

Kilmer Parent Advisory Council General Meeting February 2, 2009

Attendance: Kim Becker, Cathy Clelland, Susan Deyotte, Karen Elrick, Amber Henricksen, Rachelle Jadot, Robyn Lau, Della O'Reilly, Michelle Oucharek-Deo, Judy Rohde, Rosie Shaw, Wing Yu

1. Call to Order

- Rachelle called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes of January 12, 2009 as circulated. Karen/Amber. CARRIED.

3. Business Arising

- The Beyond the Bell flyer went home. Some families will be given a credit for the days the program was cancelled in December. The program will start at 1:45 on February 12 due to early dismissal.

4. President's Report

- No report.

5. Vice President's Report

- Two new hoodies have been picked up. There was a problem with one and it was replaced free of charge.

6. Administration Report

- Carol Todd and Jane Chabot gave a presentation on the interactive white board. Jane also gave a presentation on Writing Traits.
- FSA will be starting the middle of February and will run over the course of 5 days.
- Math playground will be taking place on Feb 17. Looking for volunteers to help run the activity, the parent support has always been great and appreciated. It will run all day.
- A letter about the parking situation has been sent home. There have been a number of neighbour complaints and I have also observed numerous cars blocking driveways and preventing residents from accessing their driveways.
- Carnival- the dates and information to be sent out soon. We are also hoping to have parent volunteers come and help with this. The whole school will be participating again this year.
- LEAP- Literacy Education Activity Play. A free resource that is part of an initiative of 2010 legacies. The resources were passed around.
- Ready, Set, Learn will be taking place on April 15 for 3 and 4 year olds, not intended for those entering kindergarten next year. We will have activities and some reading sessions. There will also be a district initiative for the south side of families where they will be bringing in a number of community representatives with a tentative date of April 8.
- Welcome to Kindergarten is an orientation session for parents and their children, who will be entering kindergarten next year. Invitations will be sent out in April. The presentation will have a different format from past years. Also a reminder to remind others about registration.
- Sun Run- we are looking for community activity. There are two choices, either full run or kid run. A notice will go home shortly.
- Knitting club has over 70 students participating. Thanks to Mrs. Hardy for starting it up. We have many community volunteers helping out.

7. Financial Report

- There is an increase for Ways and Means, as the money is now back from the school district from parents opting out of fundraising.

- The year to date total is approximately \$11, 420, so all fundraising efforts are now being put towards the playground.
- The Givemeaning.com account has been closed.
- The total bank account balance is \$47, 942. We have not reached our limit of 40 free transactions for the month.

8. Committe Reports

Fundraising

- The QSP magazine program is still running. A reminder about this is to go home.
- Me n' Eds will allow us to put up posters on Kilmer night. The school will try to do a Random Act of Kindness for Me n' Eds as an appreciation for their community involvement. G & F Financial was also presented as a possible recipient for a Random Act of Kindness.
- Upcoming events include: Family Skate on February 7, Trivia Night on February 27 and a Pub Night.

Playground

- The Rick Hansen grant has been applied for.

Hot Lunch

- Pasta Polo was tried for the last hot lunch, this was something a little more expensive than usual.
- The next hot lunch will be February 27. There is no menu yet.

Fruit and Veggie Program

- The last fruit was organic apples, with left-over apples being used for hot lunch.
- Sue is to look into whether or not we will be receiving a government grant.

DPAC

- At the last DPAC meeting on January 28, there was a discussion on the role of DPAC by President Heidi Gable. DPAC is there to inspire, empower and equip. Parent involvement is a necessity. All parents need tools and information in order to be meaningfully involved.
- SD 42 Superintendent, Tom Grant, discussed snow removal. He is looking for "toolkits" for principals and others to deal with removal. The district is re-examing everything related to snow closures with other school districts. They are talking to caretakers and looking at possibly purchasing snow blowers for groups of schools. The school district has so far spent \$400, 000 on snow removal, with the budget being \$60, 000.
- The school district now has a group of employees called Settlement Workers in Schools. Their job is to assist immigrants and refugees.
- The FSA test discussions were led by Kathleen Thompson. An assessment is one of the most difficult things that a teacher does. The teachers were almost unanimous in agreeing that FSAs are not the tool to use, as the test is just a narrow snapshot of a child's performance. The teachers would prefer randomized testing with a random set of students. The FSAs do not appear to be used for anything other than ranking and ranking schools is not a good thing, since the FSAs aren't necessarily a true representation of the school. Discussions are ongoing and the BCTF is working for a resolution.

Parent Education

- A summary of the Anxiety presentation is now posted on the Kilmer Sharepoint website.
- The upcoming parent education sessions planned for the remainder of this year are a Disaster prep session in late February or early March and a Cyberbullying and Awareness session in April or May.
- The Southside Family of Schools Parent Education Committee is considering offering sessions on varying weekdays to accomodate as many people as possible.
- The SFSPE is looking at possibly working more closely with DPAC in the future.
- The SFSPE has a new e-mail account- sfspe@gmail.com, that can be used to request education sessions or send feedback.

Emergency Preparedness

- The committee is currently waiting for the supplies that were ordered in December.
- An ax and wrench were purchased with the Canadian Tire money.

Parent Library

- No report.

CPF

- Debra will not be continuing as the CPF rep in September. She will be relaying information to us until then by reviewing CPF minutes and reporting as necessary.
- The Maple Sugar Man was a big hit.

SPC

- The committee will be meeting shortly to discuss budgets.

Safety Committee

- The application for the second drop-off loop has been put on hold, as the city budget has been spent.

Volunteer Committee

- No report.

Newsletter

- No report.

9. New Business

- Pitt River is to have a new middle school.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.