

E.L. Crossley School Advisory Council
Minutes of Meeting - ABRIDGED
November 14, 2006

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of October 10, 2006 approved. Motioned by Member, seconded by Member.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda of November 14, 2006 approved with the amendment of the Christmas Cheer campaign in December under New Business. Motioned by Secretary, seconded by Secretary. The program is run by the Interact Club with the involvement of the entire school. Each classroom is assigned a family for whom to purchase gifts and food with pick up by the Salvation Army on December 22. Country Corner Meat & Deli provides much of the food.

Guest Speaker:

Staff of Student Services explained operations of this department. Staff members involved include the school nurse, student services secretary, counsellors, and herself as head of guidance. There is involvement with every student at each grade level, which intensifies as the student progresses through the grades. Parents are encouraged to attend the University/College Information Programs and meetings with the Student Services. The department will also assist prior students through direction and suggestions for night school, e-learning or summer courses and other areas.

Correspondence:

Chair presented a number of items. Information regarding Impact 2006 seminar November 1, which Chair and Secretary attended. Seminar dealt with the pilot program Keep Control. We can request information, posters etc. for use in the school. Thank you from the DSBN director for the calendar presentation by Chair and Secretary October 21. CORE newsletter regarding homework and two DSBN grants available. Ministry of Education has published Pupil Accommodation Review Guidelines regarding consultations with the community for evaluating school closures. Sue Greer wants a representative from Region 2 on School Council Liaison Committee, which meets 6 times per year. Ministry of Education Grant Kit regarding parent communication and engagement received. To discuss under New Business.

Executive Report:

Chair presented highlights from the Executive Meeting held October 24.

Our SAC to send informal invite to other school councils interested in the principal/vice principal profiles to be discussed with Sue Greer in January.

Discussion held regarding approval of \$100 per person per conference to a maximum of two people to be paid by SAC. Motioned by Member, seconded by Treasurer.

Discussion held regarding recovery of GST on SAC expenditures. All of ELCSS GST recovery, including SAC money, is held in separate "discretionary" account often used to support students who may be unable to participate due to cost. Due to efforts required to separate SAC from general ELCSS funds, dollar value involved and use of funds generated, the matter was dropped.

Discussion held regarding obtaining Donnie Edwards as a speaker for the students. Principal is pursuing other presenters as an alternative in the event she cannot book D. Edwards.

Treasurer's Report:

Nothing to report.

Committee Updates:

Art Calendar Contest

Secretary suggested Dr. Crossley's children to be invited to grad breakfast and detailed selling calendars where and when. Also, Secretary and Chair were interviewed by Cogeco on November 9.

Adopt A Road

Chair noted the next event will take place April 21 with April 28 as the rain date.

Communications

No report.

Grad Breakfast

June 8 preferred date rather than June 1.

Old Business:

Election/Acclamation of Council Members

Member agreed to fill new Executive Representative position. Member acclaimed as new council member. All in favour.

Community Representative

No one from Rotary has volunteered.

Signage on Entrance Driveway

Permission has been granted to order sign and paint directional arrows on driveway.

Principal/ Vice Principal Profile

Vice-Chair has agreed to chair the committee.

Review of Constitution/Roles of Executive

To either set up committee or defer until next year.

Homework Assignment Input

VP looking for parent volunteers.

New Business:

Upcoming Events

As detailed on the amended Agenda of Nov 14/06.

School Grant Proposal Kit

Ontario Ministry of Education Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant for Schools discussed. A new highway sign to establish a continuous communication tool to relay school related information to parents and the community would be appropriate for this grant proposal. Motioned by Member, seconded by Secretary to proceed with the grant application for this project.

Due to the time constraints, it was determined that it was not feasible to pursue a second project under this grant proposal at this time. Motioned by Member, seconded by Secretary.

School Updates:

Principal commended students for Remembrance Day presentation. Student Achievement Niagara pilot project with Principal, Vice-Principal. And Sue Greer is Region 2, while the Student Success Team is in all high schools in DSNB.

Vice-Principal. reported on After Hours Literacy preparation course for Grade 9 at risk or unsuccessful test writers from last year. Also, Crossley Reads/Writes held every other week.

O.A.T.T.

Secretary: Requested members sign sheet indicating number of calendars taken.

Chair: Council Christmas Social to be held December 12 with location and time to be emailed to members once finalized.

Member: Student Services at ELCSS very helpful and presentations held at the locally were better than those in Toronto for university choices.

Alison: Thanks for welcome to Council.

Secretary: Commended Member on Mayor's Youth Advisory Council newspaper article. Questioned Smart Risk Heroes program run at the school in the past. Per Principal., it was a safety awareness program that would not be run every year due to content.

Neil: Volunteered for Homework Assignment Committee.

Next Meeting: December 12, 2006

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm, motioned by Member, seconded by Secretary.

Handouts:

Globe and Mail article regarding homework.