

# GRACEFIELD SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting

September 27, 2011

PRESENT: Sonya Bolek, Debi Conrad, Lisa Doyle (Principal), Sue Dryczewycz, Joanne Hill, Eleanor Huebert, Phil Kelcey (Teacher), Laurie Lancaster, Christina Pagano (Teacher), Stephanie Plue, Allyson Richardson, Gina Rohrmoser, Hollie White, Joan Whitman

### REVIEW OF MINUTES:

- Approved minutes from June 2011 meeting

### VOTING OF NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:

- J. Hill was nominated for and agreed to continue as treasurer
- S. Dryczewycz agreed to continue as secretary
- H. White was nominated for and agreed to act as co-chair
- L. Lancaster agreed to act as co-chair

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Library
  - Changed paint colour from blue since received suggestion that colour would be too dark
  - Agreed neutral colour would be preferable
  - Unable to have all tile since floor was not level and could crack
  - Students' names cannot be on donor wall, must be in name of sponsor
  - Question raised about recognizing people who have donated their time
  - Could install a plaque
  - Argument also made that every parent has donated in some capacity
  - Different opinions about whether should have a donor wall
  - Do not want to offend anyone
  - 9 families have made a financial donation
  - Suggestion made of a plaque thanking parents of 2011 as an alternative
  - Question rose about bulletin on library mentioning a T.V.
  - Idea was T.V. would act as a monitor but some not familiar with technology
  - Smart Board to be installed in library instead of T.V
  - L. Doyle purchased black chairs for computer lab
  - Agree with intermediate seating, suggestion made of giant ottoman with no back
  - ACTION → L. Doyle to purchase 4 IPADs, 6 – 10 net books, offer wireless internet
  - ACTION → To continue to spend funds raised for library renovation
- Spirit Wear
  - May be time to place another order
  - Ordered twice last year
  - Have call into Regatta Sports since July for sizes and samples
  - May consider contacting another company for a price
  - Suggestion made to have small oval on back of shirt for student's name
  - Cannot wear spirit wear for teams since need number on back of shirt
  - We have enough uniforms
  - A lot of students did not wear spirit wear for cross country
  - May have outgrown or not had a chance to buy

- Should improve with another order
- Last year decided students would buy own shorts to wear with uniform
- If everyone has same shorts will look more like a team
- Older students need separate clothes to change into due to perspiration
- ACTION → L. Lancaster to organize new order with L. Doyle
- Hot Lunch and Pizza Lunch
  - Thanks given to new parents organizing pizza lunch for 2011-12 school year
  - New Ministry of education guidelines for food that school must follow this year
  - No meats with higher amounts of fat and sodium, popsicles, candy, chocolate bars etc.
  - Can give away but cannot sell
  - Can have 10 meals during the year that do not meet the regulations
  - A few changes this year to pizza lunch
  - A lot of the school has decided to prepay
  - Will still offer each month to ensure students can order if did not prepay
  - Need to determine whether to offer a hot lunch every Friday
  - Hot lunches are a benefit to working parents
  - Can prepare a survey on Survey Monkey
  - Offer weekly or every other week
  - Ask parent to rank which meals they enjoyed the most
  - Include an area for suggestions on survey
  - Boston Pizza had small portions, Antipastos portions were large
  - Should consider sizes on survey
  - Lunch Connection is opening a kitchen in Niagara Falls and may be able to service Gracefield in November
  - Do not make as much money, receive a royalty
  - Parents order online, everything is handled by the company
  - Lunch Connection offers a big variety
  - Like to support local businesses
  - Nonna's Kitchen provides subs, homemade meatballs, and soup but sizes seem smaller than Antipastos
  - Could charge \$4.50 to \$5.00 for Nonna's
  - Grade 7/8 class can assist L. Lancaster with hot dogs
  - Could microwave hot dogs or bring in George Foreman grill to offer hot dogs in winter
  - ACTION → To survey parents and kids to confirm which other hot lunches are preferred
- Sexual Assault Centre Presentations
  - Hard to get presentation
  - Gracefield has been on the waiting list for two years
  - Want to present to GSAC first
  - Will present at November meeting
  - The Grade 7/8 focus is different than the presentation for Grade 1 – 6
  - More of a safety presentation for younger students
  - Presentation for Grade 7/8 oriented toward topics that are sometimes uncomfortable for teenagers
  - Consensus obtained to receive presentation
- Kindergarten Request For Funds
  - Class trip to Puddicombe Farms
  - 80.94 from GSAC to reduce cost to \$10 per student
  - Consensus given for GSAC to finance \$80.94 of trip

