

Minutes
NORTHLEA HOME & SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday April 23, 2012, 6:45 pm, Library

Present: Kathy Ribeiro, Arpi Kurkjian, Guy Larivière, Andrew Alberti, Nancy Baillie, Sue Brookes, Sarah Brooks, Julie Brown, Paul Burns, Frank Chang, Rachel Chernos-Lin, Diane Clute, Nicole Cooper, Lynda DeBono, Gina Fortsas, Jacqueline Frazer, Susan Gibbs, Melyssa Hollister, Lisa Howarth, Karen James, Kara Pearson-Kane, Reema Khawja, Wilmar Kortleeve, Sharon Kreiger, Kristi Lepore, Christy Lockington, Claudine Lukawesky, Jen Menavi, Sylvia Morais-Jones, Dan Murphy, Lisa Peirce, Stephen Peirce, Erica Robertson, Sherri Stevenson, Susan Thurow, Bernadette Vanneste, Joe Wong, Julie Zgjana, **Regrets:** Sarah Dawson and Erica Lewis

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION: WILMAR KORTLEEVE

- Special welcome to Principal Riberio and staff member M. Larivière
- Thanks to Claude Lukawesky for stepping in as Recording Secretary.
- Correspondence file was passed around. Includes info on upcoming events and a message from Ontario Federation of H&S Associations saying that next year, Northlea will be celebrating 65 years of H&S. (Plaque in the office says the 65th anniversary was, in fact, this year)

2. **MOTION** Sue Brookes, Lynda DeBono
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL AGENDA CARRIED

3. **MOTION** Sue Brookes, Lisa Pierce
APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES, MAR. 22, 2012 CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REPORT: WILMAR K.

- **Ontario Federation of Home & Schools:** Wilmar reported that Northlea sent regrets for the Annual Conference, but was mentioned as very successful with our membership increase (over 20%).
- **TDSB Budgets:** There were cutbacks of up to \$50M. The TDSB has a deficit of \$110M with further severe cutbacks planned. If you want to share concerns contact Wilmar, Sarah Dawson or Geri Gershon, our Trustee
- **Safety Committee:** Info will be available in the Northlea News
- **Memorial for Aeysha:** Students collected a 'toonie' during Spirit Week and anyone can donate through the office. Different initiatives are appreciated and monies raised will go to purchase a bench for an area near the N-W Playground.

> Lynda Debono asked what type of bench was going to be purchased. Kathy said it would be metal with red, Aeysha's favourite colour.

The cost for this bench will be upwards of \$1000.00 plus taxes and installation. The SLC is collecting funds and, hopefully, there will be enough to purchase the bench. In addition, a memory box has been created and Aeysha will be memorialized in the Yearbook.

5. ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE: KATHY RIBEIRO

Full-Day Kindergarten 2014: Not a lot of specific info regarding this. We are overcrowded which is problematic and it is uncertain if any funding will be available to assist with the situation. If so, one option is taking Jurassic Park and making it into two classrooms. The area does not get utilized, but conversion

is expensive (large ticket item). Portables are costly too: approx. \$40 000.00. We are not supposed to have a third SK FI class again but even so, we are looking at 6 kindergarten rooms once full-day kindergarten rolls out. We need to find 3 more classrooms than we currently have.

Different options are being looked at including: changing up the computer lab/library; going back to 2 music rooms which was always the tradition (not 3 classes which are not constantly used). We will try to avoid teaching in the Library 'Pit'. We will not be getting any part of NCCC. Rather, NCCC will likely change their model: provide lunchtime programs and more students before and after school. Another option is Central Program Changes: The IEP program was moved a couple of years ago and Kathy does not foresee us losing any Central Programs. She does, however, expect location changes for those programs so some teachers will move classrooms. Principal Riberio is open to suggestions for how to accommodate FDK and once she knows the budget, we can start putting options together.

> Question (Lisa Howarth): What is mandated for the FDK in terms of lunches? Principal Ribeiro reported that we need to provide a space and supervision for them and we would have to see what the best fit is. One possibility is putting tables and chairs in the hallway if NCCC is receptive to helping supervise.

> Question (Rachel Chernos-Lin): Is there a hard cap for FDK? Principal Ribeiro says there is no hard cap. FDK gets a full-time teacher and an ECE and therefore the class sizes will increase.

