

**Maurice Cody School Council
Meeting Minutes, February 7th, 9am**

Sarah Claydon thanked everyone for coming and sent regrets on behalf of Trustee Rachel Chernos-Lin who had hoped to join us but had a family matter she needed to attend. She will join us either March 5th or April 4th.

Approval of January Minutes - Sarah Claydon

Geraldine McFadyen made a motion to approve the January minutes and Natasha Golding seconded the motion.

Lice Checks Update - Natasha Golding for Kate Cribb

We checked 616 kids in January's lice check and there was only one live case and three empty shells found. This is more inline with what we usually find. Kate Cribb has been amazing taking this on but she is leaving us. Nicole has agreed to step up and take over.

Walking Wednesday - Natasha Golding for Jen Dobson

Kids are still doing a great job counting their steps. There is a map now in the hallway to show we are on our way to Halifax. The kids are still excited for this so great job Jen for keeping this going!

Tech Update - Natasha Golding for Krista Semotiuk

Our Tech Lead teachers are gathering wish lists so we can finalize orders in the next week. These lists include project guides, Jinx Wood, led light bulbs etc. The total is \$3k and the items are for grades 3-5.

Mr Nigro: In early Spring we will have a show and share to showcase to parents how we're using all the new items.

Library Update - Natasha Golding

Amal Rajwani has volunteered to take over as our committee rep

Music Update - Natasha Golding

Kiwanis Festival is Feb 20th with our Boys Choir and Junior Choir. Then Feb 25th for our Primary Choir. Ms Snow is finalizing the dates for our winter concert.

Outreach - Natasha Golding

We are hoping to hear back from Thorncliffe in March on plans for our 5% we give back every year. Mr. Nigro mentioned any companies that give back to the school, such as Scholars Choice, we are redirecting those funds to Thorncliffe.

Natasha commented there was a Facebook post where a parent requested boots and jackets for the students at Thorncliffe, so if anyone has anything we'll get in touch with them to donate.

Finance – Cecilia Kwan

The month of January has been relatively quiet.

- Skating party: beverages and permit but these will be covered by Jethro Seymour who generously sponsored the event
- Lice Checks paid for
- Teachers are using up their Classroom budgets

Our next major fundraiser is the Dance-a-thon on March 29th - we'll talk about where the funds are going in our March meeting.

Hot Lunch Update - Sarah Claydon

Important changes have been made to the program to be more inline with our eco-friendly school. The Lunch Lady has removed some of the messier items to avoid spills in lunch bags and has changed the packaging to be easier for the kids to use. The number one thing we need to remind kids is to bring home all uneaten food items and any packaging to be recycled. This will eliminate some of the garbage being generated at the school.

Please please remind your child to boomerang their lunch!

Q: Was there any change in the garbage situation after the email went out last weekend?

Mr Nigro: Jane hasn't told us there was an improvement. It's really a work in progress. She is having to keep extra garbage in the outside bunkers and there is a great concern this is going to attract rodents in the Spring.

Sarah: We didn't expect much change this week as the letter re: changes went out only this weekend. There is an education piece to this as well for both parents and students, so we need to address that this week, so next week we start seeing a change.

Mr Nigro: The Lunch Lady is providing us over 470 lunches each week which is equivalent to 5 or 6 schools so she wants to work with us to provide the best solution for everyone.

Meghan: There are six Grade Five kids in our Green Team that are going to do presentations to each class on how to be eco-friendly. We need parents to realize if they want the convenience of the lunch program, they need to do their part as well but sending in cutlery, lunch bags, and expecting their child will boomerang their lunches.

Comment: Parents don't understand what the difference is with throwing it out or recycling it at home vs doing it at school. Once they understand that there is no space for the extra garbage at the school, then they seem to get it.

Meghan: Once the Green Team does the presentations in each class, we'd like to send a note home telling parents what was taught to their kids that day.

Mr Nigro wrapped up the discussion that there is a follow up communication in a couple of weeks with The Lunch Lady.

Community Update – Michael Healy

Trustee Rachel Chernos-Lin held her first trustee meeting on the 23rd. She was getting a feel for what people would like to get out of these meetings. Michael suggested she alternate

the meetings with morning and evening as we do our FSA meetings and she thought that was a great idea. The next meeting is the Budget Meeting and it is March 7th, 7pm at Hodgson with Shelley Laskin. Hodgson construction situation will also be discussed.

Hodgson update: (Michael and Sarah)

- as we know the school is approved for 12 new classrooms
- more funding is needed - this determines the next steps
- They are waiting on the Ministry who was supposed to get back to them in the fall with funding approval. They are still waiting!
- Once funding approved, and they know what model has been approved the TDSB presents the options to all of us with regards to details of the build.
- A feasibility team is already considering the options
- TDSB really wants to keep the main building
- Impact still needs to be determined.

A PIAC (Parents Involvement Advisory Committee) rep has been chosen and it is Wilmar Kortleever. An alternate was chosen as well.

