

Hartsdale School Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: Dec 1, 2011

TIME: 6:00

LOCATION: Hartsdale PS Staff Room

Attending: Aleks Basa (teacher rep), Brenda Morrison, Shiyamala Devan, Joanna Davidson, Lindsay Liepold, Lisa Brake, Jennifer Cowie Bonne (co--chair), Louise Ferguson, Sandy Zaph, Helen O'Malley, Lisa Alexopoulos, George Alexopoulos, Wendy Cranston, Vanessa Grehan, Jason Lassaline (co-chair), Bea Jankowski (principal), Chandra Sutaria (vice principal), Sandy Smith (secretary), Caitlin Lawrence

Regrets: Leona Zakaib, Nancy Crooks

Minutes taken by: Sandy Smith

Agenda Items	Discussion	Actions/Next Steps
Update on the "new school"	<p>Ina Fournier, Superintendent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The new site will not open in January- Things regarding new school change quickly, and her report is only as up to date as during the meeting – parents are encouraged to attend the general meeting on Dec 6- Site approval was granted a few weeks ago (construction had begun prior to site approval)- Problem encountered related to delaying the opening: difficulties with piping and water pressure for the building that need to be worked out in the early part of 2012- If water has to be shut off (i.e., in the spring), children can't be there- At this point, there is also some electrical work is yet to be done- Move-in date will be announced when it is firm- Regardless of when the school will open, once we get occupancy, the teachers can start going in, getting classrooms ready- Discussions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Impact on children if they do vs. don't move later in the school yearo Concerns about no library, no gym being ready when we move in, and where children will play during recesseso Concerns about disruption of transition, complications for bussingo Parents are asked to come prepared with questions to the Dec 6 meeting, and if any might require any research by the board, email them ahead of time- Suggestions<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Have a community open house prior to when the school opens so parents and kids can become familiar- Other notes:	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School will be wireless 	
Review /Approval of Minutes from September 24	<p>Jen / Jason</p> <p>Minutes have been put on record and will be posted to website.</p>	
Review of other actions from last meeting that have been completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funds have been allocated as discussed at last meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$1650 put towards agendas ○ \$2400 put towards bussing ○ \$451 for chess club ○ \$500 for other extra-curriculars ○ \$1000 set aside for breakfast program - Fundraising plan developed for 1st half of school year. - Newsletter containing details about Synervoice was distributed - Newsletter containing details about breakfast program was distributed 	
Approval Of the Hartsdale School Council Constitution	<p>Review of constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regarding membership (Jason) - the draft constitution references having a member who belongs to the community but is not a parent or guardian of a student, not principal or teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion around whether we want to keep this in the constitution, and if yes, whom this person would be. The wording in the constitution will be modified to show this as optional in the membership of the council, rather than required. - Clarification about motions, voting, recommendations during a meeting. What we need to know is that as long as consensus is reached, it is equivalent to having conducted a formal vote. Also, we must understand that a recommendation made by council does not mean that it will be implemented. It simply means that it's approved by council, but Mrs. Jankowski reserves the right to disapprove a council recommendation. 	<p>ACTION - Jason to update wording in constitution regarding requirement around community member in membership</p> <p>ACTION - Jason to clarify constitution regarding "voting" versus "making a recommendation" versus "making a motion"</p> <p>Eventual action (September) - will eventually need to come up with bylaws regarding dispute resolution, etc. Suggestion (Jason) to adopt the bylaws of the board, and go with them</p>

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		Eventual action (September) – prepare a presentation of constitution and any bylaws at first September meeting for new council members
School Council Updates	<p>Breakfast Snack Program Update (Bea, Jen)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Off to a start - 17 children registered (don't all attend every day - about 12-14 attend every day) - Kids are getting into routine of using it - Staff has attended safe food training <p>Fundraising Update - Lindsay</p> <p>Can't just say bank deposits are for "fundraising" any more - have to specify specific goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of what we want to put money towards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Playground equipment \$200-\$400 o Extra-curricular activities - \$950 o Purchase of leveled readers - no amount specified o Purchase of music instruments - \$4000 o Subsidize agendas for next year- \$1650 o Bussing for field trips- \$2400 o Breakfast program - keep going <p>November fundraisers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FundScrip November order is complete. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Profit is \$449.75 - Deposit specified new playground equipment as fundraising goal - QSP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of prizes as incentives to participate in any fundraising - Big prizes will be given out at assembly in December - Estimated total profit \$750 (may have to withhold some as payment for prizes) - Deposit specified levelled readers (snuggle-up books) as fundraising goal - Mabel's Labels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Total profit to date is \$57.50 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion about paying for pizza Thursdays pizzas using Pizza Pizza gift cards from FundScrip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o We spend about \$350 per week on pizza o Profit of \$35 / week if we pay with gift cards o Hope to start paying using gift cards in new year <p>General Discussion of fundraisers for 2nd half of school year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Big one will be dance-a-thon, with proposed date around Valentine`s day (either Feb 14 or Feb 17) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussion of DJ/VJ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suggestion to engage student(s) from Gordon Graydon to do it o Discussion of sponsorship vs. donation to participate - Will also consider running FundScrip again - Will also consider a food-related fundraiser (ex. MacMillan) <p>Parent Engagement and Communication (Community Outreach)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intention is to form a sub-committee to discuss goals and how to build the community, and how to spend any funds allocated to this activity (which are part of government grant) - Suggestion to arrange for speakers to present on topics of interest 	<p>ACTION – Fundraising committee to follow-up with Chandra Sutaria after Dec 8pizza orders are received by teachers</p> <p>ACTION - Fundraising committee, School Council co-chairs, Bea Jankowski, Chandra Sutaria – conduct meeting in early Jan to discuss fundraisers for second half of year</p> <p>ACTION - Joanna D to contact Gordon Graydon VP and report back</p> <p>ACTION - Joanna D to bring a list of ideas to next parent council meeting. Possible sub-committee to form following that.</p>
Principal’s report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working on new (2nd) TLCP (teaching and learning critical pathway cycles). will be ready before Christmas and implemented after Christmas - Aleks Basa: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o primary grades are focussing on retelling text - focus, setting, look at titles, pictures to retell the ideas in a story o juniors are focussing on summarizing with non-fiction, so thinking about the author's purpose (trying to teach, entertain), and working on supporting their answers with details from the text, and demonstrating that they're thinking about what they've read, rather than repeating what they've read o New year - may have a broad-scope 'literacy night' to help parents with helping their kids with reading at home. May also do a similar math night - suggestion - babysitting should be offered so that it's more accessible for some parents 	

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	Chandra <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - newsletter distributed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o concert - Thursday Dec 8. will be performed during the day as well - there will be a spring concert that will include primary kids 	
New Business / Q&A		
Next meeting	<p>Next meeting : Thursday February 2</p> <p>Note on meeting conduct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To facilitate smooth flow of discussion, individuals who wish to participate in discussion are asked to raise their hand, and will be allowed the opportunity to speak in sequence - In an effort to keep meetings within the scheduled time and to ensure focused discussion school council members are requested to submit new business/discussion items for the agenda 1 week in advance of each meeting to the school council chairs via email at:: hartsdalevenueps.council@peelsb.com 	