

Elgin Street Parent Council Meeting – April 9th, 2013

Attendance: MJ Tremblay, Erik Husband, Scott McKenzie, Sacha Singh, Catherine Pacella, Sheila James, Susan Fisher, Michael Bonser, Barbara Johnston-Iafelice, Diana Mills, Judith Lamarche, Lorrie Beaton

Special Guests: David Miller (Department Manager) & Jane Smith (Elementary Technology Consultant), both from Business & Learning Technologies at OCDSB

Absent Members: Samanch Lolabar, Heather Lindsay, Connie Too, Doris Zastro, Jim Costello

1. Welcome, Introductions and Agenda Approval (Sheila James)

MOTION: To accept the agenda – Motion approved by Sacha Singh, seconded by Scott McKenzie; passed by Council.

2. Approval of March Minutes and review of Action Items (Sheila James)

- Addition of the following item:

ACTION ITEM: Scott will present the Council's recommendations on the Jack Purcell Park Phase 2 Redevelopment project to Paul.

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the last meeting, including the action item above – Motion approved by Scott McKenzie, seconded by Judith Lamarche; passed by Council.

- Review of Action Items by Sheila James.

- Update on Barbara sharing the school board's Tech Strategy, via email; DONE

- Update on Barbara to ask Dave Miller to present to Council in the early fall of 2013; DONE (David Miller and Jane Smith will present at tonight's meeting)

- Update on the date of the next meeting of the Constitution Review committee; DONE (scheduled for April 10th, 2013)

- Update on having a discussion at the next meeting on potential outreach

activities for parents; DONE (is in today's agenda, under Co-Chairs report)

- Update on PRO Grants

Michael to provide a list of items that we can spend the PRO grant on); will be discussed later in the meeting.

Erik will total up the expenditures under the PRO grant so far; will be discussed later in the meeting.

Michael will provide a draft of this year's application; will be discussed later in the meeting.

3. Guest Speakers (David Miller and Jane Smith, Business & Learning Technologies, OCDSB)

- The guests introduced themselves, and explained in brief their roles and backgrounds.

- Wifi access for all the schools costs approximately \$3 million per year

- Therefore, OCDSB is focussing on providing IT tools/licenses to schools, like 360 Learning, as tools/licenses are not brand-specific and can be used outside of tradition computer labs

- Timelines presented on pages 15-19 of the OCDSB "Enabling a Culture of Access and Mobility" were reviewed

- **mediasmarts.ca** was a website recommended to the Council for parents, on internet safety for children

- there was a lot of discussion about what the Board should and is paying for in terms of IT infrastructure

4. Principal's update (Barbara Johnston-Iafelice)

- Distributed copies of the "OCDSB Exit Outcomes" document, and outlined some of the highlights of the document.

ACTION ITEM: Catherine to post the document to GoogleGroups.

- Barbara reviewed the projected classroom numbers for 2013-2014, which so far are looking good.

5. Co-chairs report- a) Near West accommodation review, b) Constitution Review, c) increasing attendance at meetings

a) Near West accommodation review (Catherine Pacella)

- Next meeting is Monday, April 15th, 2013.
- Scenarios are being discussed for 2014, and one of them does involve Elgin Street P.S. at this time (if Cambridge P.S. gets E.F.I., that might redraw the boundaries).
- Final decision is to be made for October 2013 (with public consultations in June 2013).

ACTION ITEM: Catherine will provide the Council with an outline of the proposed scenarios, for our information.

b) Constitution Review (Sheila James)

- Meeting has been scheduled for April 10th, 2013.
- Council to decide if the May meeting will be longer, in order to accommodate a special meeting on the constitution

c) Increasing attendance at meetings

- Deferred to next month's meeting.
- Some ideas were discussed in brief (eg. a Council table at Elgin St P.S.'s Education Week open house)

**6. Financial summary, overview and statements (Erik Husband)
a) Projection of expenses – wish list**

a) Projection of expenses

- Erik reviewed this month's revenue and expenses (all financial reports had been provided via Google Groups before the meeting)
- Total available funds at this time: \$13,899.63

MOTION: To accept the financial reports – Motion approved by Scott McKenzie, seconded by Michael Bosner; passed by Council.

7. Committee updates

- a) Fundraising (book sale & silent auction)**
- b) Playground/Trees**
- c) Google Group manager**
- d) Update on PRO Grant funding**
- e) Arts Programming**

d) PRO Grant (Michael Bosner)

- Michael had reviewed the grant to see what items could be covered:
 - Books for parent library – yes
 - Babysitting at the school during Council meetings – yes
 - Photocopies – yes, but for parent resource material, not for general use
 - Council insurance – no, but could amend request for next year’s application
 - Movie night – probably not, but could try in next year’s application
- The next grant application is due May 21st, 2013.

ACTION ITEM: Michael to clarify the amount of the PRO Grant that was deposited on Nov 8, 2012.

MOTION: To allow Barbara to spend up to \$500.00 from the PRO Grant funds on parent resources for the Parent Library; motioned y

a) Fundraising (book sale & silent auction) (Sacha Singh)

- Flyers will begin to be distributed next week

b) Playground/Trees (Scott McKenzie, and Susan Fisher)

- No update at this time.

ACTION ITEM: Scott will submit the Council’s suggested changes to the Jack Purcell Park Phase 2 Redevelopment plan to Paul Landry.

c) Google Group manager (Sheila James, for Samaneh Lolabar)

- Proposal is to start a fresh list in September 2013, instead of just rolling over the

current list.

- Current list members will be advised of this.

e) Arts Programming (Lorrie Beaton)

- Lorrie anticipates having a draft budget for Council at the June meeting.
- Hip-hop Katie will be coming back to work with all grades on a presentation for the school (in the absence of talent show and school play), probably on May 23rd, 2013.
- Barbara is recommending Andrea for an award, and wanted to know if Council would support her with a letter of recommendation.

ACTION ITEM: Barbara will forward a copy of her recommendation to Council.

8. Other business

MOTION: To allocate extra time at the May 14th meeting to review the Constitution – Motion approved by Catherine Pacella, seconded by Judith Lamarche; passed by Council.

MOTION: To move the June meeting to June 18th, 2013, so that the results of the book sale can be discussed – Motion approved by Catherine Pacella, seconded by Sacha Singh; passed by Council.

Impact of Elgin Street restaurant patios on the school (Doris Zastre)

- Deferred to the next Council meeting.

9. Next meeting date: May 14th, 2013, and Meeting Adjournment (Sheila James, Catherine Pacella)

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting – Motion approved by Marie Josée Tremblay, seconded by Sacha Singh; passed by Council.

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS from the April 9th, 2013 meeting

- ACTION ITEM:** Scott will present the Council's recommendations on the Jack Purcell Park Phase 2 Redevelopment project to Paul.
- ACTION ITEM:** Catherine to post the [OCDSB Exit Outcomes] document to GoogleGroups.
- ACTION ITEM:** Catherine will provide the Council with an outline of the proposed [Near West] scenarios, for our information.
- ACTION ITEM:** Michael to clarify the amount of the PRO Grant that was deposited on Nov 8, 2012.
- ACTION ITEM:** Scott will submit the Council's suggested changes to the Jack Purcell Park Phase 2 Redevelopment plan to Paul Landry.
- ACTION ITEM:** Barbara will forward a copy of her recommendation to Council.