

Allenby Parents Association Meeting

June 17, 2015

Held: Allenby Jr. Public School Library

1. Welcome and Introductions-Paula
2. Adoption of the June 2015 Agenda - Paula Riczker
3. Adoption of the May Minutes- Paula Riczker
4. Principal's Report- Cate Spidle

- a. Teaching assignments 2015-2016

5. Treasurer's Report- Scott Larin

- a. Presentation of APA 2015/16 Budget and Motion

6. Schoolyard Enhancement Project Update- Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips
7. Committee Updates
8. Open Questions

1. Welcome and Introductions: Paula Riczker welcomes everyone. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves. A quorum was reached (n = 32)

2. Adoption of the June 2015 Agenda: Paula Riczker moved to adopt the June 2015 APA agenda.

Lisa Spiegel seconded the motion
Motion Carried (unanimously passed)

3. Adoption of the May 2015 Minutes: - Chair Paula Riczker

Paula Riczker moved to adopt the May 2015 APA meeting minutes, as posted on the APA website, be accepted. Paula will add the financial report to the May 2015 meeting minutes in the future and then amend these minutes.

Gillian Uy seconded the motion
Motion Carried (unanimously passed)

4. Principal's Report:

1. Allenby was well represented at the Area and City Track and Field finals.
2. Scientists in the School continued throughout June with parents indicating that they were learning as much as their kids. Many classes walked to the Art Barn this month to release their creative energy. The Kortright Centre and other trips were enjoyed by classes this month.
3. The Artificial Turf project is really going to happen. The first pre-construction meeting confirmed that the fencing will be erected the week of June 22nd. The intention is to have the construction phase completed by August 31st in order to have a week to get final loose ends addressed before the first day of school in September.

4. The second annual Project Giveback Fair was a huge success for our grade 4 students. Our very own Ellen Schwartz, founder of Project Giveback, spoke to the students, their parents and our grade 3 students. She also introduced our guest speaker, Luke Anderson (Ms. Anderson's brother), who talked to the kids about the charity that he started (Stop Gap) to provide ramps for storefronts to improve accessibility for people in wheelchairs and also for parents with strollers. Thank you to Ellen for donating the cost for 2 classes to participate in Project Giveback each year, and to the APA for funding the cost for an additional 2 classes each year.
5. Firefighter Drew will be visiting some of our grade 3 classes this month to review Fire Safety.
6. Our Kindergarten Open House is scheduled for this Friday afternoon. Our current numbers for FDK next year is 140 students in the English track and 60 students in the French Immersion track.
7. The much anticipated Staff Appreciation Lunch is graciously being provided by the APA tomorrow. Thank you in advance for your generosity and time.
8. Primary play days are helping to keep our younger students excited about the last weeks of school. However, it can make it more challenging for the other students to keep focused when they hear so much laughter in the playground during class time.
9. The Grade 6 Graduation ceremony is next Wednesday. We are hoping for a nice cool day such as today to help us maintain our composure, on many levels. The last day assembly will be early in the morning and the traditional Teacher – Grade 6 baseball game will be at Eglinton Park at 1:15 PM, weather permitting.

5. Treasurer's Report:

- see APA website for report (www.allenbyparents.com)

- Scott Larin presented the actuals for May 2015 and the budget for the 2014-15 as posted on the APA website

- The actuals to end of May 2015: revenues \$174,382, expenses \$59,807; net income \$114,575; closing surplus \$191,948; APA surplus (minus schoolyard Fund) is \$67,758. Changes in the forecasted budget, we will be writing a cheque for \$98,000 to the TDSB for phase 1 of the schoolyard. We will leave a surplus in the account. This changes the forecast surplus for 2014-215 including remaining schoolyards funds \$86,693 and without the schoolyard funds \$59,726.

Scott moved to adopt the financials at the end of May 2015 as presented:

Lisa Parker seconded the motion

Motion carried (unanimously passed)

Allenby Parents Association Budget for 2015-2016:

Revenue: \$72,000; Expenses \$85000; closing surplus \$46,000 APA only (excluded schoolyard Fund)

- Predicted Revenue for 2015-2016: Parent contribution \$16,000; 5-year average \$20,000; Soiree \$18,000, 5-year \$24,000; Fun Fair \$18,000 5-year average \$25,000; Pizza lunch \$8000; After-4 \$5000;

Expenses: Enrichment grants, Scientists in the School and Artists in the Classroom; enrichment grants \$400/year for each class for non-consumables to supplement what the board provides.

