

Unionville Public School Advisory Council Minutes

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Attendance:

Council Members present: Gary Crosby, Steve Gardner (Principal), Christine Gowe, Karen Harvey, Barbara Hockin, Connie Prentice, Jeffrey Smith, Tara Tomlinson, Karyn Toon, Earlene Worrall, Andrew Yip

Council Members absent: JP Gagnon, Kelly Smyth, Carol Takagi (Vice Principal)

Teacher Reps present: Ellen-Jean Dewberry

Guests present:

A. Meeting Minutes – February 2007

- Motion for approval of the February minutes made by Tara Tomlinson and seconded by Barbara Hockin. Minutes approved.

B. Financials – Gary Crosby - February 2007

- One edit required in final line: “Total funds available, Feb 28, 2007”.
- Motion for approval of the Feb 28 financial statement made by Barbara Hockin and seconded by Connie Prentice . Financial statement approved.

C. Action Teams - Status

a) Environmental Committee Update – Connie Prentice

- Report attached.
- Earth Day assembly week of April 23.
- Flower newsletter has gone home.
- Anti-idling policy being enforced in front of the school. Flyer now available for distribution. Led to mention of concerns about a couple of bus drivers; Steve will follow-up.

b) House Colours – Karyn Toon

- Report attached.
- Reasonably close race, with four house colour days remaining in the year. Opportunity to close the gap with multiple points awarded in May for Colour Day Items.
- Suggestion re tie-in with house colour points for Green Day during Earth Week.

D. UPS Constitution: Appendix E – Financial Policies

- Suggestion to add a requirement re sourcing multiple (3) quotes for all purchases over \$1000 that are not made through the School Board. Quotes to be presented to UPSAC along with recommendation.
- Jeffrey has crafted the language for approval next meeting. Proposed wording is:
 - 6. Any funding request presented to the Council for any purchase of greater than \$1000, which would not be made through the School Board, should be presented with 3 written quotes.

Unionville Public School Advisory Council Minutes

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

E. School Update – Steve Gardner

- Report follows, with discussion points inserted:

Administrator's Report – March 2007

1. Kindergarten program 07/08
 - 1.5 classes (AM/PM and Full day alternate M/W/other F)
 - Kindergarten enrolment stands at 56 to date, with 3 classes planned to accommodate all parental timing preferences (1 AM, 1 PM, 1 full day M/W/alternating F).
2. Mr. Yip has accepted a position of Computer Resource Teacher for the Board effective March 26th. This is a wonderful opportunity for Mr. Yip as he will use his computer expertise to provide PD to students and staff in the CEC West.
3. Ms. H. Cronyn will be replacing Mr. Yip as Grade 6 teacher for the remainder of the school year. Ms. Cronyn has taught Grade 6 at Doncrest PS the last two years. Welcome Ms. Cronyn.
 - Discussion about timing for Mr. Yip's assignment change. Disappointment expressed that his move must be effective mid-year, particularly given EQAO.
 - His replacement, Ms. Cronyn, will cover the balance of this school year, with an additional staffing change for next September.
4. Unionville Arts Night – April 16th at the Markham Theatre (Mrs. Dewberry)
 - Unionville Arts Night April 16 will include grades 1 to 8. Show to run 7:30 to 9:30. Tickets are available for \$15/\$10 for children and seniors. Limit 2 per family until the end of next week (with special dispensation granted to Kindergarten families to purchase an extra ticket for their JK/SK child).
5. Thank you to UPSAC for your support of the Grade 5, TSO Adopt-A-Player program. The school performance took place on March 7th at UPS and was a wonderful display of creativity and music. A thank you is extended to Mr. Farber for his leadership.
6. April 11th will be our kick-off for the Markham-Stouffville Hospital Legacy Run. An assembly will take place in the gymnasium at 1:45 PM.
 - Discussion about Pawprints, whether families are successfully accessing it electronically. No consensus. Some feel that paper distribution is critical for this one document in the interest of effective communication from school to home, while others would like to maintain the paperless

Unionville Public School Advisory Council Minutes

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

option. There is an issue with some families somehow dropping off the electronic distribution list, as well as concern around continuously updating the list for e-mail address changes; must be rigorously maintained. Decision to resume issuing in hard copy to all families.

F. Meeting Planning – March to June

- Invited guests are planned for the April meeting, for discussion regarding the new high school. Invitation will be issued to the parent community, with RSVP.
- Suggestion to simplify the food element for BBQ/Curriculum Night; beverages only. Add a presentation upfront with staff introductions, prior to individual class break-out sessions. Include booths with information about the hot lunch program, etc. Steve will also consider adding an additional session at the end of the evening to provide an opportunity for parents having more than two students at the school to meet with the remaining teachers (how many families affected?)
- May Open House invitation will be repeated this year. Also include a Council's Corner section in Pawprints to remind people that UPSAC meetings are open and to communicate timing.
- Review school policies re homework, code of behaviour, dress code, etc. in the May meeting. Tara and Karen will work with staff representatives (TBD) to review policies in advance for discussion in May.
- On June 19, host year-end social for teachers and recognize retirements, then hold meeting afterwards. A 4:30 start is proposed.
- Karen and Karyn will draft a thank you letter from UPSAC to the parent community.
- Connie is looking for volunteers to assist with the quilting of the squares produced by classes during Black History Month.

G. Meeting Adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Next meeting April 17.