



4th Meeting of Runnymede Public School Council (2011-2012)

Wednesday January 25, 2012

Runnymede PS Library

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

MINUTES

Attendance:

Nancy Bestic, Tara Bragg-Axon, Erin Carroll, Danielle Chandler, Katherine Clark, Amelia Dennis, Sarah Frame, Suzanne Gordon, Rob Hochberg, Anna Intarakosit, Nora Irwin, Heather Jordan (late), Gary Karasiuk, Sharon Kelly, Joan Lash, Marshall Leslie, Donna Mackay, Anne Markee, Jennifer McLean, Jenn Myers, Denyse Pilkington, Audrey Robinson, Jess Shulman, Tracy Stockley, Jacqueline Sustar, Shirley Suurdt, Kristen Tenebaum, Jerry Tiessen (Co-Chair), Andrew Violi (Co-Chair), Catherine Willson, Brian Withnell, Krista Wylie, Madeline Wells-RowSELL

M.1 Call to order

J. Tiessen and A. Violi called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

M.2 Review of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and no changes made.

M.3 Review and approval of December 1, 2011 council meeting minutes

A correction to the December 1, 2011 minutes was made:

M.8.3 Communications

... J. Sustar summarized that out of 1,008 students families, only 105 require paper copies of class communications. The response for signing up to receive e-communications has been a great success. The Council thanked J. Sustar, G. Karasiuk and team for coordinating this. ...

With this change, the minutes were approved.

Motion to approve the December 1, 2011 minutes. 1st: K. Wylie; 2nd: E. Carroll; Carried.

M.4 Budget review

D. Pilkington summarized the status of this year's budget (see attached). Fundraising is ahead of budget by \$2,855 and \$1,503 of that has been committed to new initiatives. Two more significant fundraising initiatives remain for the year: Spring Thaw (March 29) and Pub Night (May 4). We anticipate being \$7,453 ahead on net revenues by the end of the school year.



M.5 Administration update

A. Dennis introduced the new Vice Principal, Anna Intarakosit, to the Council. A. Intarakosit will be responsible for kindergarten to grade 6 students.

Eighteen student parliament members were invited to volunteer at a local Food Bank and where they were visited by a special guest, Justin Bieber. Students had an opportunity to meet him and take photos.

Teachers have started working on report cards and will use the January 27th PA day to continue that work and prepare marks, etc. A letter will be circulated to parents at a later date informing them about report cards being sent home and the need for interviews.

There was a 6 inch flood in the basement on January 16th at approximately 9:30 am. The fire alarms were triggered and an emergency response protocol ensued. The water had to be turned off, which became a health issue and students were sent home following a communication to all parents. The problem was quickly fixed and no permanent damage sustained.

The entrance to the school from Colbeck Dr. has been blocked because of safety concerns regarding eroding stairs. Another concern was raised at the meeting about the light above the corner at the nursery school not working. It was requested that the light be fixed immediately because the graffiti in that area is getting worse. A. Dennis agreed to look into this matter and commended the caretakers for their efforts in keeping the school grounds clean.

A. Intarakosit led the head lice screening event that took place on January 12. She thanked all parents who assisted with the screening and noted it was handled quickly and discreetly. A parent asked about follow-up measures required before affected students can come back to school. Parents need to screen at home and the office also conducts a follow-up check when students return.

R. Hochberg announced that a new 'Boys Book Club' (green bin of books in library) had been launched to engage boys, including 'reluctant' readers. The carefully selected resources were purchased with funds provided by the Council.

R. Hochberg attended a very successful ski trip for grade 7s. They had great weather conditions and the kids were well behaved.

Lastly, one of the agenda items for the school's Safety Committee is to review Runnymede's dress code. The committee's first meeting will take place on January 31st. Representatives will include students, teachers, and parents.

M.6 Funding requests

- **Math/Sciences Enrichment Program (\$2,400)**

In the fall, J. Tiessen and M. Kanalec started working on a proposal to purchase Lego "Simple and Powered Machine Sets." The proposal outlined a pilot project whereby 12 sets would be purchased to accommodate a class of approximately 24 students in grade 4. The



use of gears and pulleys compliments the grade 4 math curriculum. Subsequently, A. Intarakosit surveyed grade 4 teachers for their feedback and received positive responses. A schedule will be established such that each class will have 3.5 weeks to work with the sets and then rotate to another class.

Motion to approve the purchase of 12 Lego Simple and Powered Machine Sets (\$2,400): 1st: E. Carroll; 2nd: S. Gordon. Carried.

