

Jackman School Council meeting – Monday November 4, 2013, 7-9:30 pm

In attendance: Council members

Shaune Palmer - Principal	Freddy Frenette – Vice Principal
Andrew James – Co-chair	Christy Gaetz – Co-Treasurer
Stephanie Eaton – Co-Treasurer	Adrienne Lee – Secretary
Lisa Milne – Outdoor Environment co-chair	Peter Chin – Outdoor Environment co-chair
Astrid Jacques – Member-at-large	Bipasha Choudhury – Equity co-chair
Michelle Hunt – Fundraising co-chair	Patti Morrow – Member-at-large
Jason Aurini – Member at large	Lisa Farun – Member-at-large
Effie Kourbetis – Education (English) co-chair	Julie Dale – Education (French) co-chair
Angela Mandalas – Social and volunteer co-chair	Vasha Zindros - Social and volunteer co-chair
Liz West – Strategic Planning co-chair	Kavi Khandelwal – Strategic Planning co-chair
Maria Saras-Voutsinas – Communications co-chair	Marcela Sleizer – Communications co-chair
John Chew – Member-at-large	Louise Biggar – Member-at-large
Karyne Finlason – Member-at-large	Candice Troupe – Member-at-large

Parent/community attendees –Donna Spreitzer (Supervisor, Jackman Daycare), Helen Hawketts (parent), Muriel Deschenes (parent), Gillian Livingstone (parent), Ashley Bennion-Tait (parent), Safdar Abidi (parent), Elaine Hofer (parent), Sebastien Bertrand (parent), Erin Offman (parent), Michael Carmichael (parent), Oren Armitaz (parent), Joel Brody (parent), Paul Cressman (teacher), Karen Jungjohan (parent).

1. Welcome

2. Motion to pass previous meeting's minutes – Adrienne moved to pass draft minutes from October 7, 2013 Council meeting, Stephanie seconded, motion passed.

3. Architect/TDSB design presentation – two story addition to be added to Jackman to accommodate Full Day Kindergarten (FDK) starting in Sept. 2014. Kept existing playground at front of school, kindergarten space enlarged, fence will be extended. Adding a rear entrance to allow parents to go to different entrances, keep congestion down. Using current stairwell. Will have entrance ways, with large windows and cubbies. One washroom in each room. Have been able to maximize classroom size – largest allowed by Ministry. South facing windows, out onto playground, have maximized windows. Have matched bricks and windows with existing school, to look harmonious from street.

Landscape design – have taken into account parent/principal comments and concerns. Steps will be removed and re-used – pushed forward. Trees will be moved – will create ramp up to addition, ground floor classroom. Some play structures will have to be removed. Because no elevator, second floor not accessible. Underfunded – will be a new program coming out which will require accessibility in every building, schools will be some of first buildings. Second floor washroom not barrier-free, but stall could be moved to make that washroom barrier-free.

Have building permit (if TDSB passes plans) – ahead of schedule. Plan pretty complete at this point – tenders will be closed in next few days, have re-used as much as can, have relocated equipment, may have space for adding one piece of equipment. Fine-tuning will be fine-tuning to what we have – ie. minor tweaking of ramp. New asphalt path – is being added as part of loop, is a containment method (to keep sand in that area) – have new granitic sand under play areas there. Once approved at Board and Ministry – will have pre-construction meeting in December, then construction people will step in. Full height plywood boarding will be up around construction area, with locks on doors.

4. Principal's report – School concerts - concern around different kind of holiday concerts – Nuit Blanche and Nuit Verte. Liked concept, but wanted higher quality. This year, three concerts – about three different groups to each one, one in fall, one in winter, one in spring, only parents of those involved invited to come. December 5, Feb. 27th, May 1 – will communicate next week as to who will be coming to which one. Different grades at each concert.

Self-regulation – concern out of higher numbers of children with ADHD, concern about working on having appropriate energy levels for tasks at school. Follow-up – number of referrals to office for misbehaviour are down. Lessons for children – checking in, thinking about energy levels. Also teaching them about stepping across threshold and changing behaviour. Seems to be working – will continue to work on this. Concern about working on physical environment, lowering the stimulation levels in classrooms.

Teacher professional learning – teachers proposed areas, children sign up to research these areas, can cross between tracks and between grades. To give teachers a whole school perspective, rather than just a view of grade one, can hear what they need in years ahead, what are some of weaknesses.

5. Amendment to bylaws re new Extracurriculars committee – working as members-at-large and as members of Strategic Planning Committee at expanding extracurriculars offered at Jackman. Started with survey – overwhelming. Will start with Mad Science – Nov. 21 and 22, \$50+HST, Yoga \$50 + HST; lunchtime Scrabble club. Concern that leaving members-at-large, rather than committee, allows flexibility on Council – if no need, no need to elect that position, whereas otherwise forced to elect that committee.

Motion: that Council make a change (to by-law 4.0, to become new point (11)) to create an Extracurriculars committee, John moving, Lisa Milne seconds – motion does not pass (6 in favour, 10 against).

Motion: that Council designate Kavi and John as heads of working group for Extracurriculars, moved by John, seconded by Christy, motion passes.

6. Proposed budget – Operating budget committee met on October 22, 2013, discussed and agreed on proposed budget.

Total spending of \$78,000, \$32,000 set aside for core-budget for next year. Able to take most of recommendations of committees – two items not in budget, extra playground structure and air-conditioning in FDK addition. No direct donation at this point, parent social is new (should pay for itself), may have a silent auction.

Most of line items in line with amounts from previous years - Acts of Kindness combined with Social committee budget. Equity – childcare/curriculum night, Outdoor Environment, Communications, Equity Programming – equity carousel, training for teachers. School expenses – classroom materials, cultural programs, science and math enrichment, technology support all included in core budget.

New items - improving student achievement – software; outdoor bins – Rachel (parent) – “recess revival” (programs in Peel) – older students are “ambassadors” for younger children, teach them to use equipment, combine it with physical education program. Replace team uniforms. Extracurriculars – chessmaster, yoga mats + subsidies.

New initiatives – library chairs and blinds, new school sign. Discussion re school sign – concern that it will not achieve the end of reaching more parents – flyers going home in backpacks might be more efficient. Question about yoga mats – school budgets reduced this year, have \$1,400 for equipment. Can try to seek a donation of yoga mats – 25-33 (largest number). Jack Layton inscription – part of project being worked on with school, honour our MPP, were thinking of putting his words in English and French, falling in tradition of other engraved stones around the school. Inscription to wait until have better sense of parent views. School sign taken out of budget. Shaune requesting additional money be given to her for Smartboards – to be discussed by Council at a later date.

Motion: that Council pass budget as presented by co-Treasurers, with removal of school sign as a line item – Stephanie moves, Christy seconds, 18 in favour, motion passes

Motion to adjourn – Andrew moves, Stephanie seconds, meeting adjourned.

Next meeting – Monday December 2, 2013