> Question (Julie Brown): Could we have above 30 kids in FDK class? Kathy says that we could. Wilmar noted that if we have an increase in class sizes, we would need fewer classrooms.

> Question (Julie B.): What is the timeline for making these decisions and looking at the scenarios? Kathy says that she is happy to create a parent committee to review options.

> Question (Stephen Peirce): Is FDK mandatory (for parents to enrol)? Kathy says that parents will have a choice to have their children go full-day or half-day. Wilmar said that without very much data in similar schools, some that currently have FDK get more kindergarten kids coming from "private" to public earlier.

> Dan Murphy (Board Chair, NCCC): If lunch is to be provided, NCCC faces a challenging staffing issue. But few scenarios are in place for childcares either because most schools that currently have FDK, don't have a childcare like the NCCC.

6. SCHOOL ORGANIZATION MODEL 2012/13 – KATHY RIBEIRO

Principal Riberio told the group that based on the number of children here in September, the TDSB provides projections. A school staffing committee goes through the numbers, creates different models and chooses what they think will work best for the students. These models are then presented to the entire staff. Kathy also consults with a smaller parent committee, followed by parent consultation during this H&S/Council meeting in which parents can look at the models and provide input. Administration, charged with final responsibility, is always trying to get the best fit for the children

English Primary – JK to Grade 3

Models: JK/SK = 2 teachers JK= 57 SK = 24
Exemptions = 1*

Model 1 (staff preferred)

JK = 20
JK= 20
JK/SK=8+12=20
JK/SK=9+12=21*

Model 2

JK/SK= 14+6=20
JK/SK=15+6=21*
JK/SK=14+6=20
JK/SK=14+6=20

English Grades 1-3
4 teachers, 2 exemptions:
G1=26
G2=32
G3=28

Model 1

1/2=13+7=20
1/2=13+10=23*
2/3=6+14=20
2/3=9+14=23*

Model 2 (staff preferred)

Gr. 1 =20
1/2=6+17=23*
2/3=15+8=23*
Gr. 3=20

English Junior: Grades 4-6

6 teachers (132 students)
Grade 4=48
Grade 5=45
Grade 6=39

Model 1

Gr. 4=24
Gr. 4=24
Gr. 5=23
5/6=11+8=19
5/6=11+8=19
Gr. 6=23

Model 2 (staff preferred)

Gr. 4=24
Gr. 4=24
Gr. 5=23
Gr. 5=22
Gr. 6=20
Gr. 6=19

English Intermediate: Grades 7-8

3 teachers (97 students)
Gr. 7= 59
Gr. 8 =38

Model 1 (staff preferred)

7 = 34
7/8=25+8=33
8 =30

Model 2

7/8=20+12=32
7/8=20+13=33
7/8=19+13=32

French Primary: JK to Grade 3

FI SK =1 Teacher (2 classes)
Exemptions = 2

SK=23
SK=23

Grades 1-3 148 students, 7 teachers, 0 exemptions

Gr.1=61
Gr.2=45
Gr.3=42

Model 1 (preferred)

Gr. 1 =20
Gr.1=20
1/2=11+9=20

Model 2

Gr. 1=20
Gr. 1=20
1/2=11+9=20

1/2=10+10=20
Gr.2=20
2/3=6+14=20
Gr. 3=20

1/2=10+10=20
2/3=13+7=20
2/3=13+7=20
Gr. 3=20

3/4=8+15=23 (mandatory 3/4 split class – applicable to all models)

French Junior: Grades 4-6

135 students, 4 teachers
Gr. 4=45*
Gr. 5=47
Gr. 6=43

Model 1 (preferred)

Gr. 4=30
Gr.5=30
5/6=17+13=30
Gr. 6=30

Model 2

4/5=15+15=30
4/5=15+15=30
5/6=17+13=30
Gr.6=30

***Note 3/4=8+15=23

French Intermediate: Grades 7-8

76 students, 3 teachers
Gr.7= 45
Gr.8= 31

Model 1

Gr. 7=26
7/8=19+6=25
Gr.8=25

Model 2 (preferred)

Gr.7=22
Gr.7=23
Gr.8=31

Model 3

7/8=15+10=25
7/8=15+10=25
7/8=15+11=26

- Northlea will still have 1.5 VPs and we will get .5 more clerical staff.
- Reading Recovery and Numeracy & Literacy Coaches: Their roles have been eliminated, the teachers themselves will return to their schools.
- All teachers will have their teaching assignments by the end of this week.
- Julie Brown noted that Principal Ribeiro went back to the TDSB after receiving Northlea's initial enrolment projections and asked to have them increased. She thanked Kathy for accomplishing this.

