

Glynn A. Green
School Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2010

Attendance:

JoAnne Caldwell - Chair
Jim Turpel
Bonnie Cramp
Cathy Froese
Sheridan Houghten
Catrina Bachur
Cheryl Taylor
Jennifer Currie
Sandy Giancarlo

Absent:

Dianna Dudzik
Gary Stickle
Bob Higenell

Introductions, Welcome, Sign In

Updates:

Fun Fair - fun fair had an excellent turnout. Profit for the night is \$5615.07 which will go into the Foundation account. Bonnie handed out an accounting printout. Copy attached to the minutes. Lots of food and drinks were consumed. The left over cotton candy and suckers will be donated to the Grade 3's for after they are finished with EQAO. Bonnie Cramp, Fun Fair Committee Chair would like to step down from Chair for next year but would like to remain on the committee. A replacement will need to be recruited in the fall if needed.

Greening - Jim Turpel met with DeKorte's and the plans are being finalized tomorrow for the outdoor classroom. All approvals at the DSBN level have been granted and most likely the project will start at the end of June/10.

School Travel Plan - The first day of data collection went well. Data will be collected on Wed. And Fri. As well. This data will be sent to Brock where they will tally the results and write the report. School Travel Plan Committee is in place. There are 450 students that attend Glynn A. Green at this time.

Follow Ups:

T-Shirts - list of items to be made up are in the previous meeting minutes and Cheryl Taylor will put the order in so that we have several samples made for the Meet The Teacher BBQ in September. Miss Currie suggested that a t-shirt be sold with the organizers to encourage all

students to have a t-shirt. This would promote team spirit. The t-shirts would be sold at cost - no profit to ensure that it is affordable for all families. These shirts could also be used for Track and Field. Having different track and field shirts would be very costly as the initial team has up to 90 members.

Graduation Gifts - Gary Stickles informed the committee through the Chair that the book marks for the graduation have been ordered and will be ready on June 22nd at the latest.

Teacher Wish List - Technology continues to be the major focus for the teachers. The current LCD projectors are being used all of the time. The 30 notebooks that were purchased with the Walk-a-thon money are working very well now and all children can easily access them. They are a popular item for the teachers and students to use. They have a stationary Smart Board in Mr. Khan's room on the first floor and a mobile Smart Board but it stays in Mrs. Holmes' room as it is difficult to re-calibrate when it is moved.

The only items requested to be purchased are 2 more LCD projectors (one for each floor) as well as speakers and carts. Jim Turpel - Motion to purchase 2 LCD Projectors as well as speakers and carts for both. Cathy Froese - Second and all in favour.

Track and Field shirts were requested and discussed above.

Discussion also took place around getting school banners as well as Tents (open) to be used at events for the school as teams during sunny/rainy weather. Jim and Cheryl agreed to look into the cost of the tents and Cheryl and JoAnne agreed to look into the cost of the banner. It was also mentioned that for track meets the Niagara Region will deliver a trailer with water in it so that it is readily on hand for the children in the hot weather.

Teacher Potluck - Date set for June 22nd at 12:55 p.m. All committee members who are bringing something are to let JoAnne know what they will be bringing. The teachers loved this last year.

Nomination forms - are in the June newsletter and will be in September's newsletter as well. Members who put forward their name will need to be able to commit to meetings which will be every other month rather than once per month.

Principals' Report:

- Sandy handed out a list with all of the teacher assignments for 2010/2011. Copy attached to the minutes. Mr. Rigg is going to be the new Learning Resource Teacher replacing Mrs. Borthwick who is retiring.

- **Choices and Change** - students will no longer be going to Crossley for this class. It will be taught to the students by their home room teacher. Teachers have been learning how to teach this at their PD Days.

- Design and Technology - students will continue to go to Crossley for this topic.

- **Phones** - there is a new phone system in place at the school starting tomorrow June 2nd. The phones have been switched to internet based and will have a new answering machine. In September teachers will have extensions where messages can be left directly for them. 911 will

be switched to the new system as well and will be activated accurately.

- **Field Day for Grade 1 & 2** - Those students have a play day instead. Activities are geared to their age level. The activities are more cooperative versus competitive at this age. Ontario Physical Health in Education states that certain activities like the track are not appropriate for younger than Grade 3 as it is too far to run. It also states that only Grade 7 & 8 can participate in the shot put.

Teachers will look into having parent volunteers for both Field Day and Play Day so that the ribbons can be handed out to the students on the same day.

- **First Aid** - It was suggested that a first aid station be outside for minor injuries during such events as track and field and field day. Some question took place about whether the children were getting adequate care by the secretarial staff if the children are to go to the office. Mr. Giancarlo agreed to look into the issue with the secretaries. He said that the children do need to go to the office so that proper treatment can be given. It was suggested that we could get some Paramedic students to man a first aid table. This would help the school as well as help the Paramedic students get their hours. Sandy agreed to look into this for the next event.

- **Keyboarding** - Students are starting as soon as possible on this skill. Mrs. Holmes has computer time with many of the students. It is noted that Primary students fingers are too small to use the keyboard as it should be. Grade 4, 5, 6 teachers find keyboarding classes beneficial. Teachers of Grade 7 & 8 students so not teach keyboarding as the students have already developed their style and it works for them. Keyboarding is not in the Ontario Curriculum. Computers in the classroom are for the children to do their work on not to learn Keyboarding.

- **Cursive Writing** - There are 75 Language Expectations in the Ontario Curriculum. Cursive writing is not identified as is in those terms but is mentioned in the “publishing” section. Grade 2 identifies “legible printing”, Grade 3 “legible printing, some cursive writing” (Grade 3 start cursive). Grade 8 refers to cursive writing as “legible printing, cursive, text layouts” this is the use of various methods. There is not directive to clearly teach cursive writing. It was mentioned that students do not only need to learn to write cursive but the need to learn to read it. Over the last 5 years of teachers taking courses they do not refer to cursive writing at all but focus on the main skills instead.. It was suggested that in order to give the students the opportunity to learn cursive that their bell work or home work could be done in cursive. Realistically the teachers would not have the time to do cursive writing as it’s own lesson.

- **Filters On Computers** - Over the past 1 ½ years filters have been put on all DSBN computers. The current filters will block certain context but not all of it. Teachers do have “net support” where they have a computer screen that they can look at and if they see anything inappropriate they can send a message to that students computer and freeze the computer as well. If students are found to be on inappropriate sites they will lose their computer time. Only for serious infractions are parents called. There is a program called “Safe Eyes” that parents can get through the Way 2 Click company.

- Copy of the Foundation account handed out - At this time there is \$11,229.86 in the account. Copy of the hand out attached to the minutes.

New Business:

- **Babysitting, First Aid/CPR, Home Alone courses**- it was suggested that these courses be offered after school for students to sign up if interested. Mr. Giancarlo agreed that this could be looked into. JoAnne to look into this and bring back the information for the fall meetings.

- **Meet The Teacher BBQ** - Date for the BBQ is set for September 22nd - time to be confirmed after the first meeting which will be on September 9th. The BBQ will be ran the same as last year.

- **Next SAC meeting** - The next meeting will be held on September 28th. At that meeting a new SAC committee will be elected. Nomination forms will go out in the first newsletter in September allowing all parents the opportunity to put their name forward.