrance Day Assembly.

_____ had the Bully Proofing Poster that all of the students and staff signed and took the Pledge. PAC will all sign the poster next meeting as we will all show as a unified group. We do not want the magnets this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

The issue was raised of Staff carrying and drinking Pop in the school in front of the students. Due to the new nutritional policy that we are encouraging the students to take part in, we would like the staff to keep non nutritional items in the staff room.

_____ raised the point of our constitution needing to be revised. We would like to start revising it in January.

Adjourn 9:15 pm