

LEPAC February Meeting Minutes

Lochside Elementary Parents Advisory Committee
February 19th, 2014

1. Welcome and Introductions 6:30

President: Rachel Calder
Vice President: Judy Payne
Secretary: Jeff Rafuse (in Robbyn Brodie's absence)
Healthy Schools Coordinators: Jodi Holland
Volunteer Coordinator: Mary Brookes
Co-COPAC representative: Kerry Walsh
Stephanie Kalabric
Guests:
Principal: Joe Grewal
Vice-Principal Joan O'Leary.
Regrets: Healthy Schools Coordinators Heather Caul
Treasurer: Don Mellings
Past President: Mike Brooks
Co-COPAC representative: Kelly Perry

2. Approval of January Minutes 6:33

January minutes were reviewed. Motion: Rachel C. motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Mary B., voted and all in favour. Motion carried.

3. Principal's Report 6:34-7:13

Recent Events this past month: Jersey Day; Reading Club (good response rate);
Victoria Royals visit.

Artist-In-Residence

Brenda Greenwood working with students in grades k – 3 & grade 3, 4 & 5 choir.

Student Safety/Lockdown Drill

-Lochside Elementary staff and students practiced a Lockdown Drill on Tue. Feb. 18th
-Drill designed to prepare staff and students to lock all interior doors in case of emergency e.g. intruder, accident outside, etc.

Reading Buddies

-ELL teacher Henrietta Langan-Debrisay along with assistance from Integration Support Teacher Sarah Ewart has organized after school Reading Buddies for some of our primary students
-Claremont students come down to Lochside Elementary on Wednesdays after school to read with their young buddies

Family Literacy Day – Friday Jan. 24th

- Very successful Family Literacy Day
 - Many parents and guardians joined us on Friday Jan. 24th for Family Literacy Day
- Day
- Member of Little Theatre Company here during day for “Flash Literacy” workshops

Olympics Inquiry Projects

- Mini inquiry projects in the library and in the classrooms based on the Winter Olympics in Sochi

Camp Thunderbird

- Plans under way and a successful parent evening held on Wed. Feb. 5th
- cost after fundraising will be \$200 per student
- Kids with financial hardship are asked to self-identify to Principal Grewal. School tries to accommodate to ensure 100% participation.
- Rachel added that students in financial need may be able to access funding through the Y – with no financial assessment.

Reporting

- Formal Reports will go home March 3rd to the 7th
- Feb. 28th Early Closure Day – some teachers will conference on this day or use the time to write reports and conference after Spring Break
- Parents – please contact classroom teacher if there are any questions or concerns

Extra-Curricular

- Basketball Jamboree – Fri. Feb. 28th
- Swim Meet – Wed. Mar. 5th
- Grade 4/5 Choir – Thursday at lunch
- Reading Buddies with Claremont students – Wednesdays after school in the library
- SPCA Club – Tuesdays and Wednesdays at lunch starting Feb. 25th

Time Pressures - TimeTable / Year Long Schedule

- Although there is a lot of interest in additional activities (i.e, ballroom dancing), many additions to the curriculum adds to time demands and a schedule time crunch. Considerations for extra-curricular activities include discussions with staff and learning outcomes.
- For additional requests, a need to consider learning outcomes balanced against teacher’s ability to meet classroom teacher’s objectives.
- School calendar is finalized in July/early August.
- District calendar finalized at the end of May for big items.

- The “second library” space meant to be a flexible space (in the sun space) was taken over and a collection of books now does not have a home. The books have many uses including buddy reading, etc. What to do to honour the investment in this non-library book set? Feedback: Rachel – the history is that PAC supported building part of that space as a free space. Principal – student population has grown and some of the sun space is being occupied. Enrolment and student numbers drive whether that space is available. Vice-principal would like to see better use of books to honour the investment. Suggestion: rotating rack? But is the space even being used for its original purpose? Agree that the books should continue to be in use. Decision: Some in classrooms, grade two bookroom, and another space.
- Parent Workshops – to be forwarded by Rachel.

4. Reports 7:13-7:28

a) President:

- Rachel did not send out a reminder on schedule change
- Re-schedule next month’s PAC meeting to March 26.

b)Treasurer: Not in attendance.

c)Volunteer Coordinator: Nothing to report.

d)Healthy Schools Coordinator: Reminder to sign-up for TC 10K run. Must meet deadline to get T-shirt.

e)COPAC Rep: Nothing to report.

5. General Business 7:28-7:45

- a) Pizza and Movie Night- Despicable Me 2 is still planned for Thursday February 20th. Orders will be finalized Thursday morning. Will be used as a guide and extra will be ordered. Don to provide movie. Popcorn available.
- b) Rachel noted on Don’s behalf that LEPAC files will be shredded.
- c) Monks School supplies to be distributed same as last year. \$3 fee. Discussion re: expense associated with going through Monks. Too late to change suppliers this year, but could consider for the year after next. Other suppliers may have better arrangements i.e., Staples.
- d) Scooter/skateboard/bike racks – Dropped off at office. Thanks to Mark Voorberg for putting them together at a cost of \$50. One at top of ramp and other location TBD. Proposed sign to have kids walking their little vehicles down the ramp in sun space.
- e) TC
- f) Executive Vacancies for 2014-2015 – Rachel stepping down; Robbyn and Heather vacating. Need for new recruits. Stephanie to rejoin. Jodi to be a “co-” something. Needs to be broadcasted; i.e., Monday update; job-sharing.
- g) Science/Math projects – (Parent Education) Joe provided update on work of Trevor Caulkins. Date to be booked for Trevor to provide a parent talk (May?). April 10 – Building Resiliency in Children parent talk with Jessica Lefevre re: resiliency; kids dealing with school stress.
- h) Teacher Appreciation Week – Narrow down dates to book and plan. Week of May 13-16. Teachers lunch on Thursday, May 15 to accommodate leftovers for next day. Other days will have themes i.e., cookies, flowers, fruit, salads, etc. Flesh out further next month.

- i) Reflex Math summer availability – Is the software available 12 months a year (access for kids)? Joe to follow-up on this. Limits on the program for grades 2-5. Kids have access to 30-day trial.
- j) Outdoor classroom – Mike working on this to provide an estimate; and additional signage.

Next LEPAC meeting: March 26 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.