

**École J.B. Mitchell School  
Minutes of the Parent Advisory Council  
Monday September 22, 2008**

**In Attendance:**

**Call To Order:** 7:05 pm

**Correspondence:**

- Tu Parles Conversational French for Kids Fall 2008 flyer
- Education Show Toronto Canada theme: Health Schools – Healthy Education
- Open letter to south schools from Constable Andrée Huberdeau WPS
- ACF entertainment license invoice

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion to approve agenda.**

**Moved by K H**

**Seconded by T          Carried.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion to approve minutes from June 2008.**

**Moved by K**

**Seconded by T          Carried.**

**Business Arising from the Minutes:**

**None.**

**Election/Appointment of PAC Committee Members:**

**Committee Chairpersons:**

**Fundraising: T**

**Hampers: T**

**Movie Night: Co-Chair J**

**Hot Dog Lunch: L**

**French Advisory: C L**

**South District Advisory: T T**

**Playstructure: M D (standing)**

**Playstructure Co-Chair: K H**

**Volunteer Coordinator: L S**

**BBQ: Co-Chair P M**

**Lunch Program Chair: K H**

The submission of a report will be required of all committee chairs one week following an event. A copy of the chair report distributed for review.

**Election/Appointment of PAC Executive:**

**Parent Council Executive:**

**President:** C H (standing)

**Vice President:** K H (standing)

**Treasurer:** T T (standing)

**Secretary:** L C (standing)

**Motion:**

**Any member of the PAC Executive must abstain from motions and associated discussions pertaining to confidential personnel issues brought forward by the Lunch Program Committee.**

**Moved by K H.**

**Seconded by K L.**

**Carried.**

**Review of 2007/2008 PAC Financial Activities:**

Lunch Program account June 2008: \$4,781.74

Lunch Program account Sept 22, 2008: \$30, 173.76

PAC account closing balance as of Sept 8 2008: \$24,802.59

PAC account balance Sept. 22, 2008: \$25,765.68

PAC investments: PAC Mutual Fund \$2,466.53

Field Redevelopment Mutual Fund \$2,753.06

**Discussion/Approval of 2008/09 Budget:** Budget was reviewed. Discussion and approval deferred until October 20, 2008.

**Administrator's Report:**

- Student numbers in French Kindergarten do not support the role of an EA.
- 30 new families have joined École J.B. Mitchell; many of the new students are EAL
- Meet the teacher was a success. Thank you to the grade 4 students for a good effort on their first stint as a service crew.
- Library renovations are making way for 6 new computers for the new pod. Thank you to PAC for their generous financial contributions.
- 28 new computers have been added to the school through the WSD
- The older computers have entered classrooms and the library automation system.
- We currently have 7 Smart Boards. We are hoping to move toward a Smart Board for every classroom, as they are superior technology reaching a wide range of students including those who are hard of hearing.
- We are building our software holdings. Most recent acquisitions include *Pinacle*, *Studio*, and *Front Page*.

- The federal election will take place on Tuesday October 14. Safety volunteers will patrol the hallways and most doors to the school will be locked.
- Volunteer orientation is October 3 at 10:00am.
- October 3<sup>rd</sup> is the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual EAL dinner.
- A liaison will be made available between the school and service providers that aid EAL and war-affected students and their families.
- Hep.B vaccine for grade 4 students, and HPV vaccine for grade 6 girls, will be available through the school.
- WSD initiated a review of expulsion and suspension policies; details will be provided in the October newsletter.
- Cheers to the “J Team” that gives students a multitude of opportunities to serve their school community; SAMS, patrols, leadership teams, conflict managers, and service teams.
- SAG October 1<sup>st</sup> - Dr. Randall Sprik instructs educators on positive approaches to class behaviour, motivation, and responsibility.
- Crisis plan review pending
- Halloween activities are in preparatory stages
- New recycling program will now include milk cartons.

#### **New Business:**

Why can't teachers recommend a student transfer from the French program if they are experiencing learning problems?

- Teachers do not recommend students leave the French program as a solution to learning problems. Learning problems are addressed within the program model the student and his/her family have chosen.

Students who are required to share lockers will not be able to fit two backpacks, two lunch bags, two pairs of boots, two parkas, two pairs of snow pants, two hats, mitts, and scarves, two bags of gym clothes, and two pairs of shoes. Additional hooks or alternate storage inside classrooms will be essential. **Students should not be forced outside for recess in the winter with wet clothes because proper storage is not available.**

Some students are having trouble adjusting to junior high school math following the practice of “new math” at the elementary level.

- The transition from elementary to junior high school requires more attention. New research and training will ensure, over time, all educators are on board with the updated expectations of mathematical expression in children.

#### **Meeting Adjourned:**

**Motion to adjourn at 9:00 pm. by T T.  
Seconded by K H.  
Carried.**

#### **Next Meeting:**

Monday October 20<sup>th</sup> 2008. 7:00pm Childcare provided.