

# MINUTES

*Roy H Crosby School Council Draft of Minutes*  
November 5 2007

**In attendance,** Laura D, Basil W, Leeanne A, Ulya Y, Bianca M, Megan H, Debra L, Dean L, Beth S, Prabha S, Gail T, Lisa D, Vicky T, Denvy N, Rona M, David G, Elizabeth C

**Chair** – Lisa called the meeting to order at 7:20. Debra motioned to approve October's minutes and Laura seconded.

**Principal's Report** – David presented the EQAO stats, which are good. They are available online and show many different statistics (gender splits, etc). 90% of all kids met or exceeded the provincial standards in Grade 3. Grade 6 was slightly lower.

- Literacy Focus – David did a PowerPoint presentation on how the school is implementing the new Literacy Collaborative and how it will help all students especially those that are "at-risk".
- Effective Schools – Bill 212 Safe Schools and Progressive Discipline Legislation will take effect Feb 1, 2008. This includes some changes in suspension and expulsion processes including mitigating circumstances (students with special needs, etc). Bullying is now listed as an activity leading to suspension.
- Student Ambassador Program – Mrs. Hunt-Wells and Mr. Stover have started a program to help facilitate a smooth transition for new students and their families – particularly those for whom English is a second language. Each class will have both a boy and girl representative who will serve as their class ambassador to help orient new students to the school. They are also looking for a few parents who speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Farsi, etc to be available to come to the school on occasion as needs arise to aid with translating.
- In December there will be a food drive for the Markham food bank, mitten and hat campaign for Yellow Brick House and staff are considering a World Vision initiative.
- Mr. Geene wanted to personally thank Erin Morin who did a great job as acting principal during his absence in October.
- Ms Holendar, and Mme Croteau attended a Character Matters conference.
- IEPs for identified students (140) were completed by October 16<sup>th</sup>
- Plans for Term 1 report cards are underway
- Thanks to Mrs. Purcell and Mrs. Maclean who coached the Cross-Country team this year. There was a large meet in Milne and 7 of our students went on to Regionals.
- Remembrance Day Ceremony will be held on Friday November 9<sup>th</sup> (10:30-11:15)
- Quest Conference will be at Sheraton Pkwy November 16-18.
- Holiday Concert is tentatively scheduled for December 19<sup>th</sup> at Pierre Elliot Trudeau HS
- The school has been offered another ½ Spec Ed Resource Teacher (SERT) to support increasing number of identified students. Interviewing and hiring will be in the next few weeks.
- Mr. Geene will be on leave for the month of November. Mr. Symington will be assuming principal duties in his absence.

**Treasurer's Report** – There are 2 accounts listed on the statement as we are in the process of transition from our old bank to PACE Credit Union. The first term pizza profits are approximately \$1900 and the magazine totals will be around \$5400.

**Council Forum** – Lisa, Vicky and David attended the Council Forum in October. Vicky and Lisa found it interesting and it reminded them of how important Councils are. They felt that we have become so focused on raising money for our initiative that we don't often have time to come up with new initiatives.

**Classroom/Program Enhancement Allocation** – In the past we have given \$300 to each classroom teacher/program to purchase non-consumables for their classroom. The motion to approve this was done in October, but some teachers were left off the list. Motion to add Grade 1-2, Special Ed, and ESL and to remove Computers from the list. Mr. Wong mentioned that some teachers have everything they need so in

the winter we will survey the teachers to see how we can better administer this program. Laura motioned to add \$600 to the \$5400 already approved and Megan seconded.

**Privacy Issues** – Now the minutes are on the world wide web Beth proposed that attendance lists include only first names and last initial to protect the privacy of our parent/student community. Gail seconded the motion.

**Band Program** – Mrs. Colley spoke to council about her new band program. She thanked Council for the \$2000 already donated. With that money she has purchased 11 instruments. Students are being charged a user fee to “rent” the instruments from the school, which will cover maintenance on those instruments. She would like to look at a five-year plan where band becomes a program (rather than just extra-curricular as it is now). She would like to Council to consider \$5000 a year to help with this. Council will revisit at next meeting.

### **Committees**

- **Fundraising** – QSP results were down this year – to \$5400. Fundraising feels that another fundraiser is in order to make up that shortfall. Megan presented a proposal to sell Poinsettias. We would accept pre-orders from parents and the community and pick-up would be at the school during the Parent-Teacher interviews at the end of the month. There will also be a bake sale. Fundraising would also like to do a Fun Fair this year but it is felt that we need more volunteers from the parent community. A poll will go out in early winter to see if there is interest in this. It was also proposed that we let the parent community know exactly how many hours the volunteers put in on various initiatives and what the money raised is use for as a means of attracting more volunteers.
- **Playground**– The Playground Committee needs money. It was proposed that a quick survey is sent home in an upcoming newsletter to ask the parents/children what they would like to see in a new playground. It was also discussed that perhaps the teachers could gather some feedback from the classes as a whole given some framework for their questions.
- **Health & Safety** – Debra presented a story about a 9-year-old boy who choked to death at his school because the lunch monitors didn't know enough about choking. She would like to organize a CPR session for the lunch monitors including the Grade 6 students so that they can recognize the signs of choking. She also asked that the side path to the school have the overgrown hedge trimmed. Due to Crosby's proximity to Milne Park where lots of people walk unleashed dogs she suggested that the school host a presentation on dogs and how to avoid dog bites.
- **Staff Appreciation** – The first event is coming up for the Parent-Teacher interview night. Lisa will email the committee members soon to coordinate.
- **Communication** – The phone books will be coming home this week
- **Environment** – The company who takes our printer cartridges and cell phones will give us \$25 if we put their logo on our website. It was decided that we didn't want to go that route.

### **Parent Forum –**

Bianca announced that the March Break skating party has been booked for the Thursday before the break at Angus Glen CC.

Debra reminded everyone that The Stouffville Community Centre has free skating on the upcoming PA Day (Nov 12) in the afternoon – compliments of Larkin Chrysler.

**Next Meeting** – December 10 2007 7:15 School Library