

**Jackman School Council meeting – Monday January 6, 2014, 7-9:30 pm**

In attendance: Council members

Shaune Palmer - Principal	Freddy Frenette – Vice Principal
Andrew James – Co-chair	Chris Robertson – Co-chair
Stephanie Eaton – Co-Treasurer	Lisa Milne – Outdoor Environment Co-chair
Adrienne Lee – Secretary	Maria Saras-Voutsinas – Communications co-chair
Michelle Hunt – Fundraising co-chair	Tiffany Johnson – Fundraising co-chair
Effie Kourbetis – Education (English) co-chair	Bipasha Choudhury – Equity Co-chair
Kavita Khandelwal – Strategic Planning co-chair	Liz West – Strategic Planning co-chair
Vasha Zindros - Social and volunteer co-chair	Angela Mandalas - Social and volunteer co-chair
Patricia Morrow – Member-at-large	Louise Biggar – Member–at-large
John Chew – Member-at-large	Lisa Farun – Member-at-large
Candice Troupe – Member-at-large	Paul Cressman – Teacher representative
Julie Dale – Education co-chair (French)	

Parent/community attendees – Donna Spreitzer (Supervisor, Jackman Daycare), Jenny Carr (parent), Karen Jungjohan (parent), Trisha Causley (parent, Outdoor Environment Committee member), Melanie Azeff (parent), Allan Proos (parent), Helen Hawketts (parent), Mary Deschamps (grandparent/guardian)

**1. Welcome and introductions**

**2. Minutes** – Michelle H. moves to accept minutes of last meeting, Chris seconds, approved.

**3. Parent/community feedback** – Helen Hawketts, parent – class rep., hearing concerns from parents about cleanliness of children eating off gym floor at lunchtime. Shaune – difficult – 2 supervisors for all children. Effie – contacted TDSB about parent volunteers assisting with lunch – as long as parents pass criminal record check, no concern. Shaune – concerned that might have grievances filed against the school. Shaune – union rules and regulations are taken up in different ways in different schools – supervisors here might be open to some help. Not much space at Jackman, so tables not a likely solution. Lisa M. – suggestion to use cloth placemats. Helen H. – suggesting pilot program for placemats with room 210, maybe even make it a project (make your own lunch placemat) with teacher.

Parent – feedback re Gamelan orchestra – great experience to see Grade 4 class enjoying it so much, cultural experience as well.

Community member feedback – appreciating the greater transparency of Council this year, access to minutes/agenda on the parent blog.

**4. Principal's report –**

(i) Paul Cressman presentation – Smart Board presentation (ways it can be interactive) – great tool for math, for engaging kids/using interactive programs, using visual/tactile learning methods.

**Motion:** to have Council fund two new Smart Boards, at a price of no more than \$6,000.00 total – Chris moves, Kavi seconds, 18 votes in favour, motion passes.

(ii) Process for parents where there is concern (from either a parent or teacher) about a child's progress – academic struggle, as well as getting along with peers, or children who are sad for other reasons when they come to school. Teachers and parents meet regularly, can always book an appointment with a teacher if there are concerns. In JK/SK – concern re learning language – can get free language assistance under 6. Principal/teacher meet at end of Grade 1 for children who are not on way to learning to read, plus children in French Immersion who are not acquiring the language. Shaune usually meets with around 6-10 parents at end of Grade 1, after that parent should speak to teacher about referring parent to School Support Team. If child needs social work help, supports for learning, interventions (learning centre teacher helping child several times per week). Most children continue on by using new strategy – something different in classroom, extra tutoring, or support from school. Have learning resources in English and French – short term intervention, 2 years (get in, remediate intensely, then back to regular program because progressing). In school of 700, probably have about 80 children who require some sort of intervention for academic/social/emotional success. When children not happy, tend to be disruptive, difficult for teachers, as well as other children in class. Areas where work needed – written responses requiring textual analysis, providing comprehensive written answers.

