



Roch Carrier Elementary School

School Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 9th, 2011

7:10 Call to order

Motion by: Ken

7:11 Approval of Agenda

Motion by Cynthia. All approved.

Quorum – yes (11 executive members)

7:12 to 7:30 Bridlewood Community Association, And Spring Sports Registration (Margaret Kellaway)

Events:

- March 15 (during March break) family movie night in the Bill Morgan room.- There will be movies/crafts/games/music. All are welcome to attend;
- Ultimate Frisbee program;
- Changed junior soccer program to make it more appropriate for junior soccer – rotate through activity stations over an hour to stay active over the hour, gross motor skill development not just soccer skills;
- Spring sports registration from 1st to 28th in February. Can register online;
- Saturday between noon and 2:00 encouraging people to use the rinks to play hockey, etc. will be giving out hot chocolate and treats.

Membership

- Membership drive is on right now, 10 dollars for a year membership;
- Need to become a member to register to enrol in sports;
- With membership, get to attend a spring BBQ.

Activities/involvement of the BCA

- Hosts garage sale;
- Supports the schools;
- Members can join an email distribution list to get updates on community news;
- Make a difference in the community; for example, putting hold on the building development across from RCES, new speed limit test project on Stonehaven, extended turn lanes on Richmond;
- True Sport play date – May 20th – about 2 classes from each school are invited (invitation only) meet at Eva James, have an athlete speak to the children, get the autograph of the athlete, play stations/activities;
- Three parks had water supplies installed – rinks are in better shape, easier to volunteer;
- Street rep program – one person per street to tell neighbours about the association and what is going on in the community, can also talk to the rep to relay information to help the area (e.g., put a bench in, take one out), street parties (funded by BCA).

Currently working on getting

- Bike lanes on Richmond in Spring 2011,
- A stoplight to help with traffic flow in Bridlewood.

New development upcoming in Bridlewood

- Hope side road- farmland has sold and development will start at some point. You can write to the city planners by March 4 if you have concerns. Or, write to Hubley. School council could put together a letter, if interested in putting it in writing – land put aside for school

Margaret presented school council with a cheque for 500 dollars to be used to benefit the children.

Reports

Principal's Report (Katia)

- Boilers – two/three weeks ago three of four boilers did not work. School was cold. Pipes burst above Room 222 flooded rooms for three classrooms. Damage on walls for classroom below. Katia explained that the boilers did not work because the filters were not being changed. As a result, the board is changing companies as it was the maintenance staff's job to change the filters.
- Secure school practice on Friday morning. Need to stay in classroom until told they can leave – kids work. Police secure area. This is the second of three secure school practices this school year.
- Purchases –
- Two smart boards are here– one library and one upstairs in Mme. Bersey's class. They will be shared.
- Two media carts and laptop, and about 10 projectors. The School now has 8 or 9 media carts.
- Elmo/lady bugs were bought with school funds This technology is like a 3D projector where you can put a book and flip the pages; can also do science experiment on it. See it on the screen in 3D
- A thank you for the money to buy shelves. An order has been placed for – 2 shelves for books, and the back wall will have the shelves which will be used for read aloud books and teacher resources. About \$8,000 of work. And, the resource room will be changed– they will be moving two teacher's desks, extending the book room and putting in shelving. Wait time will be up to 6 months so hoping to have it done for September
- On the upcoming February PD day, there will be a workshop on smart boards.
- The student-led conferences were a great success. Katia was impressed by how many parents came during the work day.
- JK registration – they have given out 99 JK registration packages
- At the staff meeting today, there was discussion as to the use of the agenda. The Junior division wants to use them but the Primary fee that it may be better to have a communication book with newsletters (as agendas are really primarily used as communication logs, which is not worth the cost of the agenda). Once there is a decision, Katia will tell council.
- Healthy schools – Mme. Lindquist went to a workshop on healthy schools and gave the staff a presentation regarding what was communicated. Basically, ways to encourage more physical education in children and encourage healthier eating, and the 10 days for “junk food”.
- The junk days will require some cooperation with council. Perhaps in April/June, the school will get together with school council to plan for the 10 days. There was discussion as to what would constitute a junk food day – for example, would cake walks count since the cakes are sent home? And, what about events that take place outside of normal school hours? What about things like birthday treats and other times when there are treats that are not a school-wide event/offering.

