

# MACGREGOR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## MINUTES

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 7-9:00 pm Library

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Laurel Imeson, Eileen Polson, Donna Koppers, , Kathy Smith, Rob Gorbet, Barb Lachambre, Angelica Allen, Lisa McTavish, Jane Arnold, Angelica Allen, Mike Martin, Reuben Lazar

**Regrets:** Jane Snyder, Kim Fellows, Terry Orsborn, Tom Schell, LeeAnne Evans, Gail Roth, Deanna Wright, Agnes Gadbois, Carmen Clubine, Tom Schell,

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Donna Koppers called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

2. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES** –

The following corrections were noted:

- Jane Arnold was noted as both present and absent. She was present.
- Under Mandate/Goals discussion - Rob Gorbet volunteered to coordinate the process for the teachers to request funds, not Lisa.

Motion for approval: Jane. Seconded by Laurel.

3. **TREASURERS REPORT**

- balance at February 25, 2013 is \$5008.20
- Typically, Council maintains a \$500 balance to carry over to the next academic year.
- Council has approximately \$4,500 to spend in the remainder of this academic year, minus \$200 for graduation expenses for cake and water.

4. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT** – Mike and Reuben

- Labour relations:
  - OSSTF has eased up on their stance that teachers not lead extra-curricular activities and next week, the union for primary teachers will be meeting.
  - At MAC:
    - the Ottawa trip will go ahead with the appropriate teacher supervision. 113 kids have signed up, but a minimum of 120 students is required.
    - Graduation will also be held.
    - Some other activities have also been re-established including boys basketball, recycling program and a student activity day on March 8 focussing on anti-bullying activities.
    - The theatre production will not happen as there is not enough lead time – it needed to start in January.
- Enrolment numbers for Grade 7 students entering next year are up from this past September. On March 31, the administration will submit the number of kids who will be attending MAC next year. These numbers are used to determine the number of classes and teachers. Ratio of teacher to student is 1:26.5 for intermediate schools – this is an average across the board. Immersion and rotation are factors that affect ratios.
- High school transitions are complete and magnet programs are also completing their notifications. Online registration was successful with only 25 students completing paper forms (due to Windows 8 compatability issues). Enhancements to the online system will occur. Visits to high schools will occur in the spring to allow for a comfortable transition for kids.

- Grade 6 transition – April 23 is the information night for feeder kids and parents to visit MAC. School Council will be invited to participate and encourage incoming parents to become involved. Angelica volunteered for this event.
  - Website Training
    - Rueben reported that the school received 20 ipads today form the Board.
    - The new school website will be live in 2 weeks. There will be a School Council Page and **Donna will work with Rueben to complete an initial set-up for the Council page.**
- Suggestions for consideration include:
- Link to WRAPSC website
  - Set up an School Council email account that the President or designate can monitor. Provide info on what to send to School Council; set service levels for response times.
  - Put the Mandate and Goals as a separate text box.
  - Include a general welcome message to invite anyone to attend.
  - Upcoming School Council meeting dates
  - Copies of School Council newsletters in pdf format
  - For the School Home page the following items were suggested:
    - Fundraisers could go on the home page – keep it at the top for easy viewing.
    - Keep the picture of the original MacGregor schoolhouse but add a note to explain the significance of the picture.
    - Create a volunteer opportunities page/section for parents and students.

## 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 5.1 Speaker Update

- An April date is suggested and it was also suggested that a sub-committee be formed to put the session together given that we do not have a March meeting. Rueben, Mike and Laurel volunteered to be on the Committee. **Donna will send out an email requesting additional volunteers.**
- Discussion on topics/speakers included the following:
  - WAVE which is a peer program to support anti-bullying
  - The speaker on Gaming Addition topic is not able to do a session for MAC but an alternate speakers is Jamie Sobotska (sp?) from the John Howard society to speak on bullying.
  - Ron Moorish is speaking on the Teenage Brain and how to understand it at the WRAPSC event.
  - Rueben also has additional contacts once the committee determines a topic.
  - Next year, Council could pursue a topic on “Who do you call if my kid...says/does/acts like” using community resources. K-W Counselling also hosts a series of parent workshops and looks for sites from which to offer the sessions. MAC could volunteer our school and tailor the workshops to topics of interest to our school community.

### 5.2 WRAPSC Update - Angelica

- There was a Labour Relations update at the last meeting: The Ministry of Education has mandated 3 unpaid PD days for next year: day before Thanksgiving, Christmas and March break.
- French Immersion Report – Empire is the only feeder school for MAC where French Immersion numbers have gone up.
- Parent involvement workshop Sat. April 13<sup>th</sup> at Galt Collegiate. Angelica to provide more information

## 6. NEW BUSINESS/IDEAS

### 6.1 Teacher’s Requests for Funds

- The following requests were discussed:
  - Freestyle Soccer Group who will be part of the anti-bullying day on March 8. Cost is \$650 versus regular rate of \$1200.

- Glass backboards for the basketball nets in the gym. Cost is \$3700 for 2 backboards and does not include installation charges. We discussed options such as paying the differential between regular backboards and glass ones; providing a set amount; committing to an amount over a 3 year period. **Mike will get additional information from Mr. Watson.**
- No subsidies are required at this time for students who want to participate in the Ottawa trip but are financially constrained. Mike will update Council if support is required on a go-forward basis.

## 6.2 Parent Council Mandate and Goals – Updates

- Council discussed the proposal submitted by Jane Arnold for the Breakfast program.
- **Jane will coordinate with Rueben, a fundraising plan for April, May and June to get students involved in fundraising for the breakfast program;** the plan will include a communication to let parents know about the intent and purpose of the Breakfast Program, the fundraising program and volunteer opportunities.
- Mike committed that the profit from milk sales @ \$0.30/carton can be donated to the Breakfast Program. And he noted that the students also donate money from sales of candy-grams, etc.
- **Jane will follow-up with the Nutrition for Learning contact person (Kelly) to get more information on how the volunteer program can work if parents can not commit to a weekly schedule.**
- **Jane also asked for a parent volunteer of a Grade 7 student to work with her to allow for continuity with the Breakfast Program from this year to next.**

The following motions were made:

- Rob made a motion that School Council approve a \$300 contribution to the Breakfast Program and that Council commit to matching what the students raise to a maximum of \$700. The total donation made by Council would not exceed \$1,000. Seconded by Angelica. Carried unanimously.
- Rob made a motion that School Council provide \$650 to pay for Freestyle Soccer to run the anti-bullying session on March 9. Seconded by Angelica. Carried unanimously.

## 6.3 Tonia Kelly – Magazine Fundraiser

- Sales were down 28% from last year; sales have dropped across Tonia's territory
- There is only one competitor. Tonia's company offers the same profit structure as her competitor but offers more magazines and an easier process/program.
- Recommendations to improve our sales for next year include:
  - Having student and parent involvement in setting up early bird draws, doing announcements, handing out prizes etc.
  - Parent involvement is only 2-3 hours.
  - Use parent-child combos.
  - Create incentives for students to get sales – money and technology works best.
  - **For the September School Council meeting, include a request to get parents involved in the fundraiser and participate in a meeting with Tonia to set up the program.**
- Chocolate bar sales will start next week. Sales are attributed to each student and is used for Grade 7 activities or the Grade 8 trip. Profit on sales is \$0.86/bar.

## 7. NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

- No meeting in March.
- Meeting dates: April 23, May 28.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.