

**Minutes  
18 January 2017  
Howard Public School Council  
7:00pm - 9:00pm  
Library**

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| <b>1. Welcome – Heath Feldman and Sara Tweedie</b>  | <b>7:00-7:05</b> |
| <b>2. Approval of the agenda<br/>MM, Jodi Greenwood</b>   | <b>7:05-7:10</b> |
| <b>3. Approval of the minutes of November 2016<br/>KN and DC.</b>   | <b>7:10-7:15</b> |
| <b>4. Principal’s report – Rosanna Sardella<br/>Gr 5 and 6 island school, sleep over 2 nights, night hikes, feed chickadees, paint etc.</b> | <b>7:15-7:25</b> |

**Achievement goal, 3 part math lesson, TDSB math coach working with teachers, assist and lesson plan. More engaged math program. Less worksheets. Learning strategies. Teachers meet math coach 27 January. Problem solving where kids having difficulties.**

**Mental health: growth mindset. Michael and Jesse coming in to work with 20 students leaders. Student driven programs to help with anxiety and other wellness. Teachers using minds-up and growth program.**

**School on twitter, follow along good things happening. Teachers posting things. Mindset.**

**Equity goal, need to meet needs of all students. Want kids to meet potential. Spec Ed meetings, gifted testing etc.**

**New slide ordered.**

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| <b>5. Future Assessment of School Council Processes – Heath Feldman</b> | <b>7:25-7:35</b> |
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- ST: Charitable giving, feedback polarized between those pro and against charitable donations. Executive decided to revisit processes behind decision making. What does parent community want mandate to be around fundraising.**

**Heath Feldman: Looking for volunteers to discuss processes. Donation decision. Outline procedures, renew mandate, make sure meeting TDSB and ON ministry mandate. End goal to get set of bylaws prepared and readily available. Expectations for behavior in meetings. Some level of preparation before meetings. Handbook for executive roles to make transitions easier. Email HF if want to help with bylaws.**

Aileen MacDonald, some concern that could be a big project. More finetune current situation. Should work on communication.

ST: need actual mandate about fundraising, charitable donations. Ground rules in place.

HF complaints about voting process as well that need to be addressed.

KN: hours dealing about minutiae. Come to meetings if you want a vote. Tighten up process so can focus on decisions.

EM: culture of school changes so often can't/shouldn't codify too much. Need fluidity.

LZ: Good idea to take temperature of parents in spring, in fall on donation issue

KL: process in place then less to complain about. Should advertise idea of donation so can solicit more ideas. Don't just give to one brought up in room. Process in place. No misunderstanding between people who donate/volunteer and executive. People don't want to donate to just any cause. Want say in decision making

#### 6. Finance Update and Budget -- Tory Millar

7:35-7:40

Reserve down about 1500, some additional costs to fall fete in. Currently at 14,500. Should be 3-5000. Have roughly 10,000 to spend. KN warning may not make full amount on pizzas.

Ways to spend reserve:

Piano, idea that will put 6000 towards piano to match parent donations if parents can raise \$5000, have social, outreach.

Learning classroom looking for money \$2000 request.

Ask for \$1000 for more racks for winter clothes for juniors.

Total 9000 of 11,000

#### 7. Committee Updates

7:40-8:20

##### Mental Health – Michelle (budget \$3000)

1500 for friendship bench, 500-600 to screenager screening, possibly at revue? Open to other schools. Need its full budget.

##### Arts – Candice (Budget \$13,500)

Performance, jk-1 Munschtime, grade 2-6 James and the Giant Peach, both at YPT. Each class professional artist to come in to class or go out, Harbourfront some classes. Arts council provides 10 options to teachers, teachers choose. Offer in French for French classes, English for English classes. Try to do school mural but unlikely to afford it this year. Last year's mural not in great shape. Will take it down, keep top half, touch it up then put it inside. Plan for next year's program in spring. Happy to have new members. All money spent for the year.

#### **Tech – Dorothy (Budget \$11,000)**

Spent all money. 80 Chromebooks over last few years. Carts well used by juniors. 20 in library may be underutilized, starting to assign them to teachers/kids instead of library.

Moving towards projector, document camera in each classroom. Need to start planning for when first chrome books die out. Early ones now 3 years old. May need replacement. Starting long term planning, survey to teachers on what they need. Should give one to teachers so can learn how to use them?

Ipads for primary well used.

Library 23 desktops, 10 new laptops, some old laptops. Can meet needs of full class.

#### **Sports – Kathy (Budget \$2750)**

DPA equipment in fall. Set of balls, Frisbees, hula hoops etc to get kids moving. Others yoga. Ping pong set for one set. New baseball equipment, baseballs. New hockey nets.

