

Maurice Cody School Council
Meeting Minutes, October 16th, 9am

Sarah Claydon welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to such an exciting October meeting! Acknowledged a lot of new faces and standing room only!

Approval of September Minutes - Sarah Claydon

Laura Witkowski made a motion to approve the September minutes and Mo Tantawi seconded the motion.

Big Cody Announcement - Sarah Claydon

It's been in the works for a few months and after a lot of leg work from Rakesh Aggarwal (THANK YOU RICKY!) who really drove this, we are happy to announce as of November 7th, Cody will have a hot lunch program with The Lunch Lady!

We have Carole here from The Lunch Lady program and she is going to talk a little about it. A few short notes:

- This is a pilot project for now until January but if all goes well we'll be happy to sign on for the remainder of the year.
- The Lunch Lady works with larger schools like ours, they aren't afraid of the staggered lunches or our lunch programs.
- It's a boomerang lunch so anything left behind in your child's order will go home with them - that also allows parents to see if they ate their lunch.
- This program is also for all students from JK to grade 5.

Carole: We're really excited to be here. Every year we get calls from parents to come here and it never works out so we're so happy that this time it did. We have a menu online you can already start ordering (www.thelunchlady.ca) We have dozens of items, you can order anything you want. We have a "little lunches" option for younger students/small eaters/slow eaters, full-size meals, gluten-free, vegetarian, sushi, salads, breakfast for lunch (e.g. pancakes),, soup and more. All our kitchens are tree nut- and peanut-free. We are hearing more and more allergies so before you order, indicate that your child has an allergy and there will be a record in the kitchen and we double-check it before packaging each order. It could be egg-free form or baked-in, you name it, we've heard it all. This is our 25th year in business. We serve about 100 schools in TDSB alone and we have 6 kitchens. We have a Lunch Lady assigned to your school you can call. If you need to call and cancel your order you have until 8am Wednesday. You can order up to 11:59pm Monday night. All of our staff have had police checks and will sign in when they arrive.

Sarah added: your child will come down, like usual for lunch and they will find a paper bag with their name on it. They can eat with their class, as per usual. If they have a lunch program such as Explore IT or Spellbinding Science & Magic, they will grab their lunch bag and head to their lunch program.

Carole continued: we are there until the end of lunchtime so please encourage your children to talk to us if they have any concerns or are missing something in their order. We can

always provide them with something if an order is missed. We bring extras. You will receive a confirmation email of your order, if you do not get one, you have ordered outside of the deadline, call us and we will make an exception. For Kindergarten kids we deliver right to their classroom. For grades 1-5 we will deliver to the atrium.

Sarah: We do not want this program to generate garbage at school so the expectation is that kids to bring home their remaining food.

Question: Will there be a need for volunteers to hand out the lunch bags?

Carol: No, we have enough staff we bring in to assist with the distribution of the lunch bags.

Question: Will we still have staggered lunches?

Mr Nigro: Yes! We actually had some samples brought to us in August that were hot and fresh and tasting incredible. Everyone will continue to eat lunch like they usually do. That was one reason we were always hesitant about a lunch program is the logistics but Carole has convinced us we have nothing to worry about.

Sarah: On behalf of all the parents at Cody, we'd like to say thank you to Rob and Adelia for allowing this pilot project to happen.

Question: Can you order ahead?

Carole: yes! You can order for the whole year if your child only like chicken fingers for example and you know that's all they will want.

Carole also explained everything is made from scratch including mac & cheese, salad dressing, sauces, burgers etc.

Question: Is there a minimum order?

Carole: No! If you would just like to order just a cold milk or a cookie for your child, you can do that.

Question: How many people come from the Lunch Lady?

Carole: We have a ratio of lunch ladies per child.

Sarah and Mr Nigro thanked Carole for joining us and mentioned everything will be on the www.mauricecody.ca website.

Finance Update - Cecilia Kwan

Cecilia introduced herself as the Treasurer for the FSA this year. She presented at the last meeting the proposed budget for the 2018/19 school year and would like to talk briefly on some updates.