- **Reading club (\$400)**

On behalf of Jerome Edjidian, A. Dennis provided an overview of a request for funding to establish a French Reading Club for Grade 4 students (girls and boys). The club would be geared towards reluctant readers and students whose interest in reading in French is starting to decline, which is common at this grade. The club would be held once per week from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm and students would read to J. Edjidian or to each other. The funding is needed to purchase books and novels sets. A. Dennis indicated that the school would match the \$400 from Council.

Motion to contribute \$400 towards the establishment of a French Reading Club: 1st: N. Irwin; 2nd: A. Markee. Carried.

- **Spirit Subcommittee for Centennial (\$360) for buttons with new school logo**

A new subcommittee of the Spirit Committee was established to focus on Centennial events. The subcommittee's intent is to plan an event every February 1st leading up to the Centennial (Feb. 2016). The significance of Feb. 1st is that that was the day Runnymede PS first opened its doors in 1916. On February 1, 2012, an assembly is being planned where the new logo and motto will be unveiled. Council was approached for funding to purchase buttons with the new logo for all students at the assembly at a cost of \$360. It was discussed that more pins would be required as not all students will be able to attend the assembly at once.

Motion to provide the Spirit Committee with \$500 for the purchase of 1,500 pins with the new Runnymede logo: 1st: J. Sustar; 2nd: J. Shulman. Carried.

M.7 Committee updates

M.7.1 Yard

S. Frame reported that scheduling of phase 1 of the Green Teacher program (a cross-curricular environmental education program) has almost been completed. This will be rolled out to Grades 2, 4, and 6, including split classes, for a total of 17 classes. Instruction will begin in February by Zak Smith who interned at Runnymede PS last year and works at the High Park Nature Centre. In addition, interns from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Education (OISE) will help to support the Green Teacher and the yard committee.

The Council was asked for ideas for performers to take part in events held in the school yard. A performance by glee club was suggested. Any further suggestions should be directed to S. Frame.



M.7.2 Ward 7

G. Karasiuk reported that no Ward 7 meetings have taken place since our last Council meeting. Irene Atkinson is waiting for the release of the new budget before holding the next Ward 7 meeting.

An elementary math curriculum night will be held on January 31, 2012; an announcement with further details will be circulated following this meeting.

On behalf of H. Jordon, an update on the traffic light situation was provided. H. Jordan continues to investigate the issue and collect supporting documentation. The issue at hand is the safety of children and other pedestrians crossing Runnymede. The Colbeck crosswalk is staffed by a crossing guard during peak hours (although not during kindergarten crossing times) and there is no crossing guard at the north cross walk near the church. Refer to the September 28, 2011 Council minutes for a summary of previous Council discussion.

It was suggested that the Council invite our city councilor, Sarah Doucette, to a future Council meeting to discuss this issue.

Action Item #1: Include an agenda item to discuss the traffic light issue on the March 22, 2012 Council agenda.

M.7.3 Spirit

K. Wylie recapped that the holiday assembly where Stafford was presented with the "Best Crossing Guard" award was very moving. A. Robinson was acknowledged for making a scrapbook in his honour.

A dance workshop for students was held with funding provided by Council. Some feedback indicated that some students did not enjoy the instructional element and would have preferred free dance and glow sticks similar to the dance-a-thon held last year.

The holiday concert series went well. The new sound system is excellent. A slide show of photos of school events was also well received.

Coming up:

The next big event will be the Spring Thaw on March 29, 2012 for Kindergarten to Grade 3 students.

The Sprit Committee will also be supporting the next yard day.

Pub night will take place on the first Friday in May 2012.

M.7.4 Communications

J. Shulman provided an update on behalf of J. Thompson.

The Communications Committee will be supporting the JK open house in February.

The mail serve is working well. We have reduced the need for circulating paper copies of communications to students down to 88.

The Runnymede Council web site (<http://www.runnymedecouncil.org/>) continues to be updated. The new logo banner will be posted after its unveiling on February 1. Parents and



teachers were encouraged to share stories and pictures of events for sharing on the web site.

M.7.5 Centennial

M. Leslie noted that, fortunately, the school's archival materials had been removed from the basement before the flood. He also expressed his appreciation to the Spirit Committee for supporting Centennial activities.

M.7.6 Arts

E. Carroll summarized that the Arts Committee is currently working on several outdoor art initiatives. At the back of the school, ball targets and goal posts were painted on walls. The back doors will be painted in the spring to cover graffiti and chalk boards will be installed for kids to write on.