Proposed a change in funding for the Artists in the Classroom; now to fund per student basis so everyone gets \$300 and then if you have additional over the average (25) and you \$12/kid extra.

Project Give back- \$5,000; Literacy Materials \$2,000; Accelerator reader \$2,000; Lunchroom Supervisor and Milk Sales \$4,000; Computer Resources \$12,000;

People asked about why the Accelerator reader was going to be cancelled. Mr. Osborne to discuss with teachers why he does not want to renew this. Concern by parents that this is being done unilaterally without discussing with parents who have funded this initiative.

Technology budget \$12,000 Chromebooks for the school; need to replace older computers; Chrome books to be trialed by teachers over the summer to see if they are worth purchasing. \$400 per so budgeted to purchase 30 units.

Technology maintenance to increase to \$2000 because our inventory of technology is increasing.

Allenby sports increased to \$1000;

Health and Safety: New item Health and Wellness \$500 – Mme. Rosta / Veronica Takes are involved, negotiable to change and increase once we know what the \$ will be used for; help them with supplies;

Lice check \$4,100;

Questions:

- baseball organized so no loss/gain; \$3,000 is for getting t-shirts and costs for permitting and insurance to play on the field; the equipment is deteriorated significantly and Mr. G thinks it needs to be replaced; Rochelle Fox has done some costing and thinks may be around \$850 and not more than \$1,000 on top of the \$3,000 already in the budget. Scott stated he would add an additional \$1000 to the baseball expenses

- Paula Riczker talked about increasing money toward School wide performances; Add \$1000 Artists, School-wide performance to increase to \$3,000; then this could cover additional programs such as Drum Fit

- The hockey team had to pay \$ 50 per family to cover ice costs and officials, this has increased from previous years; this seems like a large expense for a sport team; Costs of referees perhaps could be covered for hockey like other sports; how do we add this? Scott Larin will discuss with hockey coach about what the costs are;

- should referees be supported by APA or taken out of the budget altogether; to put on the agenda to discuss whether we should be including referees in our expenses and if so then should it not be equitable across the sports

- Health and wellness new line item: how can it be more equitably accessible; how can we increase capacity; better communication on how students can be invited; Veronica wants to make it accessible and that all children are welcome; perhaps do alternating weeks girls and boys; this year recommended not to have sign up but do it by the alphabet; did take attendance to track who was there and who was using it more often; perhaps easiest way is to do the sign up; can only accommodate the space in the music room and 12 is the max; ran every Friday since January and has over 100 kids participate; very successful program; will leave the budget \$ for now until we know what the expenses are for this program; could Mme. Rosta bring in other Health and Wellness initiatives; do we pay for the instructor and no longer be a volunteer position or should we put it as an After 4 program; agreement to put health and wellness on next agenda

- Scot Larin moved to table the 2015-2016 Budget until sept 2015 meeting with two changes: 1. \$1000 for new baseball equipment; \$ additional 1000 to the School wide performances; will post with the amended changes

Discuss:

1. Paying for referees
2. Health and wellness
3. Accelerated reader
4. Provide \$1,000 funding for the sound system technicians for the 4 performances

6. Schoolyard Enhancement Update: (Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips)

- Fences going up on Monday; we are getting everything for phase 1; will hopefully be completed by September 2015; there will be significant traffic during the summer

7. Committee Updates:

a. Community Awareness Update (Krista Chaytor):

- no update

b. Communication Update (Theresa Ebden):

- looking for a new newsletter editor;

- Thursday is end of day Freezies; need parent volunteers

c. School Programs Update (Lisa Peel and Dawn Morris):

- hot lunch and heard from Lunch Mom and will be opening a new facility in Leaside and start up on her own; the current catering company has let us know what transition they are going through; waiting for information from both to determine the lunch program next year

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

- no update

e. Fundraising (Gillian Uy and Shannon Phillips):

- no update

8. Open Questions:

Meeting adjourned at 9:05

Next APA meeting September 2015, date to be determined; will be at 7 pm in Allenby Jr. PS Library