



**DEVONSHIRE**

Everything a school  
should be!

## **Your School Council**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday November 26, 2013**

### **Attendance:**

Michele Tartacheff (Principal), Meg King (Co-Chair), Nicholas Olmstead (Co-chair), Karla Zuniga Cortes (Volunteer Coordinator), Mala Khanna (Secretary), Jennifer Baker, Vicky Smallman, Summer Baird, Louis Plourde, Deirdre Thompson, Sydney Vaughan, Jason Goveas, Mark Scrivens, Robin Valentine Golding

### **1. Introductions and approval of agenda and last minutes**

The agenda and minutes were approved.

### **2. Reports**

#### **Principal/Teacher:**

- The parent/teacher interviews went well.
- Teachers will have one unpaid PD day, day before Christmas holiday and then another one March 7.
- School was approved grant \$2100 for outdoor education. The grant will cover grade 2 field trip to MacSkimming, transportation for the grade 3 students to the experimenta farm and the rest will go to the grade six students.
- Renovation: Contractors were in to see where they can put an elevator in the school. Might be in the middle of the school, but not decided yet. Will decide next summer. Principal Tartacheff would like to meet with school council.
- 2014/2015 School Registration: Need to wait until decision on accommodation review before parents can be informed of where to register their children. Decision will be made on January 28, 2014.
- New school purchases – discussion of whether to purchase a roving smart board or a lady bug. Decision to hold off on making a decision on what to purchase until we know what is happening with the accommodation review. To discuss in February.
- Holiday Hamper for an identified family– Devonshire families can contribute.

#### **Treasurer:**

- A cheque for \$6000 was paid to the school for buses, the pizza revenue is doing well, and the Makina Baptist money for new desks has gone out.

#### **Co-Chair:**

*Devonshire School Council: Parents helping teachers help our kids grow*

- Future of Devonshire School Age Program unknown until decision made on Accommodation Review. Not clear if it will remain a third party provider. Other school age programs have been brought under the school board.
- First movie night was a great turn out. There were lots of kids and families. Popcorn sales were \$100.
- Council is collecting winter things for Parkdale Food Centre. The Centre is in need of men's clothes.
- Devonshire Art Show at the Hintonburg Public House was a great success. The show raised \$965.00. Summer Baird would like to do it again next year in partnership with Patrick Gordon framing who would re-purpose old frames for the art. Summer is also looking for canvass in order to do a themed group piece for each class and then auction it off. The auction would take place in March so the pieces would need to be done by February 27. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, they would be hung and the silent auction would begin.
- Gingerbread House Event (Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup>) sales are coming along, but slower than in previous years. Have sold 22 houses so far. The event will be posted on the school website and info will be put on a sticky label. The deadline to purchase a house is December 4. Giant Tiger will be donating the candies again this year. There will also be Bridgehead coffee and baked goods.
- Council Holiday party (December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Hintonburg Public House) – casual night, no kids.

### **3. Update on Makina Baptist**

- Funds have been transferred for purchase and installation of desks. Mala has requested photos of the desks from Canadian contact in Kenya.
- At our next meeting we will brainstorm on how to focus our charitable fundraising efforts.

### **4. Holiday Charitable Drive**

- R.E. Wilson has a family who has requested a hamper. It is a family of 5. Principal Tartacheff to deliver the hamper to the school in Vanier.

### **5. Ski Club**

- Need a parent to organize or it cannot happen this year. Decision to send a letter out to parents asking for a parent volunteer.

### **6. Accommodation Review Wrap-up**

- Working group submitted their report. Questions around the recommendation to phase in the EFI program starting with JK to grade 3. The considerations were that while there is a valid case for the grade 4s, the class size for grade 5 is too small and for the grade 6 class, it would be three schools in three years. The Working

Group based on recommendation on school board advice in terms of how to successfully phase in a new program.

- If anyone has issues with the recommendation, they should write to Jennifer MacKenzie and to the school board.
- The staff report comes out on Friday, Jan 13 and it is specifically for delegations. School councils can speak for 10 minutes, 5 minutes for community groups, 3 minutes for individuals.
- A decision was made that the Devonshire School Council should send a delegation and it was suggested that the school council use the 10 minutes to pose some of the questions that parents have about implementation and give feedback to the board on the process. A meeting for delegates to start planning the Devonshire School Council intervention was scheduled for January 6 at 7 pm.
- After the trustees vote on the recommendation, a transition team will be struck and it will be made up of teacher representatives, school principals, parent representatives, and students from both schools.

#### **7. Open Forum**

- Screening on December 10 of Girl Rising. This is a fundraiser to commemorate international human rights day on girls education at Library and Archives Canada, Tickets for \$20 for adults and \$10 for students.

#### **8. Next meeting: decision made to postpone January meeting in light of decision on Accommodation Review. Next meeting Tuesday February 25, 2014.**