Wilmar asked parents if they wanted to vote on any of the models.

Stephen Peirce moved to vote on French Junior, Seconded by Jacqueline Frazer:
Majority voted for Model 1.

Jacqueline Frazer moved to vote on French Primary model; seconded by Kristie Lepore:
Majority voted for Model 1.

Julie Brown moved to amend Model 2, English Primary to ensure a larger group of grade 3s in 2/3 split;
seconded by Sue Brookes
Majority voted for Model 2A

7. NEW BUSINESS: WILMAR K.

- Wilmar recommended the “At Home Alone Workshop” being put on by NCCC. If anyone is interested, they must pre-register and let Wilmar or Principal Ribeiro know asap.
- A question was raised about weekend permits on the back field as there have been some issues where groups may not have permits but prevented the kids from playing. Principal Ribeiro said no new permits have been granted over the past 6 years or so, with only existing permits ‘grandfathered’ in. Principal Ribeiro does not recommend engaging in discussions with adults as there have been some unpleasant issues. Instead, people with concerns should call security services or even Toronto Police if you see anything that doesn’t seem right (adults playing a sport on the field or teenagers doing anything they shouldn’t). Principal Ribeiro will double check but she believes that there are very few permit holders.

> Lisa Howarth asked whether we have a TDSB security guard assigned. Principal Ribeiro advised that we do have one who makes the rounds at Northlea and at other schools. (The company is named Oakburn). Their number should be posted and, if it isn’t, Principal Ribeiro or Wilmar will distribute it.

8. QUESTIONS: WILMAR K.

> What is the procedure for a safety issue on school grounds? (i.e. a facility issue that is unsafe.) Principal Ribeiro advised that the issue should be addressed with the administration so that it can be dealt with. One concern is the poles in the kindergarten area that are sticking out and have rusty parts on them.

9. **MOTION** Gina Fortsas, Sue Brookes
 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Minutes
NORTHLEA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING
Monday April 23, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 pm.

1. **MOTION** Julie Brown, Stephen Peirce
 APPROVAL OF H&S ASSOCIATION AGENDA CARRIED

2. **MOTION** Sue Brookes, Lisa Howarth
 APPROVAL OF H&S ASSOCIATION MINUTES, MARCH 22, 2012 CARRIED

3. STAFF PRESENTATION: ARPI KURKJIAN

- Ms. Kurkjian gave a presentation on what she bought with the H&S funds given to her: about \$1,000 worth of books. There will be a new section in the library for these picture and resource books which can be used by teachers, parents and kids. The collection includes books on death, anger management, bullying with such titles as “Have you Filled Your Bucket Today?”, “Troubled Talk” and “New Kid on the Block”.
- There is a mandate from the Board for Guidance Counsellors to focus on Grade 7/8s, but Ms. Kurkjian tries to cover other areas as much as she can.

> There were questions about how the teachers will find out about the books and whether parents can use these resources. Ms. Kurkjian said that she can provide a word document with a list of books to the H&S and it may be able to be put on the website. Parents can sign these books out as well.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT: SUE BROOKES

- Sue went over the budget with the group. Our closing reserves for the period were \$95,659 with holdbacks of approx \$22,000 leaving about \$75,000 in net revenue.
- She noted that there are still expenses coming in from the FFN including the Social Series.
- We will close the year with a very small reserve.

5. MOTION Lynda DeBono, Stephen Peirce
TO ACCEPT THE CURRENT STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES
CARRIED

6. NEXT MEETING:

The AGM is currently scheduled for June 7 but this date conflicts with the NCCC BBQ. Therefore, the AGM will likely be moved to June 14, 2012.

7. MOTION Sue Brookes, Lisa Howarth
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.