- Pizza Lunch, Movie Night and Freezie Friday numbers are here
- We had a higher than expected revenue for Movie Night. We planned for movie night about \$500 but brought in \$1,028
- Freezie Friday we planned about \$1k and brought in \$1,743
- Pizza Lunch number includes the money that will fund the pizza, so it will decrease as we pay through the year,

- We are expecting to see an increase with sponsors and ticket sales for the upcoming Cody Howl on Nov 3rd.

On the Expense side we've updated the student allocation and library supplements based on the number of students enrolled at Cody.

- We've reimbursed for the Class Care Packages and have funds set aside for the How to Talk to Your Child about Tragedy with Alyson Schafer on Wednesday evening.

Sarah noted: We applied for the Pro Grant with Davisville Public School to cover the cost of the Alyson Schafer talk. Due to the changes and cuts within the government right now, we are not sure if they will still allow a Pro Grant but we can cover it, if they will not.

- First Lice Check happened last week so we are waiting for the invoice from that
- 23 Ipad cases have arrived so need the invoice for that which will come out of technology

Pizza Lunch Update - Susan Thouin

Overall went really well. We have our second one next week and have taken all of your suggestions into consideration. Fruit and vegetables went over really well. A lot of the kids were taking them. I could use some volunteers to help cut up the fruit and veggies about 15 minutes before if anyone is available.

Question: What can I do if I need an extra slice?

Susan: Unfortunately you now have to wait until January where we will open up the orders again and people can add on additional slices.

Laura commented from experience its contagious if you try and offer extra slices on the spot with cash and you end up with a line of 50 kids with money for additional slices, and might only have 20 slices extra.

Question: some of the pieces are huge and some are not, just by the way they are cut. Is it possible to ensure someone doesn't get two small slices?

Susan: We will definitely keep that in mind and I will inform the volunteers

Question: Can there be extras set aside for accidents? My son dropped his and then didn't have lunch. He was too shy to tell anyone.

Susan: Yes there are for things like this. Encourage your child to speak up to the volunteers. I will talk to the volunteers as well.

Question: How did the veggie distribution go?

Susan: Went well! We need to figure out the space a little better but the kids were asking for seconds!

Eco School Update - Meghan Lockington-Minns

Sarah on behalf of Meghan - Meghan has resurrected our Eco School Status again. She is working with Ms Da Silva to get this going.

Lice Checks - Kate Cribb

Sarah on behalf of Kate - We found 20 cases of lice, 10 were live and those children were sent home - this is more than the usual 2 or 3. These students were sent home immediately and instructed on how to take care of this. We are going to ask the Lice Squad to come the second week of September next year to get a jump on this. Kate will book this now.

Question: if someone is sent home what happens next?

Mr Nigro: the office admin will ask for paperwork and do a visual check themselves. If the child is sent home the first day of lice checks and returns the second day, Lice Squad will check them again.

Winter Fair Update - Julianne Bryant

Julie Brown and I are chairing the winter fair again this year. It is on December 1st from 10am-3pm. The theme this year is Cody Cool. We are looking for volunteers with sponsorship, decorating and many more things so please reach out!

Safety Committee Update - Farnaz Kiervin, Jen Ankenmann and Amal Rajwani

Jen provided an update on safety based on all the work Kristi did last year to get things started. The students have an assembly on Wednesday on Road Safety and we've put together a map to show people where to park around the school with a tip sheet. Cody has now been marked with a Safety Zone so there is an increase in fines and demerit points if you get caught.

Question: Is there a process for requesting additional crossing guards? Specifically Soudan and Cleveland where my son was nearly hit the other day.

Mr. Nigro: please report anything to the school office as well as Constable Lau. We can connect you to him.

Ms Vala mentioned: please always report it to the police as well. We need as many advocates from the parents as possible to make a difference.

Farnaz updated we are looking at having the flag program they have at Northlea P.S. at our school as well.

Question: What is the radiance of the new school zone?

Jen: We will determine that and let everyone know

Sarah announced in November there will be a big Safety Blitz and all this information will also be on the Cody Parent website. Also the Safety presentation tomorrow for the jk-gr 4 will be held by a police officer. The grade 5's have a class trip so they will have theirs at a later time.

