

**MINUTES**  
**NORTHLEA SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**LIBRARY – NORTHLEA SCHOOL – 6:3 PM**  
Wednesday October 19, 2016

**PRESENT:** David Ehrlich, Jane Wadden, Jen Adziovsky, Arti Panday, Amy White, Alexis De Castro, Rachel Chernos-Lin, Kara Pearson, Nicole Cooper, Wilmar Kortleever, Sharon Krieger, Stephen Peirce, Monika Scholte, Sandra King, Sarah Andersen, Natasha Kent, Melyssa Hollister, Jennifer Meyerhoffer, Kristen Ballard, Regina Espinosa, Jilda Lazer, Angie Novachis-Kalentzis, Sharon Krieger, Teresa Bayley, Suzanne Baran, Catharine Fox, Betheney Maheu, Heidi Bajcar.

**The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm.**

**1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS: Arti Panday**

**2. MOTION** Angie Novachis-Kalentzis seconded by Rachel Chernos-Lin  
Approval of School Council Agenda CARRIED

**3. MOTION** Rachel Chernos-Lin seconded by Kristen Ballard  
Approval of School Council Minutes June 23, 2016 CARRIED

**4. ADIMINSTOR'S UPDATE –**

- Busy fall with the reorganization and everything is running smoothly now.
- Sarah and Claire's food drive was a huge success.
- Cross country is going well.
- Reminder that Photo day is Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Extra curriculums have started.
- Large component of this term has been Mental health
- Camp Robyn Hood for the grade 7 occurred with a mixture of sports and mindfulness activities. Comments from the kids have been positive.
- Wellness day for grade 8s onsite and at Pure Fitness – messaging around goal setting, in charge of your own ship. Keynote address was balance their lives and not doing too much, healthy eating, Fiona Whitby engaged with kids, relating to activity. Pure Fitness with Anthony – spinning, yoga. Feedback has been really positive and will build on it for next year.
- Epilepsy Canada coming to work with the kids tomorrow.
- Large assembly tomorrow – combining themes of immigration, goals for the future, will include poem (road less travel) and class movies
- Working this year to build community with the school – 3 large assemblies linked to themes of collaboration and erasing prejudice, social justice (Terry Fox, food drive), in-equalities (black history month).
- Roof almost done
- EQAO results – above standard in all areas, good news is that we are at the top of the curve, comparable or better than other schools in the area, more break down at next meeting
- Incidences with youth over the weekend vandalizing the school. David has reached out to the board security to revisit items to make things safer. The administration is open to the discussion of school safety at night and on weekends more of a priority.
  
- Balance for students while at school
  - Wellness day was part of this
  - All grade 7 and 8 on Google calendar to maintain assignments

- Decision to limit student participation in sports to one sport per term
- Grade 8's in spring had discussions with teachers related to stress
- Sense that the females may be struggling with body image and anorexia, all have issues related to conflict resolution and managing interactions between kids.
- Sense that the kids are anxious and feeling stress, uncomfortableness, worry about the stress they may be feeling
- Discussion resulted about amount of activity and pressure put on the kids
- Strong comments that school sports are a good way to stay connected to the community
- Questions about "What do the kids think?" "Where do they feel the pressures are coming from?" "Where do the kids feel stressed (home/school/other)?"
- The admin team realizes that slow pitch may not have been the best team to cut this fall
- Discussion related to Win it points – and questions about re-evaluating the program or even or even eliminating the points
- Overall discussion related to the link of mental health with sport and the life lessons attributed to sport.
- David asked the questions: Is this going the right way? Are you concerned about the kids doing too much?
- Question if there is a standardized test to measure the stress in the kids? Could Northlea administer a test to see if the kids are stressed?
- Discussed starting wellness earlier with the primary grades
- Any other ideas let the co-chairs know
- Will continue the discussion

- Also next meeting will discuss the School Improvement plan

## 5. PORTFOLIO UPDATES

### Kindergarten Welcome Initiatives

- Kristen Ballard has taken up this initiative to invite kindergarten parents to be part of more social events to get to know each other.
- There will be a Kindergarten committee with kindergarten class parents.
- There was a "Get to know each other" night in August prior to school starting
- Planned 2 events over the next 2 months – coffee morning – next Thursday, evening social for parents at the Leaside Pub,
- The hope is to increase volunteering of the kindergarten parents and share the news of everything that is happening at the school

### Extra-curricular activities

- Monica reported that extracurriculars started last week.
- Tried to run mindfulness but had to cancel due to low enrolment.
- Discussion related to the possibility of extra curriculars for kindergarten?

