

Oakville School Parent Council
Meeting Minutes - March 17, 2010

Attended by: Donna Coleshill, Denyse Nicholls, Darren Reichert, Graham Shindle, Reese Miller, Sherrie Upgang, Alana Miller and Guest: Murray McLenehan

Financial Report - \$3858.24

(Olympic prize pack tickets brought in \$1061.50. Helped cover part of the cost of sending the school to the Olympic Exhibition hockey game. Trivia Night net profit was \$916.53)

Correspondence:

- Pie Fundraiser - Jeffries Brothers
- Open Air Cinema fundraiser - will be brought forward for future consideration - Sherrie/Graham

Student Council Report:

Reese had nothing to report at this time.

Staff Report:

Darren thanked the parent council for the donation toward the Small Group Reading Program that is underway at Oakville School. An example of an actual report from this past year was handed out which indicated an unidentified student's huge improvement from screening in January to exiting the program at the end of June.

Graham estimates the projection of students for Oakville School to be around 144-45 for next year. The present grade 1 class will be split into Gr.1/2 and 2/3.

Mrs. Stubbington has been away and Mrs. Froese has been taking her place.

The Grade 8 class will be attending their annual grad. ski trip to Asessippi - March 22 & 23.

Currently a possible band trip for Grade 8 to perform at an Elementary School is being looked into. These plans are in the very preliminary stages and may or may not take place.

Playground Report:

Ramsy/Graham are looking at the possibility of adding some features to the playground ie: boat, landscaping features around the running track

Hot Lunch Program:

Going well. Numbers have decreased the past few times. Having the hot lunch order forms added to the school website is being looked at.

Guest Speaker - Murray McLenehan, Portage School Division Trustee

Murray discussed the budget as was presented to the public on February 23/10. Some highlights included the Mill Rate being reduced (but the expenditure (%) increased), the enrolment is estimated for a decrease of approximately 50 students. With the increase in expenditure, this includes items such as technology and special needs funding requirements. The school division has also been diligent in replacing buses on an ongoing basis - the most recent being at a cost of \$110,000. The technology team has made huge strides in making sure our schools are kept current with purchases such as Netbooks, SmartBoards and all of the hardware and licensing that goes with them. In addition, new courses being offered at the high school ie: aircraft mechanics, have costs associated with them.

Murray thanked Graham for his recent contribution to the BYTE conference held for division staff this past month.

Murray indicated that he was attending three days of meetings with the MSBA and one of the days included a meeting with the current provincial Education Minister - Nancy Allen.

The trustees have recently acquired laptops to help battle paper waste and can "attend" meetings even when away from home.

Before and After school Program:

Murray strongly supports our school running such a program and provided us with a manual of information to get us started. The Parent Council sent out a survey with results due a day after the meeting. Preliminary results indicated that all of the surveys returned would like to see a before and after school day care program in our school. Parent Council has agreed that this is an initiative we want to pursue and Sherrie and Graham will be looking further into it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Review of Past Activities -

- Picture Day 2010 - October 21
- Float - excellent participation by students, parent council and thanks to Blaine Page for building and Todd Blight for hauling it during the parade;
- Torch Run - turned out fantastic, kids were well behaved and had a great time. Good comments from members of our community.
- Olympic Exhibition Hockey Game - was a very worthwhile experience for the students who attended. The kids and staff and volunteers had a great time.
- Trivia Night - very successful. We may require a new host next year as our current host will be away on maternity leave. Bring forward next fall for discussion.

Canteen - Student Council and Shirley Hildebrandt are looking after this venture. This venture will continue on for the rest of the year and will look at a possible expansion next year. The student council is okay with working it.

CPR Training - finding dates that work for Monica are difficult. This item is tabled until next fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Staff Appreciation Lunch - April 7/10. There will be activities/treats provided during the week. (Discussion and assignments were given out prior to business meeting)
2. Family Dance - April 23/10. Donna Coleshill will organize with the assistance of other parent council members. Similar format as past. We will bring forward the idea of hosting an outdoor dance next year for something different.
3. Elementary Field Day Canteen - Monica Chorney will be in charge. Alana will assist her.
4. Non Perishable Food Drive - in co-operation with the Oakville Supermarket. Sherrie will be discussing this issue with Manager Tracey Erickson to see how to approach it.

New Item - Donna Coleshill had a parent with a concern that the kindergarten children were not in school enough. After a short discussion, nothing currently will be done. This is a change for Oakville School and if the same concerns come up over the next few years after the transition, then we will look at it closer.

Next Meeting: **7:30p.m Tuesday, April 27/10 OVS Library**