

# GRACEFIELD SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting

January 24, 2012

PRESENT: Lisa Doyle (Principal), Sue Dryczewycz, Joanne Hill, Laurie Lancaster, Stephanie Plue, Lisa Stieva (Teacher), Hollie White

### REVIEW OF MINUTES:

- Minutes were passed by executive
- No issues noted

### CHAIR'S REPORT:

- Dream Box
  - Some of the money has been collected
  - 30 out of 90 have not yet paid
  - Teachers will use at school
  - Great tool for students
- Library Update
  - Ordered a book return bin and magazine rack to house 10 Magazines
  - Would like to purchase more 10 Magazines
  - Magazines are very engaging
  - ACTION →Need to return shelving at Ikea
- Spirit Wear
  - A few items were returned
  - Company to redo, should receive back shortly
  - Question raised whether GSAC would be interested in some spirit wear
  - Could wear vest all year round
  - Staff clothing looked nice
  - Could probably order as needed
  - \$500 in school budget for parent council which could partly subsidize clothing purchase
  - ACTION →To locate order sheet for parents to review
- Christmas Concert
  - Was fantastic, very positive comments from parents during concert
  - Thank-you to all the parents who helped out
  - Christmas concert was over budget
  - Approved an additional \$140 to cover extra Christmas concert costs
  - ACTION →To confirm that G. Bolek filmed concert and determine whether DVD's are available
- Fun Fair
  - Need to decide whether to hold fun fair
  - Have credit with Niagara Inflatables
  - Fun fair is our biggest fundraiser if includes penny raffle and silent auction
  - Ticket sales were down last year due to rain
  - Prior year Grade 8 students have offered to come help out
  - Suggestion was made to have a rain date but would not work for bouncers
  - Play day during school hours with parent supervision was suggested

- Could request a specified number of parent volunteers per classroom in order to hold fun fair
- Need to ensure have something of interest for the Grade 7/8 students
- Grade 8 students could run games, adults to supervise bouncers for safety
- Friday may result in a larger turnout
- Suggested 3:30 to 6:30
- Could sell tickets ahead of time
- ACTION → L. Doyle to check June calendar for dates for camp and EQAO. To vote on whether to hold fun fair in February. Sticker to be put in agendas determining whether parents willing to volunteer

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Balanced School Day
  - Two options for organization of school day were circulated for discussion
  - Option 1 -two 40 minute breaks and dismissal at 3:10
  - Option 2 -40 and 50 minute break with same dismissal at 3:20
  - Option 1 is a truly balanced day
  - Option 2 may be preferable if students go home for entire lunch period to take advantage of 50 minute break
  - Not a large number of students stay home for entire lunch break
  - Could be difficult for some parents to pick up children 10 minutes early
  - 50 minutes outside during cold weather may be long for the students
  - Also, 50 minute break allows a longer time for team practices
  - ACTION → To send home survey in a couple of weeks. To check with other schools to see which option is best for youngest students. S. Plue to check with Westdale.
- Technology Update
  - Still waiting on the Smart Board
- Freezer in staff room
  - Approved giving away or selling freezer
- Washing Machine
  - Purchased washing machine for the school for school uniforms and janitor rags
  - Kenmore Top load from Sears for \$350
  - Uniforms air dry fairly quickly
  - Could be used to wash lost and found items before donated
  - Would be nice to have a dryer for students wet clothing
  - Dryer must be vented outside
  - Approved covering ½ of washer invoice since used for school uniforms
- Community Care
  - Letter from Community Care thanking us for donating over 500 lbs of food and tons of toys

## INFORMATION ITEMS

- French Immersion
  - Grade 1 students attend Sheridan Park
  - Grade 4, 5, and 7 students go to Dalewood
  - If you do not apply, you will not have another opportunity for French Immersion
- Other
  - Grade 7/8 to be involved with program at Shaw

- Grade 4's are swimming
- Mad Science program is occurring on Mondays at lunch
- Great Program for Grade 4 and Grade 7 about making good choices when under peer pressure
- Report cards to be sent home February 9
- School Uniforms/Shorts
  - Very expensive, \$2000 for shorts for school teams
  - Spent \$4000 in prior year on uniforms
  - Parents prefer not to pay \$25 for shorts
  - Could offer shirt and short as a set or offer at cost from spirit wear order
  - Suggestion made that gym clothes could be plain grey t-shirt and black shorts to allow parents to purchase clothing from other places at reduced prices
  - Need consistency among coaches for all school teams to ensure single outfit will be appropriate for all sports
  - ACTION → To remind parents to purchase shorts in May/June and again in Fall when spirit wear order is sent home

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Statement of Receipts and Disbursements and Statement of Assets to January 19, 2012 was distributed during the meeting
- Question raised whether money will be allocated to teachers
- GSAC has paid for some bussing and other individual teacher requests
- Playground equipment of \$256 was purchase of mini hockey nets for classrooms

#### NEXT MEETING:

- Next meeting will be held on February 28, 2012 at 6:30

Recorder: Sue Dryczewycz

Principal: Lisa Doyle