- School Update
  - A lot of pictures of previous classes which were faded
  - Pictures have been saved and stored
  - Someone could preserve them
  - Had walls painted and bulletin boards installed
  - Added shelving to photocopy room to allow for more supplies
  - School to get new wiring and lighting this year
- Yard and Pea Gravel
  - Some of the yard was cleaned up
  - Yards crew came and took down bush with poison ivy, dumpster full of trees
  - Need parents help with side garden, very overgrown
  - Other schools have talked to Home Depot or similar company to help subsidize
  - Parent council could pay for landscaping company or have parent volunteers to weed and trim
  - Grade 7/8 has environmental leadership team who would like to assist
  - Pea gravel has been rototilled
  - Requesting parental assistance to shovel pea gravel back in place
  - Side closest to school noticed to be unlevel but was inspected and is not a safety concern
  - ACTION → S. Bolek, G. Rohrmoser, D. Conrad and L. Lancaster volunteered to weed side garden
- Annie
  - \$20 plus bus costs to send students to see production
  - At Scotiabank Centre in Niagara Falls
  - Could select date early in December which may increase their excitement for their own Christmas concert
  - Choir could work on a song to perform
  - Has also been productions at Gypsy Theatre with local schools performing
- New Ministry of Education Guidelines for Fundraising
  - Not a policy yet but is a discussion item
  - Met with Head of Financial Services from Board
  - Will come into effect next year
  - Money raised for library furniture does not violate since rules had not been created when the library fundraising was occurring
  - New guidelines indicate staff or volunteer cannot benefit personally, capital items cannot be purchased
  - Funds raised must have designated purpose and be spent as intended
  - Would be above and beyond what we would normally buy
- Full Day Kindergarten
  - To occur in 2012
- Report Cards
  - Asked whether parents had any questions about new process that occurred last year
  - Parent asked whether could meet with teacher
  - Staff would like to meet with parents
  - Believe November 17 has been set as date for parent interviews

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Statement of Receipts and Disbursements and Statement of Assets to September 22, 2011 was distributed during the meeting

- \$17,536 in bank account
- Have received HST rebate \$782 since school now handling funds
- Chairs were paid from school's library budget since funds raised were in school budget to receive tax receipt
- Consensus given to spend approximately \$1,000 of playground funds on needs of intermediate class
- Suggestion made to prepare proposed budget for 2011-2012
- Need line painting for four square
- \$8,800 left in library fund but table invoice is outstanding
- Significant amount available to spend on library
- Another \$1,770 in school library fund
- Need a circulation desk
- ACTION → J. Hill to prepare budget for 2011-2012 based on what have spent in prior years
- ACTION → L. Doyle to determine whether school budget covers line painting

#### OTHER AND/OR NEW BUSINESS:

- Book Fair
  - Parent thought book fair had already been scheduled
  - Did two fairs last year
  - Second one did not make a lot of money
  - S. Bolek willing to organize one book fair
  - Magazine fundraiser booked by L. Doyle for the fall
- Halloween Party
  - Request made to send flyer home with students
  - Family Halloween party to be held at St. John's Church
  - To be held Friday October 28 from 6:30 to 8:00
  - Community event
  - ACTION → S. Bolek to email L. Doyle to include in newsletter
- Scorecard Harry's
  - First Tuesday of each month
  - ACTION → Teachers to have students write event in agenda to remind parents
- Bag 2 School Fundraiser
  - Parents drop off bags which are weighed
  - Suggestion made to send bags home before Thanksgiving long weekend
  - Bags may already have a date on them
  - ACTION → S. Bolek to organize
- Lost and Found
  - Have accumulated a significant amount already
  - To be held until parent/teacher interviews for parents to look at
  - Unclaimed may be donated at Christmas
- Dream Box
  - Question raised whether would have for 2012
  - Some parents did not use
  - Other students loved it
  - Parents could buy but more expensive if not through school
  - Could bring to teacher's attention
  - ACTION → C. Pagano to discuss with L. Mayer

- Halloween Walk
  - Starts at 1:00
  - Would like to walk down Main Street
- Constitution and Code of Conduct
  - Needs to be revised
  - ACTION →To work on during 2011-12

NEXT MEETING:

- Next meeting will be held on October 25, 2011 at 6:30

Recorder: Sue Dryczewycz

Principal: Lisa Doyle