

ALLENBY PARENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

March 25, 2014

MINUTES

Held: Allenby Jr. Public School Library

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm with the following agenda:

1. Welcome and Introductions-Paula
2. Adoption of the March 2015 Agenda and February Minutes- Paula Riczker
3. Superintendent Peter Chang - Q&A
4. Principal's Report- Cate Spidle
5. Treasurer's Report- Scott Larin
6. Technology Update and Motion for Interactive Whiteboards
7. Schoolyard Enhancement Project Update- Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips
8. Committee Updates
9. Open Questions

1. Welcome & Introductions

Paula Riczker welcomes everyone. Everyone in attendance introduces themselves. A quorum was reached (n = 23) Paula welcomed superintendent Peter Chang.

2. Adoption of the March 2015 - Chair Paula Riczker

Paula Riczker moved that the amended March 2015 Agenda, which was different from what was posted on the APA website, be accepted.

Gillian Uy seconded the motion

Motion Carried (unanimously passed)

3. Adoption of the February 2015 Minutes – Chair Paula Riczker

Paula Riczker moved to adopt the February 2014 APA meeting minutes, as posted on the APA website, be accepted.

Rochelle Fox seconded.

MOTION CARRIED (unanimously passed)

4. Principal's Report- Cate Spidle

- The junior grades (grades 4-6) French Immersion students prepared speeches for the 2015 Concours oratoire du TDSB and presented them in class. Students were selected to represent Allenby on Monday March 2nd in the library. Brian Aber placed 2nd at the TDSB event with his speech on his experience at "Le camp Kennebec".
- The much anticipated annual Grades 5 & 6 Allenby Ski Trip was enjoyed by the students on Tuesday, March 3rd. Parents may not have shared the same enthusiasm at the end of the day with the heavy snow fall and late arrival of the buses.

- Several primary classes ventured out to Young People's Theatre to see a modern adaptation of Pinocchio on March 3rd. Some staff were not as pleased as the students with the non-traditional approach.
- Thank you to Paul Sabol for taking on the Grad Photographs this year for the school. He was very fast and efficient working with the students and staff.
- The Free The Children Club along with Mrs. Segal, Ms. Levitt and Madame Linka organized our March Dance-a-thon with proceeds going to Toronto Foundation For Student Success.
- The Allenby Swim Team competed today in the first of 3 meets. Our students did well however results are cumulative so our standing will not be announced until later in the season. Thanks to Mr. Ferreira and Mrs. Uddenberg who were here at 6 AM this morning to be organized and ready for the bus departure at 7:20 AM.
- This week will end with Pizza Day, "Bad Hair Day" Spirit Day and the TDSB Earth Hour. A busy week as the month comes to an end.
- See and Hear will be back on March 31 to assess students who were absent for the February dates.

5. Superintendent Peter Chang –

Paula thanked Peter Chang for coming to our meeting. He opened the floor for parents to informally ask questions.

6. Treasurer's Report- Scott Larin- see APA website for report (www.allenbyparents.com)

Scott Larin presented the actuals for February 2015 and the budget for the 2014-15 as posted on the APA website. The actuals to end of Feb 2015: revenues \$162,000; expenses \$45,000; net income \$117,000; closing surplus \$195,000; most earmarked for schoolyard funding. Forecast: \$33K surplus

Shannon Phillips 2nd the motion.

MOTION CARRIED (Unanimously passed)

7. Technology Update and Motion for Interactive Whiteboards- Lisa Parker

- Over the last 6 years, the APA and Allenby PS have been working together to outfit each classroom with Interactive White Board technology
- 24 classes (including the library) have an Interactive Whiteboard and 6 classes remain to be outfitted: 002, 003, 006, 007, 103 and 104
- Historical implementation has been SMART technology focus
- TDSB will no longer support the purchase of new SMART products
- Promethean Board vs. Hitachi Projector
- Promethean Board is too large (88") and relatively expensive (\$2,600)
- Hitachi is relatively inexpensive (\$1,300) and "interactive" technology is in the projector itself (any flat surface can be used)
- Motion to be tabled that the APA will spend up to \$9500 on 5 Hitachi projectors and 5 laptops:

$$((5 \times \$1305) + (5 \times \$373)) \times 1.13 = \$9,481$$

- The school will purchase one projector/laptop set and as many whiteboards as necessary. All installation costs will be covered by the school.
- Question: What if a SMART board breaks? The APA has a maintenance budget and has helped out in the past.

8. Committee Updates

Community Awareness Update (Krista Chaytor):

- No update

Communications Update (Theresa Ebden):

- No update
- After-4 programs started this week

School Programs Update (Luisa Peel and Dawn Morris):

- Considering a baseball tournament for a one day event; perhaps an after school event; discussed multiple options but no decisions were made

Director of Health & Safety (Robin Halpern and Christina Lord):

- Robin was approached earlier this year to enquire about the feasibility of a crossing guard for the south side of Castlefield to the north side (west side of Avenue Road); study was conducted and we will not be awarded one; they have strict criteria such as an accidents involving a children, also did their survey at lunch and there was not as much traffic as during the AM and after school.

Fundraising (Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips):

- Fun Fair is coming up; Sat June 6th 12 to 4 pm co-chairs: Shannon Phillips, Gillian Uy and Paula Riczker

9. Open Questions

- Question to Cate Spidle? How to fix the benches so that they are safe since there was an injury when one collapsed. Answer: Brien Smith facility team leader coming tomorrow to find a safe solution such as fixing these benches or determining if they need to buy new benches

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Next APA Meeting: To be determined in Tuesday April 28, 2015; will be at 6:45 pm in Allenby Jr. P.S. Library