

## **Maurice Cody School Council Meeting Minutes, December 5th at 9am**

Sarah Claydon welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining.

### **Approval of the November minutes** - Sarah Claydon

Sarah requested someone approve the November minutes from the last council meeting. Sandra Rayner made the motion and Katherine Hopkins seconded the motion.

### **Principal and Vice-Principal's Reports** - Mr Nigro and Ms Vala

Please visit the Principal's Report at [mauricecody.ca](http://mauricecody.ca) for more detailed information and initiatives not presently listed here. The following is just a sample of some of the highlights.

- Boys Volleyball and Girls Basketball is under way
- The MCAA is doing a great job running the Dr Dodgeball Lunchtime Intramurals
- Report Cards come out Feb 14th
- Lunch Programs are in their last week
- Starbucks sing-a-long will be in the next couple of weeks - teachers will be in contact with parents if class is participating
- School Cash Online program is being implemented - parents will be encouraged to now pay for class trips etc through this program.

Ms Vala reminding everyone, please return all **Student Verification Forms** as soon as possible! **Even if there are no changes**.... It's really important if there is an emergency the school can reach you without having to try and find a phone number that works for you.

### **Finance Update** – Katherine (Kat) Hopkins

- Teachers have started spending student allocation money. Some examples of items purchased are: plants, projects, craft supplies etc
- Raz Readers is now online has come out of the budget (Mr Nigro will remind all teachers to send out login information to the parents)

Question: Would it be possible to switch one of the cool light bulbs in each class with a warm one? Would help the kids focus and it's better for the eyes.

Mr Nigro: That would be more of a facilities question so I will inquire with them.

Question: Could we get an online program like IXL for the kids to do math at home along with the Raz Kids?

Sarah: We can ask the teachers what they think of this program but it is a great idea. I know that Rob and Adelia are looking into interest among teachers and they will get back to us as to whether they decide to get a subscription.

Kat: We have about \$8k right now to spend during this school year. There has been talk about kindergarten playground upgrade, new screen for the gym so just waiting to hear where the money will go.

Mr Nigo: The paint we talked about for the gym would be covered under Facilities and covered by the TDSB. The Kindergarten playground (Cheston and Belsize) is under review for the scope of the project so once I hear back I will let you know.

### **Investing in Cody** – Sarah Claydon

We have \$8k to spend this school year. Everyone is on board to spend this and I think that number is going to grow. We were very conservative about the budget this year. We fear the kindergarten playground may be too much and more of a fundraiser but we'll see when we get the estimate. Perhaps we could increase the Enrichment budget again back to what it was? We're getting an idea of how much things cost and then we can go from there.

Question: Is there anything we could do with the area to the north side of the turf in the main playground, so the little ones could have something to do over there? Like little benches or something? And who is responsible for the turf upgrades such as soccer nets?

Mr Nigo/Sarah: The board comes in to do maintenance on the turf every Fall and Spring and informs us if any structural issues need repairs and that goes through the facilities budget.

### **Enrichment** - Sue Porritt

- Slow start with Enrichment this year due to the reorg
- Two meetings now with the teachers and they are incredibly keen on enriching the classrooms
- Trying to spread it out so its equal amongst the grades
- We are looking to give an allotment of funds to each grade level and with some guidance, allow the teachers to decide what they want for their classrooms.
- Ms Hatzis has sourced some great authors for us
- Logics came and did a presentation for us on Lego Robotics
- It's important each program can be incorporated into the curriculum
- The Blanket Learning will continue for the grade 5's

Mr Nigo: The Legacy Project is typically done through parent council but we are going to cover that through the school budget going forward.

Sue: Thank you for taking that on!

Question: What if the teacher doesn't want to do Enrichment?

Mr Nigo: We have staff who wants to do Enrichment and loves to take on new things. If for some reason they were not interested they would have to explain how they were going to supplement the learning.

### **Skating Party** - Sandra Rayner

We have a date booked of January 26th from 6-8pm! This is a fun-raiser not a fundraiser. Its all for fun, but we are really missing Jill for the music.

### **Winter Fair Update** – Sarah Claydon

Julie and Julianne apologize they can't be here but have passed along an update:

- Still 100 volunteer hrs outstanding, need to be filled by adults to run such things as bouncy castles, handle cash, etc.
- We've reduced the amount of passports available this year so get yours now. They are on sale until Friday at 4pm online and after that you can buy them at the door.
- Coat Check will be in the basement; one ticket per hanger or a canned goods donation for the food bank

**Traffic Safety** – Sarah Claydon

- A big thank you, we've seen a great improvement in the traffic after our letter
- If you have any issues you see and you'd like to pass them onto the office, Mr Nigro and Sarah can figure out the best way to handle it
- Safety blitz by Police will be arranged for the New Year.

Comment: It's really great to see the school trying to do something about the traffic. The efforts you are doing is amazing and I know it's not perfect yet but it's nice to see the effort.

Comment: Could we have Constable Lau (our police contact) talk with Elisabeth the crossing guard about the Manor / Cleveland intersection? It seems the people are just going on their own and she needs more control over the corners. It's really dangerous right now.

**Other Business** - Open Forum:

- Students Spencer Elliott, Ava Crib and Day Sharpe would like to organize a ski day. They will present more information to Mr Nigro
- Suggestion maybe we don't do the Book Fair right before Christmas

**Adjournment** - Sarah Claydon

Motion to adjourn Sandra Rayner and Sue Porritt seconded the motion