

Unionville Public School Advisory Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Attendance:

Council Members present: Gary Crosby, JP Gagnon, Steve Gardner (Principal), Christine Gowe, Karen Harvey, Barbara Hockin, Al Mainprize (Vice Principal), Connie Prentice, Tara Tomlinson, Karyn Toon, Earlene Worrall, Andrew Yip, Deb Kline (outgoing council), Carol Worthylake (outgoing council)

Council Members absent: Jeffrey Smith, Kelly Smyth

Teacher Reps present: Julie Lovatsis, Will Stokes, Laura Wilkinson

Guests present: None

A. Introductions and Overview

B. Meeting Minutes – May 2006

- Motion for approval of the May minutes made by Carol Worthylake and seconded by Tara Tomlinson. Minutes approved.

C. Financials

- May/June 2006
Motion for approval of the May and June financial statements made by Carol Worthylake and seconded by Connie Prentice. Financial statements approved.
- Additional financial statement, providing an overview of September 2005 to June 2006, distributed and reviewed. Revenue and expense items explained to new council members.
- Discussion about Teacher Supply Support. Agreed that \$125 remains the appropriate amount.

D. Changeover of Council

- Vacant positions filled, 2006/2007 UPSAC established as follows:

Chair	Karen Harvey
Vice Chair	JP Gagnon
Treasurer	Gary Crosby
Secretary	Earlene Worrall
- Action Teams:
 - a) House Colours - Karyn Toon assigned co-ordinator.
 - b) Fundraising Committee – Magazine campaign underway. Unanimous that monetary donation program is best option for this year. Tara Tomlinson/Deb Kline/Karen Harvey to draft letter for donation program and e-mail to Council for feedback. Agreed to revisit fundraising in November/December to assess options for '07/'08 school year, with appropriate leadtime. Discussion around potential for additional fundraising during the year as needed, with consensus that parents appreciate one-time donation drive given other fundraising requirements for sports teams, etc.
 - c) Pizza Lunch – Extremely labour intensive. Steve Gardner meeting next week with Grade 8 parents to determine whether they wish to take on pizza lunches as graduation fundraising opportunity. Otherwise have L&D change format to facilitate serving.

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- d) Community Outreach Liaison – Srinka Wallia to again fill this role. Christine Gowe will meet with Srinka for ongoing updates, to provide linkage to UPSAC.
- e) School Barbecue – To be discussed later in the year in preparation for Sept '07. Potential to change nature of event in order to simplify.

E. School Update – Principal's Report

- Formal introduction of Vice Principal Al Mainprize (shared with Coledale week to week, half time position). In January will have new VP, with intention of longer term for greater continuity.
- Report follows, with discussion points inserted:

Administrator's Report – September 26, 2006

Off to a wonderful start – Grade 7 went to Camp Muskoka and Grade 8's visited Camp Pinecrest. A wonderful leadership experience for all students.

Thank you to all the parent volunteers, under the direction of Lianna Southy, who organized the Curriculum Night BBQ – Apologies to all families who did not receive meals due to shortage. Pizza and drinks were purchased.

Thank you to parent volunteers for all the hard work in watering and maintaining gardens over the summer.

Plant – windows replaced less the portapack, new lighting, washrooms, water fountains, paving (Good Places to Learn) took place from July 3 – September 1st. Issues with clean up by trades people.

- Clean-up has subsequently been completed (ie. glass removed from flowerbeds). Concern that overlooked by both contractors and auditors who signed off on job.
- Orange wrap above windows, sealing of windows and installation of blinds to be completed by end of week according to commitment.

Innovation Fund – “Social/Emotional Skills Development Partnership” – (with Parkview PS).

Grant given for Peer Mediation training and implementation of SNAP (Primary and Junior Grades)

- More effective for these grades than think sheets since less writing required, pictures to assist. Tools connect well with children (ie. SNAP wheel, SNAP dragon).
- Highly effective per Julie Lovatsis, who began to work with program last year.

All school boards and schools in Ontario now required to develop a bully prevention plan/team (1 administrator, 1 teacher, 4 parents, and 1 student)

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Asbestos Management Binder – new format.

School and Mrs. Ingram Mak given opportunity to provide input.

- Steve Gardner et al reviewed final report, had inspection. Report now available in office. Will provide Board with input into process based on UPS learnings.

Walk to school Day – Wednesday October 4th. – Please see environmental news

Picture day – Friday October 6th

EQAO – Results are now in (October School Council Meeting will have a formal presentation) – Individual Student Results sent out on Monday October 2nd.

Highlights –

- Grade 3 Reading – 55%, Writing – 58%, Math – 72% (55, 57, 73)
- Grade 6 Reading – 72%, Writing 71%, Math – 75% (76, 74, 79)

Action Plan – Literacy Team, Literacy Coach, Primary SERT, and UPS READS! Before school reinforcement – Grade 7 and 8. SPCI – using data to inform instruction (PM, DRA). School based literacy continuum.

- Full results available on EQAO.com, also Board website.
 - Concern that significant numbers are not achieving standard. Figures noted represent achievement of level 3 or above (level 3 = achieving standard, level 4 = above standard). So for Grade 3 reading at 55%, for example, 45% of students are not meeting standard.
 - Results noted above compare to Board averages of 69, 73, 77 for Grade 3 and 70, 70, 71 for Grade 6. UPS below average in Grade 3 (another concern), tracking at about Board average in Grade 6.
 - Concern that there has been some decline versus previous year's test.
 - For October meeting, Steve Gardner will present summary of learnings, including assessment of whether report card data aligns with EQAO results.
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- Code Red Drill on Thursday. Lockdown of school to promote preparedness for emergencies (ie. intruder, tornado, etc.)
 - Agreed next steps: Parent volunteers who are frequently at the school will also be educated on lockdown process. Steve Gardner will confirm that notice has been placed on new South primary door to remind visitors to report to the office. Julie Lovatsis will send another note to parents re policy for parent visits to school.

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F. Overview of Music Program at UPS – Will Stokes

- Presentation attached.
- Will Stokes will provide full inventory of musical instruments with value and estimated repair costs for next meeting.
- Would like to work toward having a concert series of instruments, higher quality instruments that are not used in class given propensity for rough treatment.

G. Environmental Committee Update

- Hard copy distributed, also attached here.
- Support for idea of bins for recess snacks.

H. Meeting Adjourned 9:55 p.m.

Next meeting October 17.