

# George Peck School Council

## Meeting Minutes October 22 2014

### Attendance

Stacey Dinadis, Elaine Suessmuth, Lois Concannon, L J Race, Mark de Soysa, Olena Plouskas, Doris Skrivanos, Veronica Servellon, Melissa Logan, Joanna Crabtree, Yota Tsonis, Nancy Silveira.

Regrets: Kris Perikleous, Andrea Levendakis

**Review of Previous Minutes:** Approved

### **Treasures' Report**

There is a balance of \$640.60. There are no outstanding cheques. Banks have a maintenance fee, \$2.50. We are investigating to see if the fee can be waived. It isn't clear if we will be charged for coinage.

### **Principal's Report:**

#### **School Improvements:**

- 20 new basketballs (+ 10 game balls and 25 soccer balls (old equipment pushed out to classrooms hopefully next week when classroom bags come in)
- new Mindup Curriculum (teachers have new resources - see "What's New")
- solar panel installation to be hooked up to Ontario Hydro end of this week... (completion date TBD - hopefully in November). **Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00pm-12:00am** at George Peck PS, will be the grid shutdown where Toronto Hydro will be visiting to **shut the power down** to the school to allow SSLP (School Top Solar Limited Partnership), to tie into the grid.

#### **FYI:**

- Pest Control – ORKIN is was in September 29 for routine maintenance and to address hot spots (kitchenette by office, staff room lounge and kitchen, day care kitchen, broiler room). In again last week to address sightings in day care area.
- Fire drill with fire department - evacuated in record time, great report (FOUR done)
- Photo retake day is Oct. 30
- Oct. 30 is also Gr. 8 Parent Info Night at Winston Churchill
- Oct. 31 Primary Hallowe'en Rotations
- Spirit Day is Nov. 7 - PAJAMA DAY!

#### **Staffing update and Enrolment:**

- Lillian's (Lockwood) parental leave starts Nov. 13, 2014 (may begin interviewing candidates as early as next week) - she had her baby on Oct. 31! (updated news)
- We were allocated .5 of a teacher until the end of June because of high numbers in Gr. 4 to 8; Ms Moudgil is here all day now & as a result we have straight grades in math in PM

- Joy Xu has an acting half-day secretarial position in our FOS at General Crerar
- Afsaneh Jeddi will be temping for her in Room 1B as a Lunchroom Supervisor
- Kevin Williams is new Guidance Counsellor replacing Lisa Sebbio (transferred)

### **What's New?**

Team up for Green (nobody has done it yet - if you do, sticker gets put on wall chart)

1. Parents can go online and find your school in the dropdown menu and click it and sign up for online services and coupons.
2. The number of board-wide responses are tallied and the TDSB gets credit for each.
3. When TDSB reaches its goal, Toronto Hydro will donate up to \$250,000 towards 500 new bike racks.

#### HERE'S HOW EASY IT IS TO PARTICIPATE:

1. Go to [TeamUpForGreen.com](http://TeamUpForGreen.com)
2. Make sure to have your Toronto Hydro account number handy
3. Sign up for one or all three green programs and services

Not a Toronto Hydro customer? You can still participate!

Download coupons and ask friends and family to sign up for green programs and services.

• Mindful Mondays - to align with the Board's Mental Health initiative (anyone interested in a "Kids Have Stress Too" type of evening workshop for parents?) Partnering with our Toronto Public Health Nurse, Angela Anderson. Gr. 8 students have leadership role in making announcements every Monday morning - Mindful thoughts for classes to discuss/think about.

### **To Celebrate...**

- Susan Raponi wins a Certificate of Achievement for the Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence
- Softball team won tournament on the 14th, played again yesterday - season finished
- Marc-Angelo Casilla came in 10<sup>th</sup> at the Cross Country Conference Finals and is attending the city finals on Monday at Centennial.

### **Music Program**

Mrs. Raponi thanks everyone for nominating her for prime minister's award. An assembly ceremony will be held. She also thanks school council for the money used to buy new instruments. The grade 7 & 8's have their own

instruments and/or 2 students share one instrument. The music program is in need of at least one new trombone. Typically are sold for \$349. We are looking to sell the drum kit to help with the cost. It could be sold for \$300-\$350.

### **Chocolate Fundraiser**

We are half way through the fundraiser. We've sold 56 boxes. 70 boxes are outstanding. There is a 38% participation rate (low). Kids need more motivation. Suggestions to encourage more participation are: offer incentives, give out prizes for specific age groups, teachers volunteer for pie throwing contest. Maybe do something other than chocolates. Do the fundraiser at a different time of year.

### **Snack Program**

\$10/month. Food can come prepared in baskets for each class. Kids get snack for recess. Staff would need to do paperwork and food handling training is required. Will need to find out if there is a need here at George Peck.

### **Pizza Lunch**

Pizza lunch will be held October 24<sup>th</sup>. Pizza will be bought from Pizza Nova. 23 pizzas-10 slices each. Pizza lunches will remain on Fridays. May be the last or second last Friday of the month.

### **Wish List**

There was a donation of the playhouse that is located for the kindergarten. Soccer balls and basketballs have been bought. There was discussion of changing the school logo/colours. Parents and students can be involved. Maybe choose lighter colours. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Suggestion was made to invest in uniforms/jerseys that are worn when students go for sports tournaments. It looks more pleasing with all players are looking the same as oppose to each wearing something different. Team looks more united.

It was brought to attention that the girls and boys change rooms have not been maintained. They need to be cleaned out and organized. Questions about who is responsible for maintaining have been brought up. We need to clean and organize change rooms. Suggestions like keeping things in bins. BBQs need to be removed. Outside storage lockers by Kindergarten entrance can be better organized and used.

It is also been noticed that council cupboard has been opened. Envelopes have been opened and paperwork has been exposed. Things have been moved around. Principal indicated she had not accessed this cupboard, and only other with keys is caretaker.