

Unionville Public School Council meeting minutes  
January 17, 2006

Attendance:

UPSAC members: Michael Tamaki, Gary Crosby, Kelly Smyth, Julia Sumner, Tara Tomlinson, Deb Kline, Karen Harvey, Connie Prentice, Jeffrey Smith, Carol Worthylake, Steve Gardner.

Guest: Jean-Pierre Gagnon.

1. December meeting minutes request for approval by Carol Worthylake, seconded by Julia Sumner.
2. December financial statement request for approval by Deb Kline, seconded by Tara Tomlinson.
3. The asbestos related letter to the school board was reviewed and some minor changes were made. Kelly Smyth made a motion to send the revised letter to the school board, and it was seconded by Connie Prentice.
4. School update: Administrator's Report
  - o Playground Report was received and is an extensive document. Much of the issues are around surface material. CSA standards for playground equipment changed in 2000 and our structures were built 1997, therefore may require some retro-fits.  
A meeting is set to take place with Board to put a plan in place regarding priority of fixing structures. This meeting will take place in February. Once priority is decided, the repairs/retrofits will be priced and a plan will be put in place. The Board will off-set some cost – to be determined. The Board will pay for repair of surface material.
  - o On December 23 and continuing through the holiday break, asbestos remediation occurred at UPS. As indicated in the letter sent to all families on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, as a result of another visit by removal company, it was determined that work would have to take place over 3 phases. In December/January work was completed in room 2, 3 (asbestos containing pipe-fitting insulation from ceiling space). In the gym, asbestos-containing pipe and pipe fitting insulation was removed damaged floor tiles were removed and replaced. Floor tiles were replaced in room 4. Removal also took place in a caretaker's closet. All radiator enclosures in the primary hallway were removed and examined – repaired where necessary.
  - o Education Day – Set for February 3<sup>rd</sup>. School Planning and discussion of “at-risk” students.
  - o In February, Mr. Gardner, Mrs. Thomson, Ms. Lovatis and Ms. Worthington will be participating in a live web-cast with author/professor David Booth. The focus will be “boys and literacy”.
  - o Kindergarten registration is underway – please refer families to Mrs. Ludski for registration for 06/07.
  - o Mr. Stokes and Instrument Company are compiling an inventory of the condition of instruments.
  - o Staff is in the midst of organizing a winter activity day for UPS students. Downhill skiing and snowboarding at Mt. St Louis for the Grade 6,7 & 8 students. Cross-country skiing at Dagmar for the Grade 4 & 5 students. Skating at Angus Glen Arena for the Primary students from 9:15 a.m. to 12: 00 p.m.
  - o Library automation is alive and well at UPS! Students will soon have access to Grolier on-line encyclopedias from home.
5.
  - o A letter should have gone home notifying students of the availability of a babysitting course for students. Grade 9 Markville information night @ UPS will be on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7 p.m. It is also scheduled for Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> at Markville H.S.
  - o The United way has selected Unionville Public School for their Spirit award. It will be presented to Ms. Worthington and 8 students at Angus Glen on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

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- There is no swimming program scheduled at this time. UPS is waiting to hear from the board about the new grade 3 swimming program.
  - It was suggest to Mr. Gardner to send a letter to parents to inform them there are no electives or swimming scheduled this year.
6. Environmental:
- February is environmental month at UPS. The students will be making daily environmental announcements. There will an environmental assembly each week. The kick-off assembly will be an environmental court by the students. Mr. Silito will organize this, with the help of Mr. Norquay and the stage crew. There will also be an assembly for Grade K – 6 by an environmental entertainer Chris Mcool at a cost of \$500. Mr. Gardner asked council if we would support the Environmental month by paying for the \$500 cost. Council voted in favor of paying the \$500 cost. The environmental committee created several teacher activities to promote environmental month. A puppet showed called too much garbage has been book for Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. Simon Jackson's Spirit bear is scheduled for Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> for the Grade 4 – 8 students at a cost of \$2 per student. There will be a green idea classroom challenge to improve UPS. The grade 8 data management project identified that 17% of the school student population participating in the hot lunch program and the waste produced on is 30% more than any other day. UPS can now match the residential blue box program, allowing us to recycle all the recyclable products we normally recycle at home. Starting Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>. Everything except food waste will be recyclable. Now that the Environmental committee has the data, they will approach the lunch program supplier about recyclable containers and portion size. The Town of Markham waste reduction team will do a presentation on recycling. Mr. Gardner will see if the Town of Markham will provide extract blue boxes. Earth day activities for April 22<sup>nd</sup> is still pending.
7. House colours: Blue is in the lead by one point and Black is in second. All teams are very close.
8. Community outreach: The Children Aids society was presented with \$550 from the toy drive. UPS also raised approx. \$300 in Canadian Tire money for them.