The student enrichment program began this week, starting with Grade 1, and then JK/SK students. Grade 2/3 students are engaged in some interested photo projects.

Council members were asked to donate socks for a special project, as well as smocks (long-sleeve dress shirts, old hockey jerseys, etc.).

M.8 Other business

J. Tiessen announced that he had some tickets for a local presentation by Alyson Schafer if anyone was interested (approx. 10 tickets worth \$20/each). Council members were invited to see Jerry if they were interested in attending the event on January 28, 2012.

A newsletter from a lobby group was sent to the school and J. Tiessen indicated he would post it on the bulletin board for all to access.

M.9 Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on **March 22, 2012**. The final meeting of the school year will take place on May 22, 2012.

M.10 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Runnymede Public School Council
2011/2012 Profit Loss Budget
January 25, 2012

	Budget 11/12	Actual 11/12	Forecast	Fav/(Unfav)
Net Ordinary Income				
Pub Night / Silent Auction	\$ 5,400	\$ (500)	\$ 5,900	\$ -
Swim Club	\$ -	\$ 445	\$ (445)	\$ -
Pizza Lunch	\$ 11,600	\$ 19,258	\$ (6,600)	\$ 1,058
QSP Magazine Drive	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 2,428	\$ 928
T-Shirt	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,258	\$ 15	\$ 273
Donations	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,109	\$ -	\$ 5,109
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 700	\$ 443	\$ 300	\$ 43
Prior Year's Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GST	\$ (1,000)	\$ -	\$ (1,000)	\$ -
Spring Thaw Art Show	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -
Curriculum Night Bake Sale	\$ 300	\$ 341	\$ -	\$ 41
Total Net Ordinary Income	\$ 48,500	\$ 51,355	\$ 4,598	\$ 7,453
Prior Year Surplus	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -
Total Net Ordinary Income & Surplus	\$ 60,500	\$ 63,355	\$ 4,598	\$ 7,453
Other Expense				
Technology	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Eco Schools	\$ (500)	\$ -	\$ (500)	\$ -
Prior Year Surplus Committed:				
Science/ Math Enrichment	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)	\$ -	\$ -
Library/ Literacy	\$ (3,500.00)	\$ (3,500)	\$ -	\$ -
Smart Boards	\$ (2,000.00)	\$ (2,000)	\$ -	\$ -
Kindergarten Refresh	\$ (800.00)	\$ (800)	\$ -	\$ -
Rainy day lunch room games bin	\$ (300.00)	\$ (300)	\$ -	\$ -
Outdoor recess equipment	\$ (750.00)	\$ (750)	\$ -	\$ -
Committed:				
Extracurricular Support	\$ (2,500)	\$ -	\$ (2,500)	\$ -
Yard Improvement	\$ (4,500)	\$ (1,070)	\$ (3,430)	\$ -
Green Teacher	\$ (3,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,000)	\$ -
Instrument Renewal - Strings	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Instrument Renewal - Band	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Drama Program	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Library	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
House League Sports	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Art	\$ (1,500)	\$ -	\$ (1,500)	\$ -
Primary Arts Program	\$ (3,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,000)	\$ -
Peacemakers	\$ (500)	\$ -	\$ (500)	\$ -
Mike Ford	\$ (624)	\$ -	\$ (624)	\$ -
Awards	\$ (400)	\$ -	\$ (400)	\$ -
TRF	\$ (18,100)	\$ (10,000)	\$ (8,100)	\$ -
Field Trip Bursary	\$ (2,000)	\$ -	\$ (2,000)	\$ -
Teacher Appreciation Lunch	\$ (500)	\$ -	\$ (500)	\$ -
Council Communications	\$ (500)	\$ (293)	\$ (207)	\$ -
Sundry And Admin	\$ (500)	\$ (360)	\$ (140)	\$ -
Total Committed	\$ (45,124)	\$ (11,723)	\$ (33,401)	
Uncommitted:				
Enrichment Expense	\$ (3,025)	\$ -	\$ (4,528)	\$ (1,503)
Total Uncommitted	\$ (3,025)	\$ -	\$ (4,528)	\$ (1,503)
Total Other Expense	\$ (60,499)	\$ (22,073)	\$ (39,929)	\$ (1,503)
Net Income	\$ 1	\$ 41,282	\$ (35,331)	\$ 5,950

**Runnymede Public School Council
2011/2012 Profit Loss Budget
January 25, 2012**

Food Drive Pizza Party	\$	(100)
Primary Arts	\$	(3,000)
Centennial Committee	\$	(750)
Dance Workshop	\$	(678)
	\$	<u>(4,528)</u>