

MINUTES

Monday, September 21, 2009 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Mutchmor School Council Meeting: School Computer Lab

Present: Daood Aidroos, Margaret Back, Reena Belford, Sherri Bonneville, Connie Bruce, Anna Curtner, Kristal Davis, Liz Doyle, Cindy Kirk, Gwenda Ko, Hetty Mannethu, Barb Massey, Larry Stonebridge, Carol Watson, Margo Williams.

Regrets: Kelly Milne, Judy Silvestro, Laurel King, Shonna Tuck

1) **Welcome & Intros:** lead by Margo.

2a) **Approval of Agenda:** Moved Larry. 2nd Barb.

b) **Approval of Minutes** from May 2009: Moved Carol. 2nd Barb.

3) **Report from Chairs:** Daood spoke of: putting together the end of year report.

Deadline set for Oct.2 to be circulated on Oct.8. Various leads to forward their reports to him. Margo spoke of: her report to the audience at Meet the Teacher night, highlighting the Council's various successful endeavours over the past year. The Council will seek a volunteer from the school community to assist in a website redesign. Margo also discussed the new occasional volunteer list she has generated.

4) **Principal's Report:** Sherri:

1. **Staffing:** Current enrolment is approx. 330. We maintain our status quo – no reorganization needed. 5 CBTs to look at and consider -communication with home school is needed. We could not move on this until after the board's reorganization, today. We have been designated an OFIP (Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership) and our staff will have an opportunity to work in their classrooms on Literacy and Numeracy with a trained Instructional Coach, Patricia Fitzgerald. This will begin immediately. The partnership will be re-evaluated in January for possible continuation until the end of June. Mr. Glen Boustead is our school's CAT (Circuit Arts Teacher) and will be in the school on a monthly basis. During his time here he will work with each class in the area of Character Development, Computers, and Media Literacy etc.
2. **Stuff for Kids:** Girls' soccer practices have begun. Group meets at Nutrition Break times. Training for Cross-country running has begun on Tuesday and Thursday, morning for Gr. 6 students and Wednesday & Friday for Gr. 4 and 5. Drama Club has started and they meet on Thursday during one of the Nutrition breaks. Learn to Play activities began today. They will take place during the afternoon Nutrition break and recess. The activities offered this term are Beginner Chess, Int. and Advanced Chess, Yoga, Squirmies and Games Pack. Lunch Lady Program has started. Lunch Lady day is Tuesday this year. Lunch Lady occurs during the first Nutrition break. Milk program started today – also distributed during first Nutrition break. Pizza program will begin on Friday, Oct. 2nd and will be every second Friday. Students have received their agendas and we are accepting payment of \$8.00 for them. On Oct. 2nd, a recipient of the Gov. Gen. Award for Women of distinction will be in the school to speak with our Junior Students at 9:30 a.m.
3. **Organizational Issues:** So far, adjustment to the Balanced School day is going well. We are still getting used to it, but already the benefits are being noticed. Still working out the problems with bus and routes. Common problem seems to be length of time students are on the bus. Some of the routes are those we share with First Avenue and Corpus Christi, but some are also buses for our gifted students. New procedure for access to empty seats. Requests are made to the

school, but the forms are sent to OSTA, which has final decision on distribution of seats. Empty seats on buses that are shared with First Avenue and Corpus Christi must be shared equally between the three schools. EQAO scores for Mutchmor P. S. are now available on the EQAO website. Our Gr. 3 and Gr. 6 scores are flat. We are hovering around the board and provincial scores. One exception is our Gr. 6 reading scores which are quite good (83 percent performing at levels 3 and 4). A more in-depth analysis will give us better information on areas of concern and will help us plan and address them accordingly. I will do this at next month's School Council meeting. We have met the criteria for OFIP 2 – Ontario Focused Intervention Partnership. The criteria for OFIP 2 is that scores are improving only minimally and we are stagnating in moving our level 3s to 4s and our level 2s to 3s etc. The staff will be able to work with an Instructional Coach to assist them in identifying instructional strategies that will best help to improve student success. This is a wonderful opportunity for the staff to work collaboratively within their classrooms with the Instructional coach. We had a few spots available in the Congregated gifted classes. These have been offered mostly to students from our school, who have accepted them. Turn around on class changes is happening quickly so, no further instructional time will be missed.

4. **Plant & Facilities:** Update on technology – our media carts with the ELMOs have now been placed in the classrooms. The staff is excited about the technology and is trying to incorporate the use of this new technology into their daily instruction. Our goal was to have 1 media cart to share between 2 classes. We are still two short and will focus on purchasing these during the school year. Our SMART board is scheduled to be installed this Friday, September 25th. Mr. Firestone has agreed to demonstrate both the use of the media cart and Elmo and the SMART board at the next School Council Meeting. In order to facilitate the use of technology in the classrooms we are moving pull down screens in order to reorient the rooms, purchasing new screens, where needed and updating electrical, as needed. We are ever hopeful for new windows and have been told this will happen, tentatively, this coming summer. Care Staff are being vigilant in their cleaning and disinfecting, particularly of common areas. The board has provided hand sanitizers for all areas. We continue to encourage the students to practice proper sneezing and coughing protocol and to wash their hands frequently. The board does have a pandemic plan in place (OCDSB website) and updates to the plan will be communicated to parents.

5) **Treasurer's Report:** Carol for Judy: \$5,896.47 projected future net. Art Auction monies still earmarked for screen & instruments. Great overall outlook reported. Council to discuss allotment of funds at October meeting.

6) **Council Nominations:**

a) Floor was open to (self) nominations for parent members: Daood Aidroos (past chair), Reena Belford, Anna Curtner, Cindy Kirk, Gwenda Ko, Hetty Mannethu, Barb Massey, Kelly Milne, Shonna Tuck.

b) Acclamation of executive positions:

Margo Williams as Co-Chair; 2nd co-chair will hopefully come forward shortly;

Judy Silvestro as Treasurer, Carol Watson as assistant,

Kristal Davis & Liz Doyle as co-Secretarys.

c) Acclamation of staff members: Connie Bruce, Larry Stonebridge; Principal sits ex-officio

d) Past Chair: Daood

Community Member: Margaret Back

e) SEAC Rep: Shonna Tuck
OCASC Rep: Cindy Kirk, Gwenda Ko, with Margo Williams as support.
District 9 Rep: Barb Massey & Cindy Kirk
Class Network Rep: organized by Margo Williams
Milk Program: Gwenda Ko. Milk Volunteer Coordinator: Reena Belford
Pizza Program: Patty Cooper, Gwen Meireles, Nicole Allen
QSP: Paula Maloney
Holiday Breakfast Lead: Laurel King
Others TBA

7) **Brainstorming ideas for this year:** deferred until October meeting.

8) Dr.Karen Rogers talk in November: Shonna: deferred until next meeting.

9) Other Business: Council agrees to order more Arts Alive note cards to use/sell.
bike racks: to be added to Council wishlist.
Re-tree the Glebe: Cindy presented her consultation findings with various folks regarding planting new trees in preparation for Ash Borer crisis. Cindy to prepare grant application to City.

10) Move to Adjourn: Moved by Margo. 2nd Larry.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 26, 2009, 7 p.m. (priorities & budget)