

E.L. Crossley School Advisory Council

Minutes of meeting May 10, 2011

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.

2. Noting of members present, absent and regrets:

Present

Ed Goerzen
Susan Hawkins
Andrea McCollum
Jane Houlden
Stephanie Menicanin
Terri Steingart
Corrine Grant
Karen Gemmel
Bhavna Sehgal
Shari Pearson
Chad Reese

Absent

Melissa Wright
Rick Tarajos
Tracey Borisenko

Regrets

Emily McCollum
Therese Czychun
Michael Hrycusko
Marie Saint-Ivany
Catherine Wark

Guests

Katie Kalchman
Charlotte Butko
Carolyn Ranieri

3. Approval of Agenda

-add to proposed agenda: item 6 "Year in Review" as item 6.4.

Approval of amended agenda moved by Andrea; first by Terri and seconded by Bhavna.

4. Approval of Minutes of the meeting of April 12, 2011

Amend minutes regarding item 6 that gold medal winners were also awarded in .

Approval of minutes moved by Andrea; first by Terri and seconded by Bhavna.

5. Presentations

- Katie Kalchmen gave the council a presentation on L.E.A.P. (Let's End All Poverty)
Joined by Carolyn Ranieri staff advisor to the group.
 - first year for the group at the school with a goal to bring awareness about social and economic injustices throughout the world to Crossley and feeder school students.
 - organized a number of activities throughout the year:
 - First: Vow Of Silence for 24 hours with money collected through pledges and donations. Funds collected were given to support Mana Relief.

Second: Coffee House and other activities with funds collected to support ME to We which focuses on the awareness of children without a voice throughout the world. (\$600 raised over both events).

Third: 30 hour Famine organized where students collected pledges.

Climax of the event was a movie with focus on poverty (Raised \$255 given to support World Vision).

Speak Up Ontario Grant (\$800) awarded to Crossley that will be used to help finance the group next year.

-goals next year to join L.E.A.P. with Me to We, sending more senior students to the big Me to We Event in Toronto, start generating ideas about their group's big event(s) for next year.

- Charlotte Butko spoke to the council regarding the activities of Interact. This group is connected to the Fonthill Rotary Club with Pat Duncan as the Rotary Advisor. Club follows the traditional roles from Rotary Organizations and has been present in the school for a number of years. Rotary addresses challenges worldwide. Group is roughly 50 members strong in the school.

-goals this year similar to activities of the past:

-Terry Fox BBQ and Bake Sale and Theme Days (\$500) raised and given to support End Polio Now (associated with the Rotary Club).

-organized Christmas Cheer Campaign with Salvation Army to get classes involved with addressing issues of local poverty.

- Current target is RAFT which addresses the issue of Teen shelter in Niagara.

6. **Business Arising from the minutes of April 12th, 2011.**

- **SPECIAL EDUCATION PETITION:** Petition for funding consideration with the province was sent out to all parents with the Student Progress Report. 26 signed and returned to school.
- **FUNDRAISING:** PRO Grant application was completed by Andrea with the possible funding from the grant to be used in making the Grade 9 Handbook and the Senior Prep. Seminar. There was some discussion regarding placing a brief survey with an evaluation section in the Grade 9 Handbook. We discussed other ways to distribute, complete and gather the surveys: perhaps- random sampling.
- **GIFT CARDS:** Cards were delivered to Sobey's (Fonthill), Royal Bank, Avondale. Andrea to contact Melissa to get the update on the remaining cards.

- **YEAR IN REVIEW** (Added Agenda Item) - From Andrea and Jane, a heartfelt thank you to all council members for making contributions to Council. Some suggestion that the council may have sent out a mixed message in that its original goal laid out in September was to assume more of an advisory role rather than a fundraising role, but then we spent quite a bit of time trying to solve the problem of the debt incurred from the previous year's council which ultimately resulted in finding ways to Fundraise to eliminate the debt. As a result, Ed has agreed to form a separate group: a fundraising committee that will function outside of the School Advisory Council. In this way, those parents who wish to be involved in Fundraising efforts, will have their needs met on that with more advisory issues can have their needs met on the Council.
 - Grad Breakfast has been taken over by the Student Council this year
 - Next Year's Goals: Arrange meeting dates at the very start.
 - Arrange guest speaker schedule at same time.
 - Focus on Parent Engagement
 - In Conclusion, it was a year of transition while the council changed its focus from fundraising for specific events to being a more advisory Body that aided the student community and staff.

7. Principal's Report:

- Staff is set for next year. Susan will now begin to create a timetable for the courses. This will undoubtedly cause conflicts for some students in the courses they will receive and when they are scheduled. The staff will do their utmost to resolve those conflicts as best as they can. Transition Meetings will also begin this week for those students coming from the feeder schools who may need some assistance with the demands of grade 9.
- We begin the gearing up for the big grad month.
 - May 25th – Big Event
 - May 26th – MADD Event
 - May 28th – Mayor's Gala- proceeds from the event will be donated towards the rowing program and a new score clock. Students will be assisting in the evening.
 - May 29th – Grad Breakfast
 - June 2nd – Fashion Show
 - June 21st – 24th – Year End Exams
 - June 29th – Graduation Exercises at the Parkway Quality Inn (St. Catharines).
- Some new decisions will be made on Graduation Funding for next year.

- Some questioning on how to improve the Registration procedure for all students. Grade Nine will most likely remain the same at present.
- Fundraising Committee update: Ed and Sheri have been talking to local grocery store owners regarding gift cards. So far they have been well-received by Food Basics.

8. Student Council Report:

Grad for Grad Dance this week with the theme "Blast from the Past".

May 12th – Music Department Concert with minor entrance fee.

May 25th - Big Event at Queenston Heights with a small fee to cover the cost of the buses.

May 30th- Grad Breakfast in the cafeteria. Money for this event raised from Grad 4 Grad dance.

Student Council 2011 elections are on right now. Candidates are beginning their campaign speeches this week. Vote is on Monday

Athletics: Badminton has ended with 2 students moving on to OFSAA: Taylor Zavitz and Mitchell Deba. Several participants placed well.

Track & Field practicing since March Break with Zone Meet today

2 Soccer teams doing well at; 3 games into the season\.

Baseball Teams- just started; one rain-out game and one game played this week with another scheduled this week.

Rowing Club hard at work for a few weeks already. Highlight weeks of their season are soon to be here.

Athletic Council Applications are out this week

9. Correspondence- None

10. New Business: PRO Grant already completed and filed.

11. Questions: None

12. Agenda Items For Next Meeting:

- Election of new Council.
- Format. Schedule for the new year.
- Confirmation of results from the meeting Logistics Survey of current members.

13. Next Meeting: Sept. 13th, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

14. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm; first-Shari, second- Corrine