

# MINUTES

*Roy H Crosby School Council Draft of Minutes  
September 10 2007*

The meeting was called to order by Flora MacDonald at 7:25 p.m.

**In attendance** Lisa Dunning, Laura Debyl, Deborah Bullock, Basil Wong, Leeanne Arbour, Vicky To, Gail Tsang, Flora MacDonald, Lynn Nowicki, David Geene, Tricia Middleton, Joanne Klue, Ulya Yigit, Bianca Mason, Megan Heaphy-Orr, Debra Larkin, Dean Lee, Ramona Sequeira, Beth Sheridan

**Chair** – Flora welcomed everyone to the meeting. Bianca motioned to approve June's minutes and Joanne seconded. Motion approved

**Principal's Report** - David Reported that he has had a great welcome to the school by students and staff and that the year got off to a great start.

- **Staffing & Enrollment** – We are currently at 303 students. 125 are in the Gifted Program and 11 students have been identified for Special Education support. There have been some staff changes
  - Mrs. Mayhue is now teaching Grade 4 Gifted; Ms Maybury is teaching Grade 6; Mrs. Schmidt is teaching the Grade 1-2 split class; Mrs. Purcell is doing Special Education and Reading Recovery; Mrs. Scuse is the part time Education Assistant – Mrs. Hendricks has moved on to a full time position at James Robinson PS. Returning from leave is Mrs. Briggs (Literacy Lead); Mrs. Hunt-Wells (Librarian); Mrs. Colley (Music). Still on leave is Mrs. Millar – Mrs. Cheverfils is doing the LTO.
- **School Plan for Continuous Improvement** – This is to be reviewed every 3 years.
  - Curriculum – Literacy Focus (data driven, instructional strategies, resources, focus on at-risk). The goal is to get level 1&2 students up to level 3, getting level 3 students to level 4 and providing enrichment opportunities for those at level 4. Literacy is not just about reading and writing – it is important across the curriculum. Literacy also includes Media Literacy.
  - Effective Schools – Developing Professional Learning Communities and working on student ownership of learning.
  - Parental and Community Involvement – Focus on student learning and opportunities within the community.
- **The Roy H Crosby Community**
  - Inukshuk Image – David is using the Inukshuk as a theme for the start of this school year. There is a display about Inukshuks in the front cabinet and in the opening Assembly he talked about how Inukshuk's are built by the whole community and how each stone is either supporting a stone or being supported itself (or both). He is using this example to build and strengthen the Crosby Community.
  - Changing Demographics – the community around the school is in flux and the school will keep an eye on this and make the changes necessary to suit the needs of the community.
  - Expansion and Contraction – for the moment the student population is stable.
- **Physical Plant**
  - Interior spaces are jammed – every spare space of the school is being utilized.
  - Tarmac – The games painted on the tarmac need to be repainted and refreshed to include new ones
  - Outdoor Education – the Milne Outdoor Education program is offered to York Region students in Grades 2, 4, & 7. It is a very popular program and there is currently a waiting list for it.
- **School Board Issues**
  - Program Enhancement Grant – The school has been awarded a \$5000 grant to be used in the area of Arts, Outdoor, and/or Physical Education
  - Additional Funding – In August 2007 schools were given additional funding to be used for the hiring of Vice Principal's. Crosby was given \$1050 for office supplies.
  - Transportation – There are bus issues with being on time and over/under crowding. These are Board issues, and David is forwarding them all appropriately.
  - Overflow – Only 2 children (1 JK and 1 SK) have been sent to James Robinson for overflow.

- Staffing – Currently stable
- **Initiatives**
  - BBQ – There will be a welcome BBQ to coincide with Meet the Teacher/Curriculum Night
  - Instrumental Music Program – this will be offered as an extra curricular activity and will be the parent's expense to provide instruments.
  - Student Council – there is a plan this year to expand the cookie program to the Gibson House. Not only would the students visit Gibson House, but David would also like to see the seniors from Gibson House visit Crosby to be reading buddies, etc.

**Treasurer's Report** – Vicky presented the statements, which are essentially the same as last June. We earned about \$120 in interest over the summer and there are some outstanding cheques to be cleared. The statements included the approximately \$11, 000 that last year's Council is recommending be spent to this year's Council (for things like Performances, teacher requests, etc). Beth motioned to approve the statements as presented, Gail seconded.

**School Council** – Flora outlined the Mission Statement for Parent Councils (which can be found on the Council website <http://teacherweb.com/ON/RoyHCrosby/SchoolCouncil/index.html>). The roles and responsibilities of council and council members is be as a collaborative team with staff to enhance the student learning environment.

**New Council Election Process** Council is going to set up a table at the BBQ to try to gain new members for both the Council and the Executive. We will hold off on having an election (if required) until after the BBQ so that all parents have a chance to apply.

**Committees** – There was nothing new to report for the committees. Beth will meet with David to come up with Committee descriptions outlining jobs/commitment levels required to be handed out at the BBQ.

- **Fundraising** – The magazine campaign will be starting soon. David has agreed to spend the night on the roof if the school meets a certain selling goal. QSP will be giving the Council \$1700 as a "signing bonus". Council discussed using this money for a charity of the students' choosing. The Assembly this year will not be as aggressive as it was last year.
- **Communication** – Beth agreed to take over the Newsletter duties from Flora

## **Parent Forum**

**Polling Station** – David was asked if the school was going to be used as a polling station for the provincial election on Oct 10. If so it was suggested that school council have a bake sale. Once it is determined if we are going to be a polling station or not he will look into the rules.

**Portable** – In one of the portables when other teachers are out there with the students they have no badge to get back into the building – which makes it difficult to go to the bathroom. David will look into the problem.

**Performances** – Bianca reported that she has booked 2 performances. Nov 20 (1:40-2:40) the Canadian Opera Company will be doing a performance of the Brothers Grimm (K-6) and on Jan 25 Maori Dance Theatre will perform (1:45-2:45) also K-6. She reported that there is enough money left over in the performance budget for one more performance.

**Lunch Supervisors** – The school is desperate for lunch supervisors. Especially needed for Tuesdays and Thursdays. The pay is \$10.25/hour and would be for an hour each day. People don't need to do all 5 days – just any time they can give would be appreciated.

**School Council Forum** – Members are invited to attend the School Council Forum at Burr Oak School on Oct 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 9:00 pm (dinner is included).

Lisa thanked Flora for all her hard work over the years on Council.

**Next Meeting** – October 1, 2007 7:15 School Library