ACTION: Cynthia mentioned that she would seek clarification at the interschool meeting with Cathy Curry and would report back to the council.

- Tomorrow morning, Katia I meeting with the principals of Bridlewood, John Young, WO Mitchell, and AY Jackson. This is the first time this meeting will take place (family of schools).

Principals want to know more about what each other are doing. The high school principal will visit the elementary schools to get an idea of what elementary schools are doing and some for elementary school principals going to the high school.

Teacher Report (Kathy Laviolette) -

- Reminders: Spirit Day Feb. 14; Litter less Mondays starting up again, leftover food going to compost; Toonie Tuesday this Tuesday – collecting for educational foundation; and, Feb 18 – PD Day.
- In Mrs. Bannerman's class the J.K.'s have a new writing centre and we are making cards and notes for EVERYONE -we have a word wall, real valentine cards, stickers and envelopes.....we are learning to write words such as MOM, DAD, LOVE and FROM.
- Miss Kathy's JK's are busy working their way through the alphabet.
- We are celebrating Valentine's Day with two class parties on Feb 14th.
- There are no report cards for JK.
- The Junior Kindergarten Checklists will be completed and sent home before March Break.
- In Madame Hole's S.K.E.F.I. the students have been enjoying the story of the "Bonhomme de pain d'epice" (Gingerbread Man). They are going to experiment with various objects to see if they "coule ou flotte" (sink or float). The students are looking forward to some fun with Madame Monique's class on Valentine's Day.
- News from SK EFI Mme Monique's class is that the students are measuring and weighing snow. They are looking at snowflakes and examining how they are structured and where they come from!
- Counting, counting and graphing graphing. Mrs. Kerwin's Senior Kindergarten is placing Valentine candies on their own individual graphs with the help of lots of Mommy volunteers! Maybe we'll nibble a few candies too! Thank-you Mommies, you are soooooooooo appreciated!
- Mr Ridgeway's students have been exploring the comprehension strategy of Questioning using a variety texts.
- Mrs. Wood's class has made February our Reading month. We have the challenge of reading 100 books at home and 10 books in class. We will be presenting our Favourite Books.
- All of the grade 1 French immersion classes are going to the museum of civilization this month for the social studies class.
- Mme Vezina's students are going to look at the job of the mailman and will study how to make bread!
- Mme Toye's class will be celebrating our 100th day of school on Feb.14th, students will be bringing in 100 objects and we will be busy counting them by 1's,2's, 5's, 10's & 25's. Oh yes, they will be also blowing up a 100 balloons in class!
- Mme Lamarche's class will be inferring character/speaker's point of view as presented in the text and explore other potential perspectives. As well we will be learning how to write a letter.
- Mlle Backstrom's will be studying books by Jan Brett, some in our French class and some in English.
- Grade 2/3 Sue Levy-Rick -Students just finished travelling the world reading over 50 different multicultural versions of the fairytale, Cinderella. They have written their own fabulous fractured versions of the fairytale.....(everything from Cinderbaby, Duckerella, Fairyella, the Cinderlad, Cinder Mario.....) and they've created interesting book jackets for their texts!
- Mrs. Paunins' students have just finished a literacy unit on Cinderella and will soon start an author's study on Jann Brett. We have been busy creating papier mache globes and the children are now designing their own treasure maps. We have also enjoyed skating on the outdoor rink at Scisson's park.