**5. Motion:** to amend Council's bylaws to:

(1) allow votes to be held by email on an issue that has been:

- (i) a meeting agenda item,
- (ii) spoken to at a previous meeting,
- (iii) addressed in the draft minutes which have been circulated to Council and
- (iv) is an item which should be addressed before the next Council meeting; and

(2) require election of parent members of Council to be held by secret ballot, in accordance with s. 4(8) of Reg. 612 of the *Education Act*.

Adrienne moves, Chris seconds, 18 votes, motion passes.

**Motion:** to amend quorum requirement in by-laws – put off to February meeting.

**6. Election of teacher and community members of Council, changes to Council positions**

**Motion that Council:**

- (i) appoint Trisha Causley to be the co-chair of the Outdoor Environment Committee as Peter Chin has resigned;
- (ii) appoint Astrid to be the co-chair of the Equity Committee and appoint Janey Shin (who was the co-chair of the Equity Committee) to be a Member-at-large;
- (iii) appoint Donna Spreitzer to be the staff representative on Council; and
- (iv) is advised that Member-at-large Jason Aurini has resigned and chooses not to replace him.

Michelle H. moves, Louise seconds, 20 voters in favour, motion passes.

**7. Review/Discussion Item** – Finance Committee update – Stephanie - fundraising to date - \$22k, with \$51k planned. Question - which events are there child care for – child care for Curriculum Night, child care planned for Council meetings. Freddy usually arranges child care. What is process – speak to Freddy to arrange.

**8. School Improvement Plan** - to go around to Council and to be an agenda item for February 2014 meeting. Concern that School Improvement Plan be more integrated into School Council budget process, so that Council budget process informed by Plan.

**9. School Statement of Needs (SSON)** – to be addressed at February 2014 meeting.

**10. Appropriateness of political commemorative plaques on school grounds** – Liz – concern that school yard be non-partisan, Jack Layton quote without attribution would be ok, but attributed quote is of concern. Letter from Claudia (parent, member of Outdoor Environment Committee) read out supporting quote, Jack Layton’s involvement with Jackman. Parent – concern that it is inappropriate, will damage fundraising capacity, that parents will be upset that they have given money and it has been used for a political statement. Would rather that this money go to children in need. Chris – other solution proposed – opposition leaders, other politicians included in garden as well. Julie – stone has always been part of plan, just completing vision of tree/commemoration. Karen – special for kids to be part of ceremony, part of moment with politicians. Angela – schools in the TDSB are named after politicians, and these are not considered partisan schools. Donna – commemoration was wonderful, not a political event.

OEC to send specific language to co-Chair to ensure specific wording and attribution is part of motion circulated in agenda.

**11. Education committee – Effie** – buddy bench – if feeling lonely, can go to this area, feel safe, develop some new friendships. OEC has discussed, (Shaune) school also thinks this is a great idea – maybe use two rocks by pine trees (east side of playground). Some education in classrooms about this – get ambassadors to work with others about this. Get students involved, maybe in decorating it.

- 12. Other committee updates – Fundraising** – cookie dough, Jackman gear both sold well, magazine drive revenues steadily going down. Suggestion that Donate Naturally be available all year; on blog, maybe a “Fundraising” button to bring up all things available.

**Social and Volunteer committee** – first parent social – want to get out of a gymnasium; social at Local, \$20 at door, 2 drinks and appetizers, Council band will do a set. Scheduled for Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 pm.

**Outdoor Living bins** – happening in a few weeks.

- 13. Open Floor items –**

- Repairs – leak in roof over top of stairwell to be fixed, as will need to be in good repair before addition goes on. Suggestion is that parents/Council write to Ken Holm-Laursen, the FTL for our Family of Schools. Chris to take on project of seeing what we can do to speed bathroom repairs, as well as other repairs - to report at February meeting.

- 14. Motion to adjourn** – Chris moves, Vasha seconds, meeting adjourned.

\*\* please note that, as of the end of this meeting, Council currently has 28 voting members (2 co-Chairs, 16 committee co-chairs, 1 secretary, 7 Members-at-large, 1 teacher representative and 1 staff representative), so **quorum (50% + 1 of voting members) is 15 members**.

**Next meeting – Monday February 3, 2014, from 7-9 pm in the Library**