

Algonquin Ridge Elementary School Parent Council Minutes  
Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Present: Lisa Duhamel, Leah Nykoliation, Nancy Hyde, Meredith Lee, Kim Currie, Amy Marshall, Kevin McLean, Dave Heidman, Alison Currie, Trina Battaglia, Jen Harris, Fred Van Arragon, Kerry Lynne Torrie  
Regrets: Sarah Collins, Ann Compton, Jillian Pink, Tanya Bingham, Nita Jasztrub, Andrea Ryan

**Opening Remarks (Lisa)**

- Approval of minutes – need to wait until quorum to approve

**Principals Report (Kerry-Lynne)**

- Short video to show about groove dance
- Groove dance went well
- Lots of class trips and in class presentations have taken place
- Wye Marsh field trip was a Board sponsored field trip
- Busy time job action
- Jr boys basketball, intramural basketball going on
- PA Day on April 15<sup>th</sup> – entire school board managers Etc. watched a documentary on “Most likely to succeed” –what schools need to look like in order for students to succeed. It showed different jobs that will exist Etc. The focus was high tech. In California project based learning pushes the learning back to student inquiry and research based learning. Some good follow up since then as well. Variety of response from staff – some ready to go, some are still exploring inquiry based learning. STEAM is related to this. Lots of new initiatives.
- Safety patroller reward day to the movies. Watched the Jungle Book. The cost was covered by CAA.
- Earth day – Spring into Clean provides garbage bags and gloves
- Grade 8 went to Kensington – took public transit – went well. Presentations going on now.
- Crazy hair day at the end of the month.
- May focus is on Respect. Spirit day will be ultimate sports fan day. 4 students were nominated by Fred for special students awards for character but only one can be picked. Brittany G. was nominated and will be representing the group. The group has raised about \$6000 over the last few years. This year focus was health in India. Very student driven group.
- Book fair did well
- Track and field this week. BBQ is ready to go. Lisa and Alison to help with this.
- Welcome to kindergarten taking place next week . Projecting 5 classes. 24-ish students/ class. More shifting of classrooms and an additional portable for the school is likely.

- School Board is presenting their plan next week to City Council for south end high school
- After school science club wrapping up in 2 weeks. Some money coming in for that.
- ASN club is wrapping up pretty good attendance of just over 30 kids
- Yearbooks –wrapping up this week
- EQAO starts on May 25<sup>th</sup> for 10 days with grade 3 and 6's – minimized distractions here at school to allow optimal testing.
- Next year's school calendar is available – looking into next year's council meeting times. Fred looking into the permits necessary – check which date.

### **Teacher's Report (Dave Heidman)**

- Groove Dance recap review was shown
- Discussed Steam – Had to build a tower to hold Harry Potter books out of Lego – document it, video it , interviewed the participants and review it. The juniors are now participating.
- Presentation about DASH – which will be teaching about coding. Another STEAM initiative that has numerous attachments to go along with it (xylophone Etc.).
- Mini drones are here and getting use.
- Teacher Chad Hingley, is working with kindergarten students, gr 6's and more about coding. He is teaching a number of staff how to work with these. There is lots of interest with the students.
- Thank you for the book fair - \$5000 in sales in 3 days gives us \$500 in books and \$1155 in cash coming.

Leah Nykoliation - general thank you to school – noticing teacher involvement

Parents who care – Meredith Lee noted something that is happening at her school in Cookstown. Informal drop-off off items to staff room with note saying thanks and “We care”

### **Treasurer's Report (Nancy)**

- See attached financial report
- So far we have raised about \$27,000 this year. This will probably go up another \$10,000 by year end. This will exceed our estimates. Big Box efforts and fun lunches are primary raisers.
- Some accounts are in the negatives we have money to allocate it
- Character Education
- Student leadership
- Classroom needs will go to 0.00
- Presentations in school will fluctuate
- Technology is in the negative but there is general school needs and fun lunch money that will be going towards this.
- Eat well to excel money is about gone – may top it up with general school funds
- Grant money will cover fun fair obstacle course.

### **Fundraising Discussion (Lisa)**

- Sold 616 boxes , with 7 surplus boxes on hand to sell at fun fair. There is 1 outstanding box. \$6600+ profit. Prizes for iPod and Cineplex Odeons were given out. 2 classes got pizza parties for selling over 50 boxes. Thank you to Lisa for her help with this project. General school needs allows for most flexibility for purchasing when needs come up. Discussion on need for rechargeable batteries for latest technology purchased. Projector and gym needs may use some of this money as well which will come from general school needs
- Jen Harris to order tower garden and what is needed.
- Playground equipment was sponsored by council. No play is allowed on it past Nov 15 and not used in spring until playground is tilled.
- Funnel ball, portable soccer nets could be considered. Scooters recommended over trikes. Helmets not needed.
- Playground equipment generally lasts 12-15 years and is inspected every year. When it fails it needs to be disposed of and gotten rid of.
- Question regarding upkeep and can anything be done to prolong it – Kerry-Lynne to look into this

### **New Programs/ Materials Funding Requests & Approval**

- Spirit Days – pulled twin day and will encourage a spirit wear day.
- Athletics - Gym mats. Will be bolted to the wall. Leah was looking at other schools to compare quality of mats for programming. We will need a few more for regular use if some are to be bolted to the wall. Can be purchased through athletics. Could get logo on it as well.
  - Pinnies - not in great shape, low in numbers
- Field trip policy – gift shop/ concession snacks - will put on future permission forms to be clear that no money is brought for extra purchasing when applicable
- Leadership Camp – all are paid for by the board. Several years ago council did help with costs but it was deemed not appropriate to continue. Paula Urquhart is our lead on this and we tend to prefer the fall session. There is a limited number - 6 students were able to go. First come first served as a school. Teachers select the students that they see leadership potential – not that are already leaders. Typically gr 6 or 7 students attend so that they can use their skills at school.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Track and Field
  - Any volunteers willing to help tomorrow would be great
  - M&M's is cooking
  - Need person to do tickets and gates to sign in parents
  - Kids working chips and pop
  - Morning break is not happening. Primary kids will come out to tarmac, afternoon kids will come in to eat and then go out to play for 20 minutes.

- Fun Fair
  - Police & fire coming, ambulance on a volunteer basis. Barrie Public Works has been contacted regarding bringing their trucks. Barrie Parks and Rec will talk about camps etc. They will not be doing face painting. Different ice cream truck coming – Old Thyme candy. We get 10% of sales. Alison to get face painting kit if needed. Balloon Slide and obstacle and nine hole golf course coming. Volunteers for pavement games to be asked. Ideas for older kids activities? Radar gun idea for baseball or hockey shots? To discuss with Leah.
- Memo from school board regarding parent involvement committee. 12 reps from across board. Applications are available from Fred. This is similar to Parent Engagement from the Ministry of Education. \$500 grant comes from this.
- Tanya is working on an application for parents reaching out grant worth \$1000. We used the money last year for fun fair.

We did not have quorum for approval - need to note Approval of February minutes at last meeting

April minutes will go out by email for approval  
Still need to approve November minutes.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2016  
Respectfully submitted by Alison Currie