

JACOB BEAM SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES **September 11th, 2008**

Present: Gina Allan, Laurie Arsenault, Cathy Atkinson, Bev Boden, Andrea Brownstein, Krista Capes, Tracy Carrier, Alison Clayson, Leesa Culp, Heather Habgood, Kathy Horton, Tracy Leemet (Principal), Ann Martin, Irene Petsinis, Jackie Phelps, Kelly Phillips (Teacher Representative), Lori Shuker, Susan Stewart, Tammy Strongitharon
Absent: Doug Allan, Michelle Bartlett, Wenonah Tallman

ELECTION OF SCHOOL COUNCIL

According to Jacob Beam by-laws, we need to have 7-15 members on council. We can have more people attend the meetings but the 7-15 need to be consistent members who can vote.

You can attend every meeting and not be a voting member. If we have over 15 members wishing to vote we will need to hold an election and have the school community to vote in the voting members.

Counted 14 voting members. Member's names will be put into newsletters so other parents can contact them. From the 14 we need to elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary.

- Doug Allan has offered to be chair again.
- Laurie Arsenault has offered to be vice-chair.
- Lori Shuker and Kathy Horton have offered to take the secretary position together.

INTRODUCTIONS OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The meeting was called to order. Jackie Phelps puts forth a motion to accept minutes, Andrea Brownstein seconds the motion. The minutes of the May 8th, 2008 meeting were approved. No errors or omissions were found.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- The drainage out back was fixed over the summer
- Have purchased Literacy Place for the grade 1s, grade 8 history and geography textbooks, grade 2 math program, more leveled books for the primaries and grade 8 Nelson reading program.
- Staffing remains status quo – some schools have had to realign their classes to meet the 20 cap. Caps are good because they generate more staff but bad because they have a hard cap. I.e. 2/3 split, for only 2 grade 3's.
- Soccer teams are beginning for both the juniors and intermediates. Mr. Woelk is coaching the intermediate boys, Ms. Penley the intermediate girls, Mr. Contonis the junior boys and Mrs. Leemet, Mrs. Phillips with Mrs. Capes assistance the junior

girls. The intermediates have their tournament on the 18th and the juniors is scheduled for the 23rd.

- Cross-country has also begun for those students in grades 3-8 who are interested in long distance running. Mr. Chuchman is coaching this.
- We had a great turn out at our open house – we hope that everyone had a good time.
- Milk program is running again this year thanks to Paulette. It will begin next Tuesday.
- The Snack Shack program is also running thanks to Ms. Rowley one of our educational assistants. This program helps a number of our students who either forget to bring a snack or come with nothing to eat.
- Homework club also continues this year with Mrs. Klompmaker and Mrs. Sparks running the program Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:15-4:15. This is strictly voluntary but it is a good opportunity for students to get work completed or access a computer if that is a problem.
- Ketchup club is new this year. This club is held Tuesdays and Thursdays 2nd break. This is for students in grades 1-8 who do not get their work done. This is not a voluntary program but one whereby the student's teachers sign them up if they have work not finished.
- Pizza lunches will continue. Heavy Duty meets the requirements with the new trans fat rules because the cheese contains no trans fat. We are also looking at sub days and hot dog days once a month. You are allowed 10 special days a year where you can offer foods that are higher than the 5% of trans fat rules. We are still figuring out all of the rules regarding this new legislation.
- We will be running our Magazine campaign again this year. It will start the first of October and run until after Thanksgiving. It is easy to renew your magazines this way. A big thank you to Mr. Contonis who organizes this for us.
- We had a problem with our agendas. The company we normally go with Premier, messed up our order and they were going to arrive the end of September so we decided to go with the board agendas instead. They arrived this evening for distribution tomorrow.
- Recognition assembly this month is the 29th at 1:35pm and our trait of the month is Respect
- Picture day is Wednesday October 8th
- It is an Early release day next Monday. Students will have classes until noon and then walkers will be dismissed and the bus students will likely arrive about 3 hours ahead of time. The staff will be working on our school growth plan and what things each division will be focussing in on for the year.
- Our grade 7 & 8 girls will have an information session with our health nurse on Friday, September 19th to go over the Hep B and Gardasil shots. The shots will take place on the 22nd.
- We are once again this year going to have different staff members attend our meetings so that they can share some of the strategies and resources they are using with your children. If you have anything in particular you would like more information about, please let me know and I will do what I can.
- Mrs. Klompmaker has volunteered to do some PR work for us. She has already contacted the media about our open house and we did have someone come to take pictures last night.
- Our website is currently being worked on and should be up and running shortly.
- Babysitting will continue for the meetings.

- Paulette and I worked on a school profile that we will be sending home with each family at Jacob Beam and also to any new students who come in after. It is just getting the finished touches at the print shop.

CHAIR'S REPORT

No correspondence, no report at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We have an opening balance of \$6,933.55 less approximately \$3,000 for playground expenses leaving an approximate balance of \$3,933.55

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

- We will be fundraising for various things such as playground, honour roll pins, cross-country etc.
- Michelle Bartlett has offered to run a Pub night as requested by teachers.
- Ideas and members for the committee are welcome.

CHARACTER BUILDING COMMITTEE

The committee will meet briefly after tonight's meeting to review upcoming strategies. Ann Martin has offered to help.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Jody Klompmaker will be helping in this area. It was agreed to leave this area to Jody for the time being and review periodically in the event it requires more attention.

Alison Clayson will continue to update the school sign.

NEW BUSINESS

- Council was asked to fund the honour roll pins \$3.15 each, \$700.00 total order.
- Council was asked to fund JK/SK playground equipment, \$600.00 total
- Ann Martin makes a motion for council to cover cost of honour roll pins. Gina Allan makes a motion to cover playground equipment. Lori Shuker seconds it. Motion carried.

Action: Council approved funding.

- Ann Martin asked if we could look at expanding spirit wear (ie. Long sleeves, sweatshirts etc., other colours besides orange?) for sale to both students and parents.

Action: Tracey to speak with Mr. Chuchman

- Question: Where are our after school supervision placements? Can there be a person at the back of the school?

Response: There is a teacher on duty at the front of the school where the buses pick up the children. Can't contractually assign more duty to teachers. Children are to leave the schoolyard at dismissal.

- Concern: Since the JK's and SK's are not allowed on the playground equipment the concern of 'how to use it' will still be a problem in grade one when they are allowed on the playground equipment.

Response: It is a legal issue. We must follow age regulations as stated on the playground equipment as we are liable if someone gets hurt.

Action: The next newsletter will have a section outlining the playground rules.

- Deferred Item : Approach town for a one-time grant to help with playground equipment purchase.

Action: Doug Allan will contact the town.

- Also, Saturn and Home Depot install playgrounds for schools. Esso and Petro Canada have community programs. Rona Building Supplies is new to the community, it may advantageous to contact them as well.

Action: Laurie Arsenault to contact possible playground equipment partners.

- Deferred Item: Laminated plaque. Krista Capes advised the laminated plaque will be ready for pick up September 22nd, 2008.
- Andrea Brownstein inquired about Beamerfest. She is willing to work with a committee to arrange this for the students at the end of the year, provided she has ample support.

NEXT MEETING: October 16th at 6:00 p.m.