Grad Committee Update - Michelle Wagland

We've had a wonderful and talented parent step up to take on this challenge! Kate Dickson will be the head of the committee and she has a couple of people who have offered to help out as well. If you are interested in helping out, reach out to Kate or to admin@mauricecody.ca

Yearbook Update - Michelle Wagland

Yearbook is going well, please keep sending us pictures from anything grade five related.

Pizza Lunch Update - Susan Thouin

If people would like to volunteer for Pizza Lunch, we are always looking for help. You can definitely still add your name to the list of volunteers!

Please reach out if you are able to volunteer for any of the remaining lunches (Feb 21st, March 28th, April 18th, May 16th and/or June 13th).

Safety - Jen Ankenmann

Last meeting we chatted about giving some space and time for the city to figure out the crossing guard situations. Our concern was if the "Cross Safe" flag program goes on corners before crossing guards came, we would lose the crossing guards. As everyone has noticed we still do not have crossing guards!

- City has confirmed Crossing Guards to be allocated to the corners of Cleveland & Davisville, Cleveland & Millwood, and Cleveland & Merton by February 19th.
- Farnaz is collecting the data on these corners if any guards show up, and we are posting this on our parent site.

Q: Would the program have flags at Belsize & Cleveland even though there is a crossing guard there? Picking up from after school programs or daycare, we could really use something there after school hours.

Response: Currently the program will be on the corners that don't have the crossing guards but that is something would be looked in the future.

- Focus for the flags is currently on Soudan & Cleveland and Hillsdale & Cleveland, Forman & Millwood, and Forman & Manor Rd. E.

Mr. Nigro mentioned Constable Lau has said Cheston & Belsize, Cleveland & Soudan, Cleveland & Hillsdale, and Forman & Manor have been brought to his attention to have crossing guards allocated.

Jen: Do we need to do a request crossing guards on these corners or is this considered a request? (Follow up on this will take place)

- We are trying to get police presence around construction sites but if anyone sees anything could you take a picture and send it to the safety email safety@mauricecody.ca to Jen or Farnaz
- Over the next week or so, the "Cross Safe" flag program will be launched.
- There are laminated instructions on using the flags for each post.
- Sarah noted that Flag program like this have been enormously successful at Blythwood PS, Rolph Rd PS, and Northlea PS, as well as across the country.
- Davisville PS is also launching the program, so you will see some of their flags as well west of Mount Pleasant.
- Bessborough is also on the verge of launching as well.

Q: Has there been any further discussion over having the police coming around more?

Mr Nigro: Unfortunately they just don't have the capacity to do this but we'll keep asking. I am in touch with PC Lau and have asked him to come, but it won't be until Spring.

Sarah then mentioned there have been a lot of parents sending emails, photos, tweets so if you see anything, send a copy to the police but also copy in Councillor Jaye Robinson (councillor_robinson@toronto.ca), Trustee Rachel Chernos-Lin (Rachel.ChernosLin@tdsb.on.ca) and our safety committee safety@mauricecody.ca. Or just email to any of us and we'll be happy to pass it along. The more messages coming in, the greater chance we'll be heard.

Q: Does the city read the emails sent to SchoolCrossingGuard@toronto.ca?

Sarah: Jaye Robinson has actually sent multiple emails to city officials about our frustration with this. We aren't getting any feedback. It seems like emails go nowhere!

Principal and Vice Principal's Report - Mr. Nigro and Ms Vala

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

It's report card time for teachers and having looked through each one its reaffirming a lot of the great things going on in the classrooms. The reading levels are improving, books are being ordered for guided reading and it's just so great to see the students and teachers working so hard together.

- Enrichment:
 - We've been having Scientists in the School and Drama Workshops, all supported by the FSA.
 - X movement – being more mindful and it's very busy – trying to create a balance of slowing down – have fun and be a kid.
- Music:
 - Kiwanis Festival is coming up and Winter Concert is being planned
 - Choir is still ongoing
- Sports:
 - Students are enjoying Doctor Dodgeball run by our MCAA
 - Basketball Intramurals are being run by the teachers
 - Boys Basketball team is advancing to the playoffs next week
 - Girls Volleyball tournament is Monday
 - Co-ed Hockey team plays today in the quarter finals
- Teachers are talking about accountability and responsibility and having these open dialogues
- We are looking into an anti-bully speaker and internet safety presentations

Ms Vala also mentioned that report cards for JK-Grade 5 come out on February 13th. Interviews are not mandatory this time around but if you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please do setup a meeting. If the times don't work for you, you can always set something up that does. It doesn't have to be just during interview time.

Other Business - Sarah Claydon

Q: Will there be Lego Robotics again this year?

Mr. Nigro: Will reach out to Mr. Baker to enquire.

Comment: Would be great to have another option besides Athletics or Music for our Cody kids.

Q: Can FSA buy another table for when we have lunch lady and pizza lunch? All kids tend to be here on those days instead of going home and some kids have to stand. Also, with the bulky snowsuits, the problem is even worse!

Mr Nigro: I will speak with Jane on logistics and see if we can make that happen. Thank you for bringing that to my attention.

Adjournment – Sarah Claydon

Motion to adjourn Tracy Hall and Kristi Murl seconded the motion.

Next FSA Meeting is March 5th at 6:30pm in the library. Complimentary daycare is provided.