

## Sturgeon Heights School Council Minutes

Meeting April 18, 2011

- 1) **Call to order:** 7:35pm
- 2) **No agenda to approve**
- 3) **Approval of March 21, 2011 minutes:** Heather Soetaert approved, Karrie Thompson 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 4) **Administration Report – Garnet Goertzen**
  - **Approved fees from 2010-11 handed out and reviewed.**
    - Looking to do the same fees for next year with a few changes.
    - Complimentary Course fees: Dawn Fahl is looking to have a horsemanship option from Horse Sense Stable with 100% of money coming from participants in grades 7-9. The program would include 20 students at roughly \$300.00 each.
    - Perspective on team sports: currently charging team members \$25.00 for basketball and volleyball and \$10.00 for badminton. We are proposing to double these fees for the upcoming year. The reason is that it costs much more to operate these extra curricular teams. Subsidizing teams which includes bussing, tournament fees, substitute teachers to cover coaches -cost up to \$4000.00 more than we collect in team member fees. The shortfall comes from school fundraising budget line which needs to also cover many other student activities. Badminton is not quite as expensive.
    - Swimming program: based on parent feedback, we would like to keep this program. Fees were raised this year to \$32.50 from \$25.00. The school will try to hold this fee for next year (maybe \$35.00).
    - Feedback on no agenda books for junior high: discussion was had and parents felt it was best to keep it that way. Students mostly use the website, Ipods, day timers etc.
    - Friday envelopes: parents feel these are still important and worth the \$1.00 charge.
    - Student events fee: used for stickers, pencils, treat bags etc.
    - Bussing: the school usually subsidizes bussing, but funds are now depleted for this year. (Rooney and Punyi presentation took up a large amount).
    - Karrie Thompson made a motion to accept the proposed fees structure for next year. All in favour; none opposed.
  - **House Open Barbecue**
    - Tremendous parent support and teacher organizing. Over 400 people were fed!
    - Thank you to the PFA for the projector ... It was great to have the unveiling that night.
    - Advertising was paid for by the regular board fund as well as word of mouth and the school newsletter.
    - It was nice to see more parents come out this year.
    - Some thought needs to go into whether we have the barbecue again next year or maybe only every two years.
  - **Institute for Sexual Minority Studies**

- It is difficult to confirm a date for a parent meeting in May. The suggestion is to wait until fall once new grade 7 students arrive and get more response from junior high parents at that time.

- **30 hour Famine Proposal – Ms. Reinhardt and Brandon Miller**

- May 27-28 in the school gym. Students will fast for 30 hours while consuming fluids and minimal rice. The purpose is to raise awareness for poor countries and have students appreciate their fortunate lifestyle. Money goes toward World Vision, food and nutrition, child protection, education and water. Numerous activities relating to the countries chosen will take place during the famine. Students will research these countries extensively prior to the event.

- Grades 7 and above can participate as there are health concerns for younger children.

- Students can fundraise individually or as a team.

- It is estimated 60-70 students will participate, and at least 7-10 parents will be required to supervise as students will be spending the night in the gym.

- Parents in attendance were supportive of the idea as long as there was adequate supervision. Ms. Reinhardt will proceed with the plan and see how many students are interested.

**5) Trustee Report – Wendy Miller**

- **Early dismissal day**

- After discussion at the Committee of the Whole and discussion with principals, Senior Administration is going to recommend to the Board that each school makes its own decision in consultation with The Deputy Superintendent. A decision will be made at the April 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

- **Conference**

- Attending the Reggio Emilia Approach to Early Education in Calgary this month with Tracy Nowak, principals and divisional staff. It is the approach used in the Kindergarten Gifted and Talented program.

- **Secular Education Request**

- The division is continuing to investigate a request from a community group in Morinville to provide a secular public school education. The Board will be meeting with the Minister of Education, David Hancock this week to discuss the matter.

**6) Chairperson Report – Tracey Buryska**

- Tracey did not attend the council conference last weekend.

- Karrie and Tracey will attend the council meeting at Namao School on Tuesday April 19.

**7) Teacher Report – Cindy Hamilton**

- Everything is going well.... busy, but good. Career day tomorrow grades 6-9.

**8) PFA Report**

- Spring basket fundraiser-coupon order deadline set for May 2 and sent home on May 6 in time for Mother's Day.

- Track meet signup sheet for volunteers to be sent home.

- Request for funds for leadership to be brought up next year.

**9) Grade Representative Reports - Absent**

**10) Meeting adjourned at 8:34 Date for next meeting June 1, 2011 at 7:00pm.**

