

Algonquin Ridge Elementary School  
School Council Meeting MINUTES  
February 9, 2016  
ARES School Council Meeting

Present: Lisa, Duhamel, Andrea Ryan, Nancy Hyde, Meredith Lee, Kim Currie, Lee McLaven, Dave Heidman, Alison Currie, Treena Battaglia, Jenny Harris, Fred Van Arragon, Kerry Lynn Torrie

Regrets: Leigh Nykoliation, Sarah Collins, Jillian Pink, Tanya Bingham, Nita Jasztrub, Ann Crompton

1. **Welcome**
2. **Approval of November 10, 2015 minutes – tabled as there is not enough council for quorum**
3. **Summary of the presentation regarding the new Barrie South Secondary School from the January 19, 2016 meeting** (re-scheduled from the January 12 meeting that was cancelled due to weather – Lisa Duhamel
  - Lisa gave brief summary of the presentation given last meeting. Discussion of rumour vs. fact regarding number of students to be at Innisdale (lower than projected, less portables etc. They are still presenting to other schools this week. There will also be a presentation to parents before it is re-submitted to the city. We encourage total of 22 portables. We encourage parents to attend the meetings in order to dispel rumour vs. fact. If the city rejects their new proposal than the SCDSB may go to Innisfil or to the OMB. If approved it is still slated to be opened in 2018 for grade 9 and 10 students
4. **Principal's Report** – Kerry-Lynne, Fred
  - Breakfast Club – thanks to Jillian Pink for assistance. Average of 15-kids/ day that are using it. We have a couple of volunteers that are coming in a few days but we are in need of a few more in order to relieve Mrs. Torrie. She is not getting back to the office until 9:40 and time is needed elsewhere. Jillian is purchasing items in bulk. Armstrong provides milk.
  - Medallion system is going extremely well. Competition amongst classes is nice to see. Staff is making it a “big deal” and it is paying off. 300 medallions were ordered and they are being cycled regularly throughout the month. 17-20/month per class. 12 or so coming in to the office a day. A few pizza parties have been awarded.
  - Spirit Days – Elf and pajama day storybook character day. Next week is custodian appreciation day. Superhero day and pink shirt day are coming up.
  - Innisdale drama class came and presented a Christmas Carol/Scrooge and they did a great job. The kids were very focused on them.

- DPA is a focus of staff. They developed a document to help other staff engage students in several 10-minute increments throughout the day rather than one set time.
- STEAM – Science Technology Engineering, Arts, Mathematics - The SCDSB is sponsoring schools for materials. Dave Heidman, Mrs. Horie, Mr. Hamblin, Ms. Shave, will attend a workshop on this. Money is spent on Lego, k'nex and robotics. Teams of kids (1 kids from each grade per team) need to fill out an activity card that incorporates a number of different skills. It is iPad compatible and the challenge may be to incorporate the different materials to fulfill the challenge. I.e. robotic – play a song on the xylophone. There will be a STEAM room to utilize this.
- Intermediate basketball and volleyball on right now.
- Chess club, battle of the books, forest of reading, yearbook team and ukulele team. Mr. VanAarragon noted the importance of the non-athletic teams for those not with athletic interests.
- Student leadership – Ms. Urquhart and Ms. Teskey are in charge of these areas.
  - Rapids reps – kids doing up front leadership in assemblies and classroom messengers, announcements etc. Photography team;
  - Me to We team – global initiatives with fundraising.
  - Algonquin Ambassadors – working on local initiatives with about 8 students. They are currently working on valentines for health care workers at RVH
  - Soft tech kids - help set up computers for the classes, library monitors, safety patrollers, lunchroom monitors, recycling team, and classes for reading buddies. Tons of ways that kids are learning to lead throughout the building. 50-60 kids in total with these teams. Gr 6 and up with a few Gr 5's looking to get more kids involved in different ways.
- Term 1 report cards coming out Feb 19<sup>th</sup>
- Funding approved for Tiffin Center. Two trips on hold to wait for funding. Primaries went to see Beauty and the Beast. There was a Film Festival Trip; Gr 8's went to the aquarium. Gr 8 's are doing an outing a month instead of the big event at the end of the year. This month they are going to a French restaurant and then the theatre. Some classes have gone cross-country skiing and science in the classrooms has come.
- Celebrate reading went well. Lots of activities.
- Kindergarten registration is open – quite a few have already registered.
- BINGO night coming up. Tanya Bingham is trying to organize some people to help out. Steve McFarlane is the announcer and is trying to finalize some sponsors for prizes. (\$10-\$20 gift cards for various places). Feb 24. 6:30-7:30. Popcorn machine and water sales taking place. Set up and take down assistance needed. Bingo dabbers may need to be purchased. Looking for 6 or so people. Some grade 8's have volunteered.
- Read-a-thon – 258,000 minutes – 18 days of solid reading. Last year it 252,000.