Mr. P: new uniforms needed in bigger sizes. Kids getting bigger. Set of 60 would cover two teams of 15 for both Mr P and Ms Ringler. Idea to sell old shirts for a toonie. \$500 for new shirts. JG: could keep old shirts for field trips. Maybe charge more, \$5 per shirt?

KN: mini soccer tournament in spring during school time. Need volunteers to help run program, coaching kids for a few practices. Will do shout out on blog.

#### **STEM – Liz (Budget \$3800)**

Dorothy and Mina running tech club with 5 and 6s, will do 3-4s in feb/march, 1 and 2s in late spring. Mme Rachadi working with parents. Able to take 40 of 50 applicants for grade 5 and 6. Maybe do one big installation of all groups at end of the year.

STEAM night in May. May team up with PRO grant which is for science night.

#### **Environment/Eco-Club – Lesley (Budget \$1500)**

\$850 to cover cost of planting in spring. Underbudget currently. Waste audit ongoing. Working on litter-less lunch. Trying to get green bins in washrooms, classrooms for paper towels and tissues. Yard cleanup embraced by kindergarten classes. TDSB did yard review, looking at removing invasive species. Planning butterfly gardens. Want eco-steward in classrooms, not just earth buddies. Earth day parade, tree mulching, earth day resolutions for kids/classes. Starting walk to school days again soon.

#### **Nutrition – Heath (\$1750 including \$500 for Shac)**

Overbudget. Bought rainy day kits for gym, four coat racks for gym for winter gear, hand sanitizers for gym. Right now have enough for primaries. Need more for juniors Seminar on healthy snacks on February 22<sup>nd</sup> in library, \$10 to cover costs.

LZ: could we encourage kids to wash hands before going to gym for lunch. Discussed at staff meetings etc. Better to wash hands than use hand sanitizer.

**EM: looking at lunch lady program along with Katrin Lepin and ZT. Extensive menu. Order off menu, not set menu. Might be worth looking in to.**

**8. Charitable Donation Revisit (Frank Oke)**

**8:20-8:45**

**HF: complaints about process around donations from several parents. One complaint that shouldn't have had the person who put forward proposal in the room for the vote. Question about advance notice about amount of funds being donated. Need more clarity about dollar amount being donated. Complaint that no notice that would be dance a thon funds and not another source.**

**Executive found it was shared in meetings in Sept and October, represented majority of votes of people at November meeting. Need to honour decision of room but put clarity around dollar amount.**

**Secondary school for kids with educational challenges. Funds for alumni night so can celebrate graduates, some found jobs, volunteering, idea to share with current students. Host night evening for current families and graduates.**

**AM: Decision in November meeting. Spending guidelines in Sept meeting, discussed at October meeting. Process is those in room vote, we already voted. Would not rescind decision. Can't make everyone happy.**

**Lisanne (LG): what is community outreach under budget. Does charitable donation fall under this or separate? Would like to help define process. Don't want parent group raising money for charities. Children should be part of charitable giving. Lesley Smeaton: kids need to be leaders in process. Need to work on social justice element in school.**

**AM: vote on spending priorities at Sept meeting.**

**Samantha Hodder: concern around how much money being spent, plan not detailed enough, no connection to children. Process made out of guilt, not a conscious decision.**

**EM: partnering with school who can't fundraise enough on its own. Targeted proposal, not done out of guilt. Support council donating money.**

**ST: What is our mandate. All initiatives (parent, student, teacher) same parents. Should work together. Money just for Howard school/students? Some donations? Only donations if student driven?**

**LZ: dance-a-thon chosen years ago so everyone aware what money going to. Can donate or not. Not out of bigger budget so everyone can make individual choice.**

**LP: branded fundraiser, everyone knows where it goes. Have to pay attention.**

**AM: all about communication.**

**RS: me to we club starting at Howard.**

**LS: should do more social justice, pink day. LP: parents need to step up if interested in guiding it if want social justice focus.**

**HF and ST: Support or overturn November decision funding? Are the process flaws enough to overturn decision?**

**Decision reached in November to donate entire proceeds of dance-a-thon to Frank Oke school. Six in favour of rescinding donation. 10 in favour of keeping decision. Three absentions. Motion to keep full dance-a-thon fundraising to Frank Oke school.**

**9. Hot Lunch Discussion – Katrin Lepik**

**8:45-8:55**

**Reaching out to hot lunch providers, what food available, price etc. Talk to ZT or KL if interested in checking up. Lots of options. Food that kids will eat, still healthy.**

**10. Other Business**

**8:55-9:00**

**KN: Tuesday February 6 subday. Straws can't be recycled so dumping juice boxes. Will offer apple slices.**

**Need grade 6 gradation committee.**

**Meeting adjourned 9pm**

**Next meeting: February 15, 7pm**