

**Crossroads Public School
School Advisory Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm
Crossroads School Library**

Present: Jolene Klassen, Christine Lett, Chris Wormwell, Marian Reimer Friesen, Becky Bartel, Carrie Hendricks, Melissa Saxton, Lesley Bartel, Irene Harlond, Angela Redekopp, Sandy Cowan, Michelle Lemoine, Doug Wilson, Cathy Siemens, Carol Hahn, Wendy Janzen, Lisa Laughton, Violet Schnierle, Sherrie Gonta, Shelley Schmidt, Monica Draayer, Briar Wiens, Tracey Kent, Amanda Fretz, Linda Ivey, Deste Lepp, Laury Willms, Cory Abt, Nancy Voogt, Robyn Mortley

Regrets: Cheryl VanVliet, Lolita Hale, Sue Rodgers

1. Welcome and Call to Order – Jolene Klassen, Christine Lett, Sandy Cowan

2. Meeting Minutes from November

Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by Michelle Lemoine, 2nd by Melissa Saxton

3. Chair's Report (Jolene):

- We have quorum tonight (need 14 people to vote)
- Lunch Connection - now called "Lunch Ladies" – hot lunch program, now offering a much wider range of foods for our kids, reduced prices – more info to come, starting soon

4. Principal's Report (Marian):

- **December/January Update:** Marian welcomed everyone back to council. December was a very busy and exciting month, and it was wonderful to celebrate the holiday season with our Crossroads Community. 2012 is off to a busy start with many upcoming events. This Friday, January 20th is a PD Day for the purposes of Report Card Writing. Our parking lot may be nearly empty that day, but our teachers will be working hard! Our intermediates are off to the slopes for a ski date at Horseshoe Valley in Barrie, on Friday, February 3rd (Mr. Reschke is coordinating), we are working on a skating day in February, our Kindergarten Open House (for registration purposes) will be on Thursday, February 2nd from 4:00 – 6:00 (please spread the word!), and our Grand Opening will be on Thursday, February 9th (details below). Marian asked Laury Willms to share a little bit of information about the "Go Fish" primary musical on May 10th. We are looking for parent volunteers to assist with sewing costumes, set design.
- **Construction Update:** Over the Christmas holidays the work continued here at the school. Adjustments were made to our gym screen/ceiling mount projector, paint was touched up, trim and shelving were added to a few resource areas, Front Row Audio was fine tuned in every gr. 1 – 8 classroom (Red Cat Audio in Library and Kindergarten), and general repairs were made (i.e., new kindergarten toilets – now standard size, new hand dryers – much more quiet). Our donor wall is now complete (medallions with donor names are on order) and things are really coming together. Tax receipts to be issued by the Board. Thank you cards to be sent out.
- **Grade 8 Year End Trip Survey:** With a new school, we need to make new traditions, and so the staff brainstormed options for an intermediate year end trip. Our current economy and enrolment in 7 & 8 helped us to decide that offering a grade 8 trip (therefore, once in a child's elementary years and a manageable number of children to supervise) was the best option. We surveyed grade 8 families in December with various options (city, camp, day trip, etc.) and the overwhelming response was Camp Olympia, a sports and adventure camp in Huntsville. It's an economical 4 day trip that our Butler/Virgil communities both enjoyed in the past. Details will follow for these students and their families. We have 50 grade 8 kids.

- **Pizza Lunch:** Concern was expressed in December regarding the delivery of pizza lunches to junior/intermediate classrooms that was cold and being distributed by students who haven't washed hands. To ensure the pizza is still warm, it stays in the insulated bags until just before distribution time and the teachers have reviewed sanitary methods for distributing pizza in classes (i.e., each student takes his/her own pizza).

- **Photographer 2012/2013:** Marian shared the newsletter feedback regarding school photography. Our current photographer is Edge Imaging. Results were:

Were the Photos of Good Quality? 26 Yes, 5 Somewhat, 1 No

Were the Photo Packages Appropriately Priced? 15 Yes, 14 Somewhat, 3 No

Were you Generally Pleased with School Photos? 22 Yes, 7 Somewhat, 2 No

Council Decision for 2012/2013? The council all agreed that we would continue with Edge Imaging.

- **Grand Opening February 9th:** Marian shared that the Grand Opening Plans are well underway. The "intended audience" for this event is primarily members of our community who have not had the opportunity to see the school; however, our own Crossroads families will be warmly welcomed. Our plan at this time is the following:

2:00 Seating in the gym begins

2:15 Program in the gym – very "child centred" using the theme "Better Together", involving limited adult speakers (i.e., Director, Mayor (or designate), Chair of the Board, School Council Chairs) and focusing on the great place this is for kids. Staff are working on songs, video presentations and the ceremony surrounding the packing of our Time Capsule. All students will be asked to wear their Coyote Spirit Wear (or blue/orange) for the day.

3:00 Children are dismissed to classes and depart at 3:15 for regular dismissal (safely on their way by 3:30 p.m.)

3:00 – 3:30 Adults who have joined us for the program will remain the gym (to keep our kids safe during their departure) and enjoy a reception involving light refreshments and an informal meet & greet, photos, etc.

