

JACOB BEAM SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 22, 2009

Present: Tracy Leemet, Heidi Holloway, Laurie Arsenault, Mary Jastremski, Lori Shuker, Wenonah Tallman, Andrea Brownstein, Michelle Weiss, Lesia Castellaro, Tammy Strongitharm, Leanne Slaughter, Laura Fisher

Student Teachers: Steph Moreau, Lara Engelhardt, Laura Norris, Riley Crawford, Bettina Rampelt, Courtney Maciulaitis, Caitlin Munn

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

1) WELCOME

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion to accept the September 17, 2009 minutes was carried out by Wenonah Tallman and seconded by Laura Fisher.

3) MRS. HOLLOWAY - BDSS READERS

- It is a reading program that started in early October 2009 that bridges Beamsville District Secondary School and Jacob Beam Elementary School whereby ten Grade 12 students from Beamsville Secondary School come in to Jacob Beam once a month and read to students as a class
- All classes are involved and the hope is to motivate our students to keep reading
- So far, the feedback is positive from the teachers

4) PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - TRACY LEEMET

- things have certainly been happening here at Jacob Beam
- volleyball is well underway with Mr Millin, Mr Robinson and Mr Sotola coaching the intermediate teams and Mr Hannahson and Ms Schneider coaching the junior teams - the int season just started this week and the juniors will be soon to begin
- Eco school - is going well, we have to change our litterless lunch to a Thursday because it conflicts with sub day

- we had the Art Gallery in this week and as you go through the hallways you will notice what a great job the kids did
- as part of our school growth plan for this year we will be working on assessment, higher order thinking and the problem solving approach in math - as part of our first cycle of learning for literacy the primaries and juniors are focussing on making connections and the intermediates are focussing on summarizing - I should be able to share more specifics by the next council meeting in Nov.
- Halloween activities - lunch will be from 12-12:45 and the children will then have time to get into their costumes - we will do a parade throughout the school and then out through the playground if you wish to come and watch - the grades 6-8 will be having a dance and most of the classrooms will be having some fun activities for the afternoon
- the Parent Conference is on Wed. Nov. 4th at Westlane High school from 4:30-8:45 so if you are interested in any more information please see me after
- our Recognition assembly for Oct is on Mon Nov. 2nd and the character trait for the month of Nov. is responsibility
- today we had Jack and Lori from 105.7 to share lunch with the grade 1s because one of the students in the class won a contest - it was a fun day for both the students and their parents
- Montreal trip - we had an overwhelming response to the trip - originally we had a cap of 50 for one bus but we had 13 additional students wanting to go - in order to allow everyone the opportunity to go we had to get another bus which of course increased the costs by \$50 - we are trying to offset the costs by doing some fundraisers - some community dances possibly, a BBQ as well the children have an opportunity to do some individual fundraising with cookie dough and norcard - we only have 7 students not participating
- Mrs Penley will be back as of Nov. 16th from her maternity leave - we will miss Mrs Holloway and we wish her all the best - I'm sure our paths will cross again
- we have the Book fair coming on Nov. 23rd - this is always a great opportunity for not only for the students to get some new books for home but also for the library to get some new books too
- we will be having a Remembrance Day assembly on Nov 11th following the first break
- on Nov. 4th, Take Your Gr 9 Child to work day - the gr 8s will be going to BDSS to spend the day finding out what it feels like to be at high school
- on the PA day last week the staff spent the entire day dissecting the information from the EQAO looking at trends based on question type, target expectations, etc - at the next school council meeting, we will spend some time showing you an example of what that looks like and how we use the information - we did find that we higher order questioning, problem solving in math and creating more in depth answers are areas we need to focus on
- We have 7 Brock student teachers in the building this term - Gr 3, 4/5, 5, 6, 6/7, 7/8 and 8 - this is their first block out teaching and they are working closely with their associates to plan and teach a variety of lessons

extra milk - we send it to Community Care

5) CHAIR'S REPORT - LAURIE ARSENAULT

- There is nothing to report because there have been no correspondence

6) TREASURER'S REPORT - PLAYGROUND REPAIRS

- The account balance for parent council is \$1973.15 and for the playground equipment is \$4811.60.
- The playground is reported to need \$4254.92 worth of repairs so at this time the pea gravel has been ordered and other repairs are being worked on.

7) COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Fundraising - Everyone was in favour of doing the Basket Raffle again and the money raised would go towards class trips. Laurie Arsenault will be running this event.

- Lori Shuker will organize the Gingerbread Shop for December 11, 2009.

Green - The committee began weeding the garden. One suggestion was to look into help from high school students

Communications - Sign is getting changed

8) NEW BUSINESS

- Student Council was asking if parent council needed any help. Laurie Arsenault suggested some students could help with selling tickets.

9) ACTION ITEMS - REVIEW OF BY-LAWS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

- Regarding the By-Laws, Laurie Arsenault asked the council if we should remove the treasurer section because we no longer have them. The motion to amend the by-laws to remove the treasurer and signing office because we no longer have them was first carried out by Lori Shuker and seconded by Andrea Brownstein. All were in favour and the motion was passed.
- Regarding the Code of Conduct, we need to review it. A suggestion was made to review it as a smaller group and that the group would be chosen after the meeting.

10) NEXT MEETING

- Next meeting will be Thursday November 26, 2009 at 6:00 pm.

Issues to think about next meeting:

- Is the playground costing too much money? Should we consider pulling it out? Should we revisit this issue?
- Discuss participating in new Aviva program to get money for the playground

11) ADJOURNMENT