

Howard Home and School Meeting- November 18th, 7pm, Howard Library

Introductions (MM, LT)

Agenda approved with amendments, add in scholastic book sale (DC) and fix names in Small budget committee to include Sophie Kierful and Kathy Narraway. Approved by KN and TM.

Principal's update (RS):

Resumption of work has begun
Progress reports going home for grade 1-6 - interviews will be initiated by teachers
No Kindergarten reports
Any board dated mandate will begin again in January
Teachers have settled 'centrally' but still negotiating 'locally'- not a done deal
Extra-Curricular activities are back on
French Immersion Info night Thursday Nov 26th

Executive Update:

LT addresses Parent Initiatives- come one come all- we need help!

Need for a fundraising schedule- coordinate that better so that it's spread out better- not all in the Fall

Megan Smith gives the suggestion of student involvement in the ideas

Tech committee suggests another way to ask for \$\$

Paytrion

Go fund me

Fundraisez

Communication - Howard Happenings to be used as communication between Home and School and parents, as well as kids arts, articles. ZT introduces the renewed agenda - parent communication and involvement

TM addresses question of teacher requests which was deferred in October

Book requests- 2/3 split- and the grade 6 teachers. Should go through RS first.

Where do the teachers put their TECH requests? DC would like clarify who the teachers should ask- the tech committee or the Parent Council?

RS suggests that all teacher requests come through her- she has contributed to specific asks and knows what is on order. Let's streamline the process by NOT bypassing the admin (i.e. Rosanna and Kris).

Issue deferred until the January meeting

TM addresses class lists

Suggestion to do amalgamated class list that shows grade lists as well as class lists- we suggest the need for an IT revamp of the system so that we can access info on line without

Creation of an IT committee - Kate Armstrong and Liz Phillips can be the contact for any volunteers

KN asks to be included in any class list discussion as class lists used to run pizza Friday.

Committee Updates

Ward 7 Update -- Leslie Smeaton

French Immersion - updates on the various systems: Core, Early immersion, Junior Extended immersion- the structure

Christina Laparle- an adviser suggested by Robin Pilkey, who can come in to speak to us

Huge increase in French immersion interest -

PIAC rep- Parent Involvement Advisory Committee- recall of certain epi pens

Donna Quan is leaving the TDSB- looking for a new director

Friends of Howard Trust- Sara Tweedie and Gail

Looking to supplement the current fundraising options- donations with a push of a button- discussion about the ways these funds would be spent and by who?

Canada Helps- takes 4 ½ per cent of all donations as an admin fee but issues tax receipt.

Tory mentions the TDSB has a donation path that does not charge a fee - however it is not online yet. Gail mentions that she thinks it will add extra admin to the office- an extra layer of bureaucracy

Health and Well-Being Committee (MM, MS, EM)

School environment- purchased a bunch of supplies for the health and well-being committee and Rosanna says they are being well used/

Safe and caring school committee- is being launched, haven't been able to hold a meeting yet.

Tech Committee (DC)

Demonstrated use of Chrome Books and Lady bugs- both are very popular with kids and teachers.

With this year's budget, are buying new mobile access points, and 14 Chrome books
DC bought cheaper Ladybugs from Epson-

DC request for additional \$3500 to buy more lady bugs and Chrome books.

Discussion with group as whole over where can reallocate money. Discuss Friends of Howard trust money, classroom improvement and teacher requests \$2,200, made more than projected in Fall Fete, Pizza Friday. TM says can be done with budget tweaks.

DC motion to for \$3500 to add 5 extra projector combos, seconded KN, passed.

KN, not everyone getting blog even if sign up. Refer to Annie Popovich.

Sports Council (KN)

Putting forward 5 teachers to do DPA request- after January

Treasurer Update- TM

Takes us through the budget- Fall Fete income exceed expectations- best yet, almost \$30,000

Division needed between Tech and Stem, can't lump them together.

Music Program- generates a surplus of \$3,000-\$10,000 Ms. Spademan is expecting about \$9,000 to be generated by her programs this year- leaving a surplus of about \$3,000

Volunteers Needed

- a) Traffic Safety- LT- pedestrian safety awareness campaign? Trucks parking in inappropriate places, unsafe for children who are crossing
- b) Food drive at the Christmas concert? Need volunteers- \$1000 was raised last year. See MM to volunteer.
- c) Spirit Committee- need for volunteers
- d) Stem committee needs help!

Holiday concert etiquette

Susan Baird- people are leaving after their child is done which leaves no one left to observe the last act- not nice for those children- she suggests that etiquette is mentioned in a letter, on the actual program and verbally, the night of. Also, suggestion that we mix up the programming so that people are engaged throughout the concert- don't leave mid concert.

Other Business

Pizza lunch supplier may have a product that contains nuts- Kathy looking to change suppliers for the Kinder Pizza lunch

Meeting Adjourned.

Next meeting, January 20th, 2016. No meeting in December.

In Attendance:

Rosanna Sardella

Kris Wessenger-MacDonald

Michelle McBride

Linda Torry

Sara Tweedie

Tory Millar

Dorothy Chen

Julie French

Kathy Narraway

Lesley Smeaton

Erin McCaughan

Candice Levine

Susan Baird- baird.susan@gmail.com

Kate Armstrong- kate@branchain.com (email address should be confirmed)

Megan Smith

Zoe Traiforos

Liz Philips- lizannephillips@gmail.com -

Erika Barrientos- erika.a.barrientos@gmail.com

Joel Freeman- Joel@JoelFreeman.com - Tech

Lara Pocock- larajanelle@yahoo.ca- Arts