- Mme Macdonald's grade 3 students are currently learning about pioneer life in Upper Canada. They enjoyed a hands-on workshop on Friday Feb. 4 that allowed them to write with quills, taste hard tack, and play with some pioneer toys. Students will be writing biographies about famous Canadian pioneers in our French writing and making portraits in Art.
- Madame Poirier's Grade 3 class are having a blast learning multiplication facts and division in Math.
- Mrs. Harrison's English students are studying similes and metaphors so that they can write the mushiest Secret Valentine Friend cards to be used in an activity on February 14th!
- Mr. Saschenbrecker's Grade 3/4 English are reading and writing poetry for language.
- Mrs. O'Shaunessy's grade 4/5's students will be working on persuasive writing and beginning to work within their own literacy circles this month.
- In Ms. Carew's class we are starting procedural writing. We are hoping to compile a recipe book. Her English classes have taken a pledge that they will each try to read 10 books by May 31st. If they reach their goal, Scholastic will donate 200 000 (100 000 for each class) books to children in need across Canada.
- Grade 5 EFI with Mme Laviolette - Students are working on a mock election. They are preparing logos, party names, making electoral lists etc. The big votes will happen on February 24 and 25. The winners will then represent our classes at the Student Council meetings.
- Grade 6 EFI with Mme Laviolette - We are working on a unit linked to child labour. We are studying Craig Kielburger and his organization called Free the Children. We will be integrating this unit on the legacy project.
- Mrs. Gasperetti's Grade 6 class is building electrical circuits, participating in activities involving acceptance and tolerance and working towards a safe and caring way to handle bullying.
- In Mme Reim's grade 6 EFI the students have been writing French speeches and are getting ready to present their speeches in front of the class.
- Sports from Mr. Sash & Mrs. Lindquist: We're having a blast playing early morning volleyball at 8am for the past month. The turn out has been fantastic and the students are so enthusiastic. We regularly have 50-70 students coming out for volleyball club before school and during lunch recess. Two girls teams and one boys team are training to enter in the North West regional volleyball tournament on February 24th.

Committee Reports

OCASC and other information (Cynthia)

- Andrea stepped down. Anyone else interested to attending in the future? The meetings are the third Thursday of the month and are held at 7:00 pm. No interest was voiced. Information and minutes are posted www.ocasc.ca
- Tues. Feb 19th – CHEO giving various talks on different topics at Canterbury. Council will post this on the web site. The information can be found at the OCASC web site.
- Facebook council web page – 50 people so far have “liked” the page.
- Composting and green bins – composting is full and using the green bins. Ken asked if we can start using it. Kathy Laviolette will ask Virginia Harrison.
- Last day of school before Christmas holidays will be Dec. 23rd 2011 (as announced on the radio).

Treasurer report (Christina)

- The lunch program did really well. We have made \$34,000 in pizza/sub/milk for a profit of approx. \$9,800 (\$8,500 was estimated).
- Council, with donation of BCA, have \$5,800 in our account to give to school for budgeted line items
- There was a request \$500 for asphalt paint money which has been done. Now down to \$5,300.

ACTION: release \$3,800 for teacher allocation – part of stay in classroom, part for other purchases like craft items (\$100 per teacher; \$50 for EA).

ACTION: Cynthia to revisit rules on spending the money

- Cake walk (Jennifer T) Asked to clarify the funding model of the Beacon school and to ask who are the beacon schools, how we decide. It was indicated that we choose the Beacon school year to year. Katia suggested. Queen Mary given its economic disadvantage and that it is a buddy class with one of our classrooms. If we choose that school, would be nice for Tracey to deliver it. Decision to select Queen Mary as the beacon school was made.

ACTION: Katia/Lisa to ask Tracey to determine best way to support Queen Mary school - out if we can buy or do something for them or simply provide a cheque

- Jennifer asked whether it was possible to donate 100% of proceeds from a cake walk to be given to the beacon school. Christina responded that we can look at our surplus funds at the end of the year, once we know how well our major fundraisers have done. Our money may be accounted for, given our budget decisions at the beginning of the year. Last year, we gave our surplus to the Grade 6 for a fundraiser.

ACTION: Revisit the decision of what to do with our funds at the end of the year.

