

# Cornell Village School Advisory Council

Date: April 6, 2009

Time: 7pm-9pm

## Parent Council Attendees:

Diana Cape (moved)		Val Blais	Y
Elizabeth Gallant	Y	Elisa McGann-Golding	Y
Pam Giannis	R	Gihani De Silva	Y
Heidi Riley	Y	Frances Bates	Y
Shamira Ratansi	Y	Jeannie Daniels-Burry	Y
Vivien Page	Y	Jennifer Guest	R
Kathie Higgins	Y	Monika Jazyk	Y
Sam Demel	R	Angela Taekema	
Kerri Corturillo	R		

## Community Attendees:

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**Parent Attendees:** Lucy Santos, Deb Larsen, May Tong, Karen Bicknell

**Staff Attendees:** Doug Wilton, Dave Bergerson, Lori Hall, Sarah Carter

## 1 Welcome and Introductions (Val)

## 2 Acceptance of Minutes from Feb 23, 2009 (Val)

- Shamira motioned to accept
- Kathie 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Passed

## 3 Acceptance of Current Agenda (Val)

- Heidi go over school plan report
- Kathie will go over some fundraising
- Shamira motioned to accept
- Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Passed

## 4 School Report (Doug)

- Thank Deb and everybody for work on new Web site
- Starting to hear feedback from parents about things read on the Web site Good sign!
- Spent over \$1800 from benevolent funds (never pay over half) for activities such as ski days. Likely not much more need other than Grade 8 graduation. Thanks to council on behalf of those parents who have used the funds.

- Aware of increase in students in September.
  - Likely have 2 more portables with plan to roll out in September, but not approved by board yet.
  - Very sensitive to not displacing existing students.
  - Another school planned for east of Markham Bypass
  - Some older existing schools are not at full capacity (e.g. Reesor Park, Armstrong)
- Discussion regarding chat with teachers
  - posting homework (doesn't require response) is ok
  - email as form of communication is at each teacher's discretion (board suggests teachers don't use email)
  - chat groups – not good idea, too many “bads”, too easy for mis-interpretations, too much anonymity
  - next School Council forum – anybody interested in going, let Lori know by April 17th
    - 6:00pm – 8:00pm, Bill Crothers SS, Tuesday May 12<sup>th</sup>
    - Includes dinner
    - Maximum 4
    - Topic: “Parent Reaching out Grant”
  - Have applied for Tutoring Grant (criteria: kids under ‘B’ with no intervention already in place); currently have 14 week sessions going
  - STOMP – 30 kids this year, working on bigger production; kids choreographing, want to buy some props, performing at Spring Concert, and hope to perform at Yee Hong
  - Dave motion that up to and including \$100 be given to Stomp for props and costumes for the Spring Concert
    - Elisa 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - passed

## 5 Treasurer's Report and Acceptance (Val)

- Dance-a-thon deposits of \$4763.88 and \$733.97
- Transfer made from last year fundraising
- Kathie motion to transfer \$75 reserve fund for Parent to Parent back to school reserve fund
  - Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - passed
- <http://www.cornellvillage.ps.yrdsb.edu.on.ca/schoolcouncil/council/minutes/minutes.html>
- Motioned to accept treasurer's report: Shamira
- 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elisa
- passed

## 6 Subcommittee Updates

### 6.1 School Plan Subcommittee Update (Heidi)

- Parent Information night
  - Thursday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm – 8:15pm
  - Topic: Gender and literacy, for all ages

- Starts with data, how we treat boys vs. girls differences
- Highly recommended by Doug
- Want to do a raffle for 2 x \$20 Chapter gift cards
- Heidi motioned for \$40 to buy Chapter gift cards as door prize to providing incentive for attending
  - Elizabeth 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Passed
- Idea to hand out left-over information magnets to new JKs in September
- Kindergarten orientation date to be determined

## **6.2 Health and Wellness (Jeannie)**

- Milk program went smoother this time around

## **6.3 Staff Appreciation (Sam)**

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## **6.4 Communication (Deb)**

- Thanks to everybody for their help in testing the website.
- Purchased www.cvps.ca domain, still have www.cvpsac.ca domain, but since it's now evolved to be the school website, using the www.cvps.ca may be easier and make more sense
- Stats: 99 unique IP addresses have accessed since 04/01
- Need new, relevant things – email to Deb/Doug any ideas

## **6.5 Fundraising (Kathie)**

- Still working on thank you letters for dance-a-thon leaders
- Question: in spring, we usually do flowers, do we want to continue?
- Don't make as much profit as the poinsettia sales, Kathie can't do it this year due to other commitments
- Idea to push Loveable Labels, or Spirit Wear?
- Idea to have a booth selling labels, spirit wear at Cornell Garage Sale
- Need to check if we still have someone who can do Spirit Wear

## **6.6 Constitution (Kathie)**

- Will vote on revised constitution next month
- Will be sending out revised constitution
- Want to revise election section – how to get more parent representation in votes without having to attend meeting
- Attempt to simplify wording
- Add clarifying info regarding staff members/representation
- New addition: each council member voted in has to sit on at least one subcommittee
- Looking to add an additional meeting in the year (end of May/beginning of June) as lot of things go on at the end of the school year

## **7 Additional Discussions**

## **8 Business Arising (to add in next agenda)**

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## **9 Next meetings for the remainder of the school year (all at 7pm in Staff Room)**

- May 11, 2009

**Motion to adjourn (8:00pm)**

**Kathie**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Heidi**

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

Vivien Page

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