Walking Wednesday - Jen Dobson

We are trying to make walking fun and joyous, so we are encouraging kids to just enjoy walking. Don't get competitive, you can count steps but it's not as important as being active. We understand some kids get dropped off but want them to feel included as well. Some of

the grade five girls have been decorating stickers for Walking Wednesday so if you walk you get a sticker. The kids really like that. We also have a committee now, so they'll be more things to come.

Tech Update - Krista Semotiuk

We've been speaking with private and independent schools on different teachings to enhance the technology experience. If anyone else wants to be apart of that conversation, let us know.

Question: Do teachers do any training?

Krista: That is part of our discussion as to budget and the comfort level of the teachers. (See Mr. Nigro's comments below)

Cody Howl Update - Peter Claydon

Sarah on behalf of Peter - We've brought back the live band this year. "Wing Night" is a 90's R&B group who sound amazing. The Silent Auction has exploded so you'll want to check that out. It's a bit of a different feel this year as there will be somewhere to sit (couches). Tickets go on sale end of this week so look for that!

Community Update - Michael Healy

The main thing to announce is the Trustee Meeting this Thursday at Bessborough, 7pm. Some of the Ward Councillors will also be there but can't speak at the meeting. They could answer questions personally though if you had some for them.

Comment: There is a Midtown Toronto email address for parents interested in development information. It is midowntoronto1234@gmail.com if you'd like to send them an email, they will add you to their mailing list to keep you in the loop with this.

Leaside Library is holding a paper-making workshop. This is all using recyclable materials and is Nov 10 from 2-3pm. This is for ages 6+. <https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/leaside/>

Principal and Vice-Principal's Reports – Mr. Nigro and Ms Vala

The following provides a synopsis of some key events and updates since our June FSA meeting. For the latest and up to date information, check out the parent website at www.mauricecody.ca.

Mr Nigro commented this is the largest turnout in the morning meetings we've had! He welcomed everyone and welcomed the new Parent Council.

1. Staffing Perspective - we've added an additional grade four classroom bringing our numbers down to 22/23. We should hear back from the board shortly on a permanent teacher placement.
2. Staff participated in either an Ipad, Chromebook or Handwriting workshop last week
3. We now have an ipad cart and ipad covers for Ms Slyfield and her media program

4. Currently we have ipad carts on each floor now and Chromebooks on the upper two floors.
5. We've had feedback on apps from parents, and teachers have decided on math - IXL (<https://ca.ixl.com>) for grade 1 & 2. Raz-Kids (<https://www.raz-kids.com/>) are being set up for grade jk to 2. We will have leveled reader books as well so look for all this information. Adelia added some staff are using Raz-Kids in the classroom as well so your kids can teach you how to use it at home.
6. Sports: We had 250 students participate in Cross Country. Thank you to the FSA for the tents! They made a huge difference in the rain and wind. We had 40 students go to Conference finals on Monday and we have about a dozen kids going to City Finals.
7. Choir we have close to 100 Primary students, 60 in Junior and Ms Snow is eager to get the Boys Junior choir going as well.
8. Enrichment: the staff have been working together by grade on a balanced approach of Science, Art and Technology. Thank you to the FSA for allowing that in the budget. The teachers are very appreciative.
9. We'll be doing authors in every grade and a health and wellness program.
10. The Financial Literacy Program will be coming for the grade fives in the spring.
Comment from parent: This program is amazing and I'm so happy its part of the curriculum.

Other Business

Yearbook - Michelle Wagland. We have loosely organized a yearbook committee so if you have a grade five student, please take pictures of them at different school activities and send the pictures to me at admin@mauricecody.ca. We'd like to avoid all the pictures being from May and June events so please spread the word.

Speaker - Sarah Claydon. Alyson Schafer is speaking to Cody parents Wednesday, October 17th to educate us on How to Talk to Our kids about Tragic Events. We're presenting this in partnership with Davisville Public School so please reserve tickets ahead of time. It is a free event but seating is limited. The talk runs from 7-8:30pm in the Cody gym.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pro-grant-speaker-alyson-schafer-how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-tragic-events-tickets-50863090874>

Question: will there be an online presentation we can watch if cannot make the evening?

Sarah: we will let you know

Adjournment – Sarah Claydon

Motion to adjourn Tracy Hall. Jen Ankenmann seconded the motion.

Our next meeting is in the evening of November 8th at 6:30pm in the Cody Library. Please join us!