- Cynthia asked to release \$500 for the education foundation. This foundation gives money back to Ottawa children. School will ask for epi-pens, glasses, rent instruments, etc. for a student.
ACTION: Christina to give half the proceeds of the first cake walk to the Beacon school once Katia et al decide on the best way to support them
- There was discussion as to whether the online tracking for food orders was also counted in the profit total. Christina affirmed that this was the case, even if it was a late order.
- Cynthia brought up that Gabrielle Pizza was not yet in compliance with the Healthy Lunches program. So, we may have to go with a new vendor. **ACTION: Cynthia will bring back more information at next meeting as on Cathy Curry's agenda.**

Fundraising (Chantal)

- March 21st fundraiser will be enchanted gardens (bulbs), organic fair-trade coffee (same as was sold at Christmas), and fundscrip gift cards. Forms will be circulated. The delivery of the bulbs will be end of May. Delivery of coffee and gift cards will be in April (possibly 21st).
- It was noted that credit card fees are passed on to the council and this is one reason we don't promote online fundraising. There was other discussion on use of online ordering –use of hyperlinks and email may also be helpful. Chantal noted that Fundscrip is available online but only one parent has ever done it this way. There may be a chance we can do coffee online, but again, the credit card charges would be assumed by council and not the company.

New Business.

ARC

- Report from the board came out last week with board's recommendations for interim measures for 2011. A link to this information can be found via the council fan page on Facebook. The proposed interim solution is that Roch Carrier stay status quo for 2011. Long-term measures will be recommended for Sept.2012, with the idea that the solutions will START to be implemented in 2012, but may not be all/complete. At the end of the report, in the conclusions section, there was a suggestion to look at new possibilities. One was that Middle French Immersion be phased out of Bridlewood Community school and that it would become a dual track EFI and English. Castlefrank would become the MFI school for Kanata South. This was a suggestion – not a decision.
- Feb 22 – the decision by trustees will take place. This will be for the 2011 interim solutions
- The 2011 projection for enrolment at RCES was 758 students. We are 712 at this time.
- Feb 16th- our projected numbers will be in from the Board. Probably close to 758. Katia will share when we know. Will have bigger class sizes for 2011.
- A question was raised as to whether there is a chance we'll go higher in 2012? Katia – a chance.. And, Katia mentioned that an ARC can only be held every 5 years.
- A question was raised about full day kindergarten. It was stated that all schools had to have full-day kindergarten by 2015.
- 1,000 homes – 4 to 5 five years down the road; the houses across the road from RCES– the application to remove the hold, is on hold.
- Can email arc@rochcouncil.ca

Rochin Fun Fair

- No real information to update. Call for volunteers to help plan or be there that night. June 24th.

Round Table – Ken

- Carl – missing some info on web site. Minutes, etc. He asked that missing information be forwarded. He also added a Facebook button.
- Cindy D– impressed with the emails that come from the office. Appreciate the regular feedback.
- Wendy – Two agenda items to add: follow up on the amazon list (Susan w was checking into it), school supplies for next year. Chantal is working on it. **ACTION: put these items on the agenda for next council**
- Wendy -Mabel Labels –requesting date of kindergarten night. Katia let her know that it was May 4th at 7:00 pm. Wendy indicated that the fundraiser will start on that day and will run through summer until end of Sept.(ish).
- Jennifer – cake walk. Raised issue with some parents not receiving the sheets from the teachers for this and other events. A discussion ensued as to emails versus sheets. Katia would like feedback on how best to proceed; feel free to email her with comments. **ACTION: Add to next agenda meeting (sheets/emails/calendar for communication about events)**

- Cynthia – thinks we should work on a list of school procedures/standard operating procedures – everyone involved in a program write up what they do. Org chart, what we do, go to list.
ACTION: Add to next council meeting agenda.
- Jennifer – request to add to the agenda, leaves for the trees for the contributors to the school.
ACTION: Add to next council meeting agenda.
- Christina – asked if there was a reason we don't put out calendars with school/council events. Wendy stated that she used to do it and can do it again with the newsletters. **ACTION: Wendy will do a calendar that combines school-wide and council activities. Wendy to email to Katia to put into the newsletter. Will be an attachment, PDF.**
- Carl also indicated that he could do a council specific on the web site. **ACTION: Carl to do March calendar and post it on the website. He will need information within the next two weeks. .**

9:13 pm Ken to adjourn

- By: Christina
- Seconded by Wendy.
- All in favour.