3:30 – 6:00 Open House when these visitors and anyone else can pop in to see the school. Staff will remain to meet and greet in their rooms, some students will be asked to stay as greeters, and we hope to showcase what makes Crossroads so awesome in each of the classrooms (i.e., Smartboard demonstrations, Front Row Audio demonstrations, etc.).

We are seeking parent support in providing refreshments and being stationed at the Council Table to advertise our upcoming Home Show, the Vine of Learning and of course just to highlight the incredibly involved parent community that we have at the school and how it makes a positive impact on the school environment.

5. Vice Principal's Report (Robyn):

- **Niagara Nutrition Partners** – we should have the morning break snack program running by the end of the month. Meeting at the end of the month, now meeting Friday – small to begin – keep with eco theme: recycle, brown paper towels, apple slices, carrot sticks – what will the menu consist of, who will purchase, where will it be stored? More info to come. To find out what the grant is; will be \$500 to start, more to follow. Ministry program – assess our needs, maybe another fridge or a freezer, plus \$500 in start up costs, plus products for free. Donations from public/parents – ie apples from farms, numbers to be submitted. Nancy questioned – Do we have a need in this school? LIKO score by the province – relative income in a family vs cost of living is surprisingly low for our school. Farm working culture (farm workers) that head back to warmer climates. Our school is the ESL centre. Primary purpose of program is health education, not because we are needy. Goal is to have program in every school. Teaching kids healthy eating and healthy living. Appreciate a donation or time (cut carrots). Found that kids will try things that they typically would not eat at home. So many kids will eat their lunch at first break. Angela- peers eating something that they have

never tried – will then try something new. Posted menu on Facebook page? Marian working on page. Volunteers – extend to grandparents or other community helpers.

- **Parents Reaching out Conference** Date: Thursday, February 23rd at Crossroads, notlparentevening@gmail.com Grant . 2 speakers – Brad Kuhn – Responsible Parenting, dessert and coffee, then Dick O'Brien – raising resilient children 5:30, light dinner of sandwiches by Classic Caterers. Free childcare. 2 DSBN teachers volunteering for childcare (Cheryl McIlroy + one). Kids will also be fed. Waiting for donations from Zehrs, fresh fruit and veggies. End at 8:30 pm. Register through DSBN home page. Instead of meeting twice that week – parent council meeting is scheduled for the same week. If something pressing comes up, we could schedule in March. Board mandates 4 meetings during the year –we are at that as of today. No meeting for February. Door prizes – parent from Parliament oak. Make sure that this does not conflict with the Home Show silent auction items.
- **Mid-Year Assessment** We have decided on a block of time to administer this year's Grade 3 & 6 assessments. It will take place after our Grand Opening (on February 9th) and before March Break begins (March 12th). The details will follow once the staff have had the chance to meet and plan for it.

6. Treasurer's Report (Monica):

- Shop and save – \$500 (Nov) and \$100 (Dec) – Dec was 2 church requests of over \$3000
- Shaw festival – we have \$1500.00 in our account from Shaw Festival for Stage Lighting
- Mabel's Labels - \$75
- QSP magazine – awaiting on an adjustment - \$5214.
- Home Show money shows on a different line \$7675 to date, more cheques in the mail
- Norcard – office fundraiser –raised \$1100, spent on basketball and volleyball referees and tournament fees.

7. Committee Reports:

- Home Show - Michelle Lemoine discussed the Home Show preparations – really great. Nancy sold out the gym. Request for volunteers was in the Newsletter and an e-mail was sent out for sign up. Home Show – almost completely sold out. 11 classroom spots left = less than 2 classrooms. Using 6 classrooms downstairs. Advertising coming – Cory worked out a great deal with the radio station - on-site, 30 - 10 second spots leading up to the show, newspapers, flyers – distribute to local businesses. Advertising at the open house. Now focus on getting people to attend. Angela has great news – guest speaker – Lynn Orgrzlo – cooking demo – book signing, talk local food – cooking and buying local food. Cookbook sale proceeds go back to the school. Possibly another chef? In the KG classroom.
Home show e-mail: notlhomeshow@gmail.com
On Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100003119920331> or search for Notl Home Show
On Twitter: @notlhomeshow
Nancy – spoke of the numerous business attending: Meridian and Valumart = sponsors; home reno, painter, roofers, building, books, closet designs, all home parties, gardening, carpet cleaning, jewelry, golf club, Simpsons, hats, upholstery, lots of businesses. Quite a professional show. Business community event to build business.

8. Formal Business:

- Constitution approval – quorum tonight – vote. Biggest piece was changing Butler and Virgil to Crossroads. Miss 4 consecutive meetings without regrets = you will be removed from council. Cory made a suggestion to change the 4 to 2 – Sandy says 3? Michelle seconds - Motion to change to 2. All agree on the amendment. None against – unanimous. Linda called motion to vote on amended constitution; seconded by Nancy V. Members voted unanimously to pass.

9. Next meeting is on Tuesday, April 17th at 7:00 pm in the Crossroads Learning Commons