

Hawthorne PS School Council

Minutes of Meeting held on
Tuesday, 10 November 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Attendees** –Mary Conroy (Principal), Brigitte McGuey-Tuinder (Chair), Michele Simpson (secretary). Nik Panter, Susan Redding.
2. **Commencement of Council Meeting** – Nik Panter chaired the meeting and announced that \$1,187 has been donated to the school as 50% proceeds from the Pleasant Park book fair held in October. Both Nik Panter and Michele Simpson volunteered for half day each.
3. **Review Minutes from last meeting to ensure no changes need to be made** – approved with no changes by consensus.
4. **Principal's message** – see attached report. Highlights are below:
 - a. Central negotiations continue for support workers, and as such the doors will remain unlocked.
 - b. Halloween dance was successful but more so the games room. May have to rethink social activities for the Intermediate grades.
 - c. Pizza lunches are still on hold that is usually run by one of our EAs, due to labor action.
 - d. Ultra-Play is available for students Grades 1 to 6 after school on Wednesdays and Fridays where students play games for 1-2 hours. Girls attend one night, while the boys attend another night.
5. **Treasurer's report** – Brigitte McGuey-Tuinder
 - a. Council account balance of \$2,681.45 does not include the money from Pleasant Park book fair.
 - b. Grant money received from the school board in the amount of \$500 and Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant of \$1,000 to be deposited in the next few weeks.
 - c. Nothing outstanding to pay.
Action: Nik Panter to send PRO grant proposal re the Community cupboard (\$4,000).
6. **Survey** – Please see handout. We could incentivize the kids that bring back the survey using hockey tickets or some other giveaway. The survey could be sent out electronically using Synrevoice, link on school's website and on the school newsletter in addition to paper. Brigitte suggests that we use an electronic link until January's meeting then do paper copies thereafter.
 - a. Section 1 – Communications – to assess available and preferred lines of communication. May want to have fewer questions and target them towards communication with the school council. So far 5 parents have indicated interest in receiving the school newsletter.
 - b. Section 2 – Information sessions – to find out what type of sessions parents would be interested in. Nik offered to run an information night – Parents on the Internet – what it is now. How do you find out what your children are using, how do you use it. Might have difficulty reaching parents of ESL students. To include topics - introduction to the OCDSB board and parent involvement.
 - c. Section 3 – School Council activities – to find out what parents believe the council should be focusing out time, efforts and money. To include Family fun nights (Barbeque and movie nights) and School Yard Enhancements
Action: (a) Nik to send Mary a PowerPoint of his internet presentation. (b) Mary to include request for emails from school council on the school newsletter (c) Survey to be edited and setup for December and responses reviewed in January 2016.
7. **Community Cupboard** – Searching for volunteers to help maintain and open the community cupboard once a week. We could start by opening on a Council evening since we are here anyway. Then we could use a high school student 4 pm – 6 pm at least once a week after school. Kelly Clarkson at Canterbury would be interested. Brigitte offered to field calls from the high school students.
Actions: (a) Mary to find out if we can hire someone to open the community cupboard once a week. (b) Mary will also reach out to the guidance counsellors at various high schools (Canterbury/Colonel By).
8. **Upcoming events or fundraiser ideas** in which school needs council's help – To be determined after 1st staff meeting.
9. **Open floor** – discussion topics – Currently 220 students right now (an increase of 10 students over last year).
10. **End of Meeting** – Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. Next meeting date: **Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m.**