

South Branch Parent Council
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2012

Call to order: by Michelle VandenBosch at 6:35 pm

Attendance: Council: Michelle VandenBosch (Chair), Trish Felker (Treasurer), Sheri Getz (Secretary), Julie Norenberg, Karen Bryan (Principal), Kyra Streight, Jennifer Graham, Colleen Fitzpatrick, Danny Beckett, Jennifer Paquette, Glen Paquette, Darcy Burgess (Vice-Chair), Teacher representatives: Jean Grant Kearney & Tiffany Smith.

Motion to accept meeting agenda: Motion to accept from Darcy Burgess, seconded by Danny Beckett

Acceptance of September Minutes: Motion to accept from Darcy Burgess, seconded by Jennifer Graham. The following change is noted in regards to the September minutes: [the information shared by Michelle regarding the](#) advantages of having a school account was not ministry documentation. That was information that the board's budget department provided when they transited school council accounts to school accounts.

Administration report: Karen Bryan

Construction has started and is moving forward quite quickly. Karen noted that she is quite impressed with the company regarding student safety (moving exit signs, having flag people present, etc). Staff have been notified that they lead their students outside. Regarding the students in portables – pieces have been put together for student safety (e.g. walkway put in). Project should be complete in 2 ½ - 3 months.

A fire drill was held this week, which was very successful.

Grade 4 teacher Mrs. Young has been hired. Mrs. Young has come from Limestone with 10 years of experience.

MaryLou will be starting with the grade sixes soon. On Friday she will meet with the grade six kids, and will do a quick presentation. They will take home permission forms etc. Small school summit - had a cancellation, so MaryLou and Karen will participate regarding this project.

School sign needs to be replaced. There was a delay in making sign, which worked in our favour. We needed a new school crest and with the delay, have got a graphic designer to do up a draft. Tiger head was taken out, trying to brand with a tiger paw. This is draft, so looking for feedback. Crest is in yellow and blue, the school colours. Feedback due soon as the crest is due by Thursday. Question was put forward regarding cost of sign, but Karen is not sure yet of

what the cost will be. PC can use the sign to advertise events. Sign is not digital, but one where you press letters. The sign will be installed ASAP.

Teachers Report: Mme Smith, Mme Grant

Kindergarten– all very pleased with full day every day program, getting into routine.

Grade 2 - Started sorting and patterning unit in math, as well as non-fiction unit in literacy.

Grade 3 - Went to Upper Canada village and are ready to launch into social studies

Grade 6 - Working on character assembly: “respect”

French – getting routines established, personal descriptives, such as describing friends, etc. Planning on having grade 1s present at the assembly

Music – The primary choir has started. Junior choir ‘one voice’ has also started

Clubs – Mrs. A. Price – dance club with 5/6. Mrs. McKay - art club with grade 1s

Sports – Have completed cross country; went to St Mike’s and then a week later to Brockville for championships. The kids were fantastic and placed in the top 3 in 6 divisions. Soccer tryouts and tournament is coming up. Walkathon is coming up - goal of 10,000; if the goal is reached Mrs. Bryan will dye her hair blue and yellow for a month, while Ms. Polite will dress up as a Tiger. Prize assembly will be Friday afternoon. Route for the walkathon will be around the school for one hour. The Terry fox run was also done.

Discussion Topics:

Budget – Proposal that following suit with past years, each class will get four hundred dollars for class trips/bussing. Some classes will pool this money. Motion to pass: Jennifer Graham, Michelle VandenBosch seconded it.

Fundraising - Discussed some new fundraising ideas – hats, cheese, pens, coffee, seeds, Vesseys, mugs, cards etc. There are other options, but not sure what percentage of profit would be. In past few years Parent Council has done the plant and bake sale and chocolate bar sales. Chocolate bars sales provide a large amount of money, but have had some negative feedback. Have done a danceathon – great easy influx of money, usually around \$2000. Is anybody interested in doing anything new? Kyra – idea of the 12 days of Christmas basket raffles. Michelle noted that we do raffle baskets in the plant and bake sale. Cole de Neige did shop and drop a few years ago, but Mme Smith said this was something that PC can take this over. Suggestion from Darcy – pick a theme, e.g. responsibility and kids do things around the house. Instead of kids getting money school gets money. Suggestion of spirit wear – can look at Cindy’s company – Sew Cool. Will approach Cindy for pricing. Have somebody willing to do the chocolates. Maybe look at another chocolate bar company.

Canteen - Canteen for Soccer Day for Oct 30. Jennifer was approached regarding this and was asked if PC would be interested in doing a canteen. If we proceed with the canteen there will be a lot of work – volunteers needed, etc.

Jen, Julie and Danny will all help to coordinate the canteen. Advertisement for this should go to Karen for facebook, webpage, etc.

Newsletter:

Include information regarding saving seeds for the plant, book and bake sale in the spring.

Book Swap:

Book Swap went really well. Thank you to everyone who pitched in. 569 books came in 651 went out. A couple of classes missed the book swap. Jennifer mentioned that if a full class cannot attend, then they can trickle down throughout the morning.

Lunch Program:

No concerns. Question – we don't have a list of kids who may come to school without a lunch. Karen noted that food orders have been put in for these kids. A grant was put in for nutrition for kids. Jennifer Paquette is distributing subs on Mondays but we need someone else to help out. Kyra Streight volunteered to help Jennifer out.

Treasurer's Report: Trish Felker

Hot lunch program – lunches for kids who need them. In the past, Parent Council covered this cost and can continue to do this. Lesley will need to provide an idea of approximately how many lunches are being covered.

If you have receipts to be reimbursed – write your name on it, and what it was used for. To be placed in the filing cabinet behind Pamela. Michelle offered to pick up mayo when she is at Costco, if that will help with cost. Receipt cannot have personal purchases on it at all.

Field trip funding already discussed

In the past Parent Council committed to covering free lunch and doing grad folios (but there will not be a formal graduation this year). Do we want to this again this year? Lunch is usually around 700 dollars. This can be discussed at a later date.

Income statement – Trish used the same format that Cindy used, reviewed it. Biggest expense – web based database (annual fee for hosting web based database). This database is done by Cindy Murphy at a cost of \$175, plus 75/hour. It is running super smoothly this year. Choice to continue or find someone else to do this for free. Database – helps organize hot lunch program, and organize information for Winnits.

Financial request – \$1500 to cover bussing for 5/6 class to go to Ecole de Neige. Mrs. Barry requesting \$1500 for Inside Outside Edge 1500 (climbing ropes). Will be subsidized from Walkathon, and individual contributions.

Vote: Ecole de Neige – \$1500 for bussing. Motion: Trish Felker, seconded by Danny Beckett, all in favour.

Vote: Inside out Edge – \$1500. Motion: Jennifer Graham, seconded by Kyra Streight, all in favour.

Darcy requested that a line item of over expenses be included in financial reports.

New Business: none

Agenda Items:

- fundraising
- parent university
- bank accounts

Next meeting: Nov 13th 2012 at 6:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at: 8:17 pm