**5. Finance Report – Nancy**

Nancy outlined Finance report dated February 8, 2016. \* See attached. Athletics is overdrawn so Nancy would like us to put some money there. Colts Game raised \$1000. QSP goal was \$3000 - we are at \$3600 so that is good. Fun lunches have acquired \$8000 so far. This leaves about \$6000 after bills are paid. Raise the Dough and Big Boxes haven't taken place yet so right now we are standing well. Dominoes (Raise the Dough) changed location so it has been put off until they are available. From our wish list Mrs. Torrie has only purchased our projectors as well as a little on athletics. Perhaps \$1000 has been spent on math manipulatives so

From	To	Amount
Barrie Colts	Athletics	1002.00
QSP Magazines	Literacy/Numeracy	1750.00
QSP Magazines	School Yard Improvement	1750.00
Fun Lunches	Athletics	4000.00
Fun Lunches	Student Leadership	\$260.00
Fun Lunches	Technology	3000.00

far.

**6. Establish language for Teacher Discretionary Fund**

A few years ago we said no food. It needs to be consumable items – not things that the school could buy. Suggested the need to be cognizant that items stay within the school and are not personal items for the teachers. Extra activities like Mother day gifts. Making pancakes etc. involves procedural writing. Examples – individual white boards for students. Not pizza parties. Not towards a field trip. **Fred will draft up a definition to circulate and email it to council for approval.**

**7. Fundraising**

- Big Box cards - if we want to proceed, the materials could be provided for March 3, March 10<sup>th</sup> to go home and closed by March 31. One box per family. Spring is better weather wise as more likely to share amongst family members. If each family sells one box they would keep the box they took home. We are responsible for all boxes \$10 delivery fee for initial delivery and a later one.as well as kick off assembly. Product change since September is now 33 cards for \$33. School gets \$11/box. Decided that they should go home with all students rather than a note first. Lisa asked if council is willing to take in the cost of those not returned. **An email will be sent out to make**

**this decision by vote, as we don't have quorum. Lisa will run letter by staff before it goes out**

- Dominoes dates – Nita will be taking care of this
- Chocolates – tabled
- Halenda's Meats - \$2 each and we make \$1.05. Hockey teams are making \$6000. Samples distributed this evening. Suggested that maybe we have them available at the fun fair for a one-time event. ? Better than chocolates? Higher return. Decision to be tabled, as we don't have quorum
- QSP review - Lisa and Andrea are willing to come in to assist with delivery of cookie dough. QSP magazines got \$730.43. Cookies were 345 units - 73 magazines ordered. \$2000+ for batter. It was a challenge with them arriving 2 days before Christmas holidays to get them all to families. NOTE: QSP now has a future soil-less planting mixture, spring festival – apple crisp, pretzels, candy, bowls etc. They have expanded their fundraising.

**8. New Initiatives Discussion**

- Tower Garden – Kerry-Lynn Torrie went to Hewitt's Creek to check theirs out. They cost about \$1000. They are growing 3 -4 different veggies.
  - Groove Dance - \$2000+ we did not budget for this. Many of the classes have already done their dance unit. Groove dance was done the last few years.
- Tabled to next meeting for quorum.**

**9. Other**

- Dave Heidman – He had a great time with the grade 8's field trip to the aquarium. There wasn't a complaint about the group. They were very well behaved on the Go train and at event. He had a meeting with the superintendent and he feels the school is in a really good place right now. Way to go team!
- Due date for teacher discretionary fund? March 31<sup>st</sup> with a disclaimer.
- Newsletters have been very informative. Well done. Thank you Fred.
- April 15<sup>th</sup> is now a PA day.

No meeting in March. Next meeting will be April 11, 2016.

Respectfully submitted by Alison Currie