

<p style="text-align: center;">Unionville Public School Advisory Committee Minutes Tuesday, February 21, 2006</p>

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Karen Harvey, Connie Prentice, Tara Tomlinson, Debbie Kline, Kelly Smyth, Gary Crosby, Jeffrey Smith, Steve Gardner (Principal)

Guests Present: Karen Ingram-Mak (KOFF representative), Jean-Pierre Gagnon (KOFF representative)

Council Members Absent: Barbara Hockin, Carol Worthylake, Michael Tamaki, Julia Sumner

A. Meeting Minutes

Motion for approval of the January Minutes was made by Kelly Smyth and seconded by Debbie Kline. Minutes approved.

B. Financials

Motion for approval of the January Financials was made by Gary Crosby and seconded by Debbie Kline. Financials approved.

C. Asbestos

Letters from K.O.F.F. to YRDSB, S. Gardner and K. Harvey dated January 30, 2006 and YRDSB response dated February 13, 2006 were distributed to council members and discussed. The Board's view was that all applicable standards are being met.

Mr. Gardner advised that asbestos remediation work will be done over the March break recess in the primary corridor and caretaker's closet. It will be carried out by I & I Co. and overseen by Abatech. There is no information at this time with respect to the scope of remedial work to be carried out over the summer recess. Mr. Gardner will pass this information on as soon as it becomes available.

Ms. Ingram-Mak (KOFF representative) provided a summary of what had taken place since KOFF's last attendance at Council. She indicated that after the Christmas holiday, two parent volunteers reviewed the UPS asbestos binder and compared it with the document on the school's website which outlined the scope of work to be done in the December clean-up. They found discrepancies between what work was expected to be done and what was actually done. For more particulars, please see the written update provided to Council by Ms. Ingram-Mak (Attachment "A"). As a result of their findings, KOFF wrote to YRDSB (M. Laserman), UPS (S. Gardner) and UPSAC (K. Harvey) on January 30, 2006 outlining the discrepancies. Mr. Gagnon

added that they were not satisfied with the work done by the removal company nor with the response from the Board. KOFF is in the process of assembling a package to be sent to the local MPP (Tony Wong) as well as to the Minister of Education.

Ms. Ingram-Mak requested Council's support to push the matter further on the school's behalf. Mr. Gagnon felt Council was not doing enough. There was a discussion of Council's role as an advisory body, its lack of power and the potential conflict of interest with the principal as part of the group. It was agreed that Council would discuss the matter as a group and that a further letter would be written to Gary Unitas, the local elected Trustee. Ms. Harvey and Ms. Prentice will prepare an initial draft for discussion.

D. School Update - Principal's Report

Staffing

We would like to welcome Ms. S. Woo to UPS effective February 14th. Ms. Woo will be on Long Term Occasional assignment for the rest of the school year in a Primary Special Education role. We wish Mrs. Vanker all the best in her travels.

Winter Activity Day

The initial Winter Activity day which was to take place on the 16th had to be cancelled due to YRDSB bus cancellations. Our Grade 6-8 students traveled to Mt. St. Louis on February 22nd. The Grade 4 and 5 trip to Dagmar for cross country skiing had to be cancelled due to icy ski trails (trails closed). This trip was replaced by a trip to the Olympic Spirit Toronto facility. Our Grade 1-3 classes went skating at Angus Glen and fun was had by all! Thank you to all parents who volunteered to help supervise these excursions.

Environmental Awareness Month at UPS was a resounding success. Thank you to the Environmental committee for their hard work and dedication to make this month a success. Our staff and students continue to arrive at solutions to make UPS even more environmentally friendly.

The month included a number of assemblies including:

- A kick off assembly featuring our very own EnviroMan!
- Chris McKhool - a musical entertainer
- PuppetTree Productions - a puppet show about our environment
- The Town of Markham - speaking to our classes about waste
- Simon Jackson - An Environmental Advocate who spoke about the Spirit Bear

Summer School programs for Grade 7 and 8 student is forthcoming - begins July 10th for 3 weeks. Application deadline is March 31st.

CUPE Walkout - Contingency plan set in place regarding potential CUPE walkout.

Asbestos abatement to occur over the March Break - please refer to Council Minutes.

Class Sizes - Discussion of projected class sizes for September.

Playground Equipment - Mr. Gardner and Ms. Harvey will be meeting with Mr. McBain shortly with respect to the report on the playground structures.

E. Action Teams:

- **Environmental Committee**

See above regarding Environmental Awareness Month activities. It was decided to postpone the Closing Assembly until April to coincide with Earth Day. A survey will be prepared and directed to teachers to determine the success of the activities and to seek feedback.

- **House Colours** - Blue is in the lead!

- **Community Outreach** is ongoing.

F. Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 p.m.