

**E.L. Crossley School Advisory Council**  
**Minutes of Meeting - ABRIDGED**  
**October 10, 2006**

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

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of June 13, 2006 approved with amendment required to reflect Crossley rowers placed 1<sup>st</sup> at Nationals held at the Henley June 3 and 4 for 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row. Boys placed 1<sup>st</sup> for 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Motioned by Treasurer, seconded by Memeber.

Memorandum of meeting September 12, 2006 reviewed with changes noted:

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda of October 10, 2006 approved with removal of Item #9 Tour of 5<sup>th</sup> Floor. Motioned by Memeber, seconded by Secretary.

**Correspondence:**

Chair presented a number of items. From the People for Education newsletter, Nov. 1/06 is Take your Kids to Work Day, nominations for Outstanding Principal due Oct. 31/06, Canadian Federation of Students report a three-fold increase in university tuition fees in 15 years while incomes have increased only 10% and 10<sup>th</sup> annual parent conference to be held Nov. 4/06 at York University.

From Healthy Living Niagara, a DVD is available, geared to Grade 8 and 9 students, which we may find useful for Grade 8 Open House.

From Sue Greer, she will attend the SAC Jan. 16/07 meeting to discuss her role and assist with Principal and Vice-Principal profiles.

**Old Business:**

Member voted in as new member and all in favour.

Principal. presentation to the Fonthill Rotary Club Oct. 18/06, where she will also mention SAC community rep. position available.

Principal. reported there is a potential liability with changing the directional arrows at the west entrance. There is a possibility to roll in a change of road signage with a new front sign through the DSBN.

Chair reported the DSBN Focus Group on Communication centered on communication between parent and the school, whereas Principal. indicated the secondary school administrators session focused on marketing the schools and programs in a competitive business environment.

**Committee Updates:**

**Art Calendar Contest**

Secretary reported the submission deadline was changed from Sept. 29/06 to Oct. 2/06, which resulted in an increase from 23 to 31 entries. A total of 64 businesses were contacted, resulting in 30 sponsors. The Pelham Old Town Hall has been booked for Oct. 3/07. All of the entries will be displayed in the foyer during parent-teacher interviews Oct. 19/06. Chair and Secretary to be interviewed by Cogeco on Nov. 9/06, which will air Monday to Friday of the following week. Dean Tedesco of the Niagara Art Gallery wants to display the artwork. Artwork is at the printers

and expect calendars to be completed by mid November. Sobeys will be the only store at which calendars will be available.

#### Adopt A Road

Chair noted the event will take place Oct. 14/06 1-4 pm.

#### Communications

Vice Chair to post minutes of SAC meetings on our web page and email addresses, once clarification received regarding inclusion of names. Chair to provide resource sheet for posting. The SAC web page address should be noted at the Cogeco interview.

#### Grad Breakfast

Nothing to report.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer to contact school staff for information. Noted the SAC should get credit for the GST recovered by the school on our purchases.

#### **New Business:**

##### Upcoming Events

As detailed on the Agenda of Oct. 10/06. Additions of mock UN debate Oct. 16/06, SAC Executive meeting Oct. 24/06, report cards on Nov.16/06, and Remembrance Day assembly Nov. 10/06 with student and parent request for pictures of family members to be included in slide show presentation.

##### Staff Involvement & Initiatives

Principal. reported on the various areas in which the staff is involved, including coaching of school teams, SAC members, editing and writing texts for the Ministry of Education, career training, study hall and many others.

#### **School Updates:**

Principal reported on the following: Over 600 students participated in Terry Fox Run, raising in excess of \$12,000. Assembly included a talk by a student with cancer.

Parent-teacher interviews to be held Oct. 16/06. Official Ministry report card will be issued in November with parent-teacher interviews only as required.

Student Achievement Region 2 Niagara pilot project with Principal. Vice-Principal. and Sue Greer to focus on Grade 9 and 10. ELCSS results on EQAO tests improved dramatically, in part because students were told it counted as part of their marks. Grade 9 applied math pass rate improved from 10% to 32%, while the academic math improved from 68% to 76%.

The Oct. 6/06 PD Day included a keynote speaker and workshops grouped first by school (ELCSS with Centennial and Thorold) and then by department.

Spiritwear will be available for viewing and ordering at the parent-teacher interviews Oct. 16/06.

Vice-Principal. reported Nov. 29/06 is Grade 8 Day for students. We could consider an evening session for the parents rather than a separate night in January.

Vice-Principal. is requesting 2 parents to join the Assignment Committee which is comprised of students, teachers and parents. Member will consider joining as a student rep.

## **O.A.T.T.**

VC: Questioned avenues available for other types of artists at the school. Principal. responded announcements are made for outside school events and in-school events include drama competitions, talent shows, coffee house and others. Discussion on posting of minutes on web page will be deferred until Executive meeting. Principal. to discuss the inclusion/removal of names from the minutes with Member Greer.

Member: Art Judge enjoyed Art Calendar Contest and wished was available when he was a student of ELCSS.

Secretary: Guidance recommended inclusion of a student in the upcoming Student Services presentation to SAC. Secretary and Treasurer attended the EW Farr open house at which there were various displays. Representative from St. John's Ambulance will review the contents of a school's first aid kits and make recommendation to improve student safety in school or at off-site school functions.

Principal.: Will approach feeder schools again regarding a parent council information night for all feeder schools to be hosted by ELCSS.

**Next Meeting:** Nov 14/06

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm, motioned by VC, seconded by Member.