

# Cornell Village School Advisory Council

Date: January 16, 2006

Time: 7pm-9pm

## Parent Council Attendees:

Laura Buckley	Y	Shara Carr	Y
Carroll Blair	Y	Kathryn Ellis	Y
Pam Giannis	Y	Jennifer Guest	Y
Sara Reeves	Y	Deb Larsen	Y
Michelle Wright	N	Michele O'Sullivan	Y
Vivien Page	Y	Cindy Sabo	Y
Kathie Higgins	Y	Karen Sutch	Y
Sam Demel	y	Renee Torrington	Y
Zoe Millar	R		

**Parent Attendees:** Jeannie Daniels-Burry, Elizabeth Gallant, Kelly Manoukas, Lori Kirchner, Donna Carpenter, Frances Dicarolo, Sarah Hildebrandt

**Staff Attendees:** John Hopkins, Jan Jang, Melissa Bergerson, Christine Pisani, Mike Lynch, Catherine Arnold

## 1 Acceptance of Minutes from November 14, 2005

- Cindy motioned to accept
- Deb 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Passed

## 2 Acceptance of Agenda

- Add Kelly to be community rep (#9 in agenda)
- Renee motioned to accept
- Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Passed

## 3 Mr. Lynch and Girl's Volleyball team

- Area Girls Champion 2005
- Regional Finalists 2005
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> in York Region
- Unbelievably, won 5 pennants!!! ( being displayed in school)
- won 83/93 games
- Congratulations to Mr. Lynch and the whole team!!
- The girls read a touching rendition of their season as well as thanking their coach, parents, staff, and school council for their support

## **4 Principal's Report**

### **4.1 Data Responses to School Plan**

- 2 sets of assessment data available – posted on website, in newsletter
- caution: 3-5 years gives baseline...we're still a young school
- need to go beyond EQAO; should look at EQAO ranks with caution
- request council to look at the data to be advocate for the data

### **4.2 Current Growth and School Organization**

- Growth high in GR 1, 3, 6, 7, 8
- Feb 1 – board deadline for requesting additional staff
- Bringing a person on as a support person to support multiple grades
- Looking to hire now for a person to be in place by Feb 1
- Opportunity to get new staff for March 31<sup>st</sup> from board, but rarely occurs since it's so late in the year
- Currently have 545 students, some classes hitting 30's
- maximum is 517 FTE (Full-Time Equivalent)
  - Kindergarteners are half a "full-time"

### **4.3 School Growth 2006-7**

- John meeting with superintendent Jan 27 to talk about new Cornell boundaries
- Next Cornell school in Upper Cornell – Sept 2007
- 5 Cornell schools in plan by 2012
- location of new Markham high school still undecided between Greensborough and Cornell

### **4.4 New Nursing Students – Community mandate?**

- Already working in classrooms
- Ready to engage with Health and Safety subcommittees
- Sara to engage with Jody and Heather
- Here every Tuesday and Thursday

### **4.5 Math Initiative and Manipulatives (Catherine Arnold)**

- First of three years to implement
- Manipulatives: learn more than just from a textbook, tactile resources for teaching
- Issues: lack of resources for staff and library
- Currently using science manipulatives for math
- Used funds from school fundraising last year as a start
- Have a 3 page list now of wanted manipulatives
- Looking for support to build a manipulative room upstairs and one downstairs (manipulatives can be used by all grades)
- Family Math night in April (Cath will schedule)

- \$2500 from Fall Fundraising attributed to manipulatives
- thoughts to hold a “Manipulative” fair during Family Math night

## 5 Treasurer’s Report (Pam Giannis)

- <http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/TreasurersReport.htm>
- Motion to accept – Renee
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Shara
- Passed

## 6 Art Elective Proposal (Sue Firkser)

- Left brain (verbal, analytic, symbolic, temporal, rational, digital, logical, linear)
- right brain (non-verbal, synthetic, concrete, non-temporal, nonrational, spatial, intuitive, holistic)
- need to develop both sides of the brain
- Varley Art Gallery programs
  - Profile in community is low
  - Offer in house education programs available for classes (\$6.50/student)
  - Outreach (8 sessions in classroom) \$5/week for 8 weeks
  - varleyeducation@markham.ca

## 7 Crosswalk Update (Renee)

- Some parents are ignoring the safety patrol
- Problems
  - students are not getting out there by 3:30pm; will be keeping track of who is late
  - high traffic intersection; difficult for kids to determine when is safe to cross
- need parent volunteers for another month
- idea to have a Safety Patroller Award as incentive to be on time and for their efforts
- will send a review to the Town of issues
- recognize there is still need an adult crossing guard
- anybody who can volunteer, please contact Renee or Cindy
- to express your concern to the Town, contact our Councillor, John Webster
- Town will have a reassessment at some point
- The illegal parking on Cornell Common compounds the problem

## 8 Community Rep (Kelly Manoukas)

- Child safety strategist
- Own company “Tomorrow’s heroes”

- Working with York Region Board for “Swim to Survive” program
- Interested in participating crosswalk/stop sign issue and Health and Safety subcommittee
- Renee motion to accept Kelly as community rep,
- Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Unanimous
- passed

## **9 Cornell PAC Constitution vote (Deb)**

- Should “Advisory” be kept in our name to reinforce the message that “advise” is our role? (ie. Cornell Village Public School Advisory Council)
  - Consensus to keep it in
- Website should match the name for continuity
- Cindy motion to accept
- Kathie 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Passed
- Changed website to cvpsac.ca for conciseness

## **10 Request from Fundraiser subcommittee (Shara)**

<http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/FundraisingMinutes.htm>

- Need silent auction items, donations – tell Shara who you contact
- request for people to contact any of the services (restaurants, dentist, chiropractor, etc.) they use

## **11 Questions regarding subcommittee minutes**

### **11.1 Fundraising (Shara)**

<http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/FundraisingMinutes.htm>

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### **11.2 Health and Safety (Sara)**

<http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/HealthAndSafety.htm>

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### **11.3 Staff Appreciation (Karen)**

<http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/StaffAppreciation.htm>

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### **11.4 School Plan (Kathie)**

<http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/SchoolPlan.htm>

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## **11.5 Newsletter Prototype (Deb)**

- Great job Deb!
- Goal is to communicate to the greater parent community
- Subcommittees to provide submissions
- Issues 4 times a year
- Deadline for submissions to Deb **January 23** for release on January 27<sup>th</sup>
- Next issue will be in Spring (before Fundraiser)

## **12 Other Discussions**

- School has regular reminders to all grades of standard procedures of strangers (“Yell the behaviour”)
- Self Defence sessions for students and parents in the works
- John will put “Stranger” talks in next school newsletter
- Concern raised on parking on both sides of Cornell Common at pick-up; people backing up into intersection; cars facing wrong side of the road
  - Suggestion to get police to ticket
  - Town Parking tickets
  - Suggestion to include in newsletter that “tickets will be issued”
  - Suggestion to verbally ask people not to park illegally
- Raising Reader Workshop scheduled sometime in February
- Call for volunteers to be a greeter during the election is January 23<sup>rd</sup> – contact Sara Reeves
- Book Exchange – participation rate went up 13%
- Volunteers needed to help flood rink – contact Renee

## **13 Next meeting**

- **Monday February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

**Motion to adjourn (9pm)**

**Shara  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sam**

If any discrepancies in these minutes, please let me know,

Vivien Page  
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