### STEM

- Discussion of what STEM is – Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
- Working group for STEM to provide support to admin and teachers for STEM at Northlea
- Looking at a number of initiatives to move forward
- Learning coach will work with 6-8 teachers who are already doing some of these things starting next week, to model for the rest of teachers, John Polyany – to work with the teachers
- Goal is to engage a few really keen teachers this year and then to gradually spread it out throughout the school

- Talking with consultants about Math and using the PRO grant

Special Education Speaker

- Coming on Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dr. Norm Forman – exceptionalities, IEPs, how to navigate and discuss the process for all age groups
- Ms Reiken’s class – integrated in with other classes for gym and music this year
- Ms Gatt – resource teacher – interesting lens to see how kids are integrating

Kiss and ride

- Running for 6 years, now
- In need of more volunteers to run the program
- Val Cooke coordinating this

Class lists and class parents

- Still missing information for about 50 families
- Big job to manage – thanks to Wilmar and Frank for getting all the information from the system to the class lists
- Val Cooke also coordinating this initiative

New superintendent this year – Leila Girdhar-Hill

- Comes in weekly to Northlea
- Next Thursday – Trustee Gershon will have a ward meeting at Northlea – school and parent communication
- Nov 15<sup>th</sup> coffee meeting everyone is welcome to attend

Parent conference

- Free conference – weekend with many workshops, Earl Haig Secondary School, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>  
Registration is open, link on Northlea website

Director of Education – Integrated Equity Framework Action Plan - draft

- Webcast – tomorrow evening
- School will be setting goals through the Equity lens

**6. NEXT MEETING – Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

- 7. MOTION** Kara Kane seconded by Natasha Kent  
To adjourn the meeting

CARRIED

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.**

**MINUTES  
NORTHLEA HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**The meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm.**

**1. MOTION** Angie Novachis-Kalentzis seconded by Jennifer Meyerhoffer  
Approval of the H&S Association Agenda CARRIED

**2. MOTION** Rachel Chernos-Lin seconded by Natasha Kent  
Approval of H&S Association Minutes, June 23, 2016 CARRIED

**3. CHAIR'S REPORT – Jennifer Adziovsky**

- Discussed differences between School Council and the Home & School Association
- The association is permits the fund raising committee of Northlea
- The execute oversees both the Council and the Association
- Welcome back BBQ – thanks to Natasha Kent and Ming Zhou, this event is not an official fundraiser, but it did make a small profit this year.
- Next big fundraisers – Family Fun Night – coordinator for this event is still needed, Date Night – also looking for a coordinator

**4. Fundraising Campaign**

- Small fundraisers to help raise some funds for items people already purchasing
- Mabel's Labels – 20% of the profits are donated back to the school
- QSP – typically around \$3000.00 but last year with out the folder – only \$850.00 so trying this year with the folders to see if this type of fundraiser has run it course or just needs the paper reminder
- Cookie dough – information will be coming home on Monday
- Other ideas - online gift cards, Menchie's at Valentines and we will continue with Acorn cards

**5. Yearbook**

- Looking for a coordinator

**6. HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION BUDGET – Sharon Krieger**

- Documents circulated
- Last year's funds – we were able to spend most of the money and funded an additional \$500 for instruments and another \$2,600 for the Kindergarten playground
- Expenses discussed
- Discussed the Home & School Association fees and membership in the Federation of Ontario Home and Schools Association
- Budget discussed – 93% projects based on teachers and parents and 7% to community disbursements

**Motion** Wilmar Kortleever, seconded by Angie Novachis-Kalentzis  
To approve all three financials CARRIED

**7. MOTION** Jennifer Meyerhoffer, seconded by Arti Panday  
To adjourn the meeting CARRIED

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.**