

## **Ecole Sperling School – PAC General Meeting**

**Minutes: Tuesday, September 21, 2004**

---

<b>In attendance:</b>	Luba Banuke	Principal
	Wanda Pierson	Chair
	Iva Vincalek	Vice-Chair
	Bettina Charpentier	Treasurer
	Jennifer Hatch	Emergency Prep & Speakers
	Karen Hum	Fund Raising & Hot Lunch
	Yvonne Chand	Fund Raising
	Pat Ratcliffe	Secretary
	Barbara Kristos	DPAC (District Parent Advisory Council)
	Dena Domijan	Head Teacher
	Puja Kashyap	
	David Mao	
	Hunter & Coreen Moroziuk	
	Lore Maleschok	
	Rim N. Slim	
	Lora Scodeller	

**1. Call to Order:** Chairperson Wanda Pierson called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. She welcomed all & had the PAC Executive introduce themselves.

**2. Parking Issues:** Wanda explained that there are problems getting drivers to adhere to parking regulations and she will be discussing ways to correct this with Carol Sluis.

### **3. Principal's Report:**

Luba began her report by advising that the large enrollment has made it necessary to add one more classroom this year. The portable has been brought on site to house the Learning Assistance Teacher and might be shared with the school councilor. The learning assistance will be mostly English Learning Assistance due to the number of ESL students. The French Learning Assistance teacher has a small room in the school.

There are 18 divisions this year, 18 teachers and 17 classrooms. This means there are 2 teachers sharing one classroom. There are more primary students than intermediate with the primary classrooms having a maximum number of students.

Luba named all teachers and the grades they are teaching this year. There are quite a few international students this year. Luba is still advocating for an additional teaching assistant. There is a temporary person now working with special needs. Hopefully this will become a full time position.

Ms. Leslie Greyell will be leaving Sperling and Luba will be looking for a new teacher to replace her.

**(Principal's Report – continued...)**

This year there are 1-1/2 more divisions than last year. English enrollment is up from approximately 175 students last year to 208 students this year. French enrollment is up from 168 students last year to 174 students this year.

The government has legislated that the school must work with the SPC (Student Planning Council) which is made up of 3 parents, 1 teacher and the principal. The three parents elected are: Carol Cosco, J.R. Westgate & Amanda Ashton. The 2 goals decided upon for this year are:

- 1) Reading of nonfictional texts: data shows that girls seem to be moving along in reading more than boys. This may be because girls are typically interested in fictional texts and often taught by female teachers who are also typically interested in fictional texts. By initiating programs that require the reading of nonfictional texts, the goal is to have the boys improve their reading also.

To facilitate this, the children will be assessed to determine where they are in their reading. Grade 4 and up will be tested in English. Under Grade 4 students will be tested in the language they are taught. Younger children (Grades Kindergarten and 1) will be read to and tested for their comprehension of what is being read to them.

The goal is: better reading for information.

- 2) Social Responsibility: Data gathered last year indicates that the main concern of many students is to be included. This year one of the goals is to work on the students social responsibility around inclusion.

Luba would like to offer parent education around Social Responsibility and will see if teachers will assist (or take over) this process.

4. **Budget Review:** Bettina passed out copies of the proposed budget for 2004-2005 and reviewed each item.

4.1. **Fundraising Revenues:** Proposed budget = \$16,150.00. Karen explained the fund raising events: Millenium March, Parent Donation, 1 hot lunch per month.

4.2. **Fundraising Expenses:** Proposed budget = \$7,635.00.

4.3. **Expected Gaming Revenue:** Proposed Budget = \$7,160.00.

4.4. **Gaming Expenses:** Proposed Budget = 6,400.00

4.4.1. The annual **Christmas skating party** will take place at Kensington rink on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Set up will be at 3pm and the party will start at 3:30pm.

**(Gaming Expenses – continued...)**

4.4.2. **Field trip** budget was revised from \$2,550 to \$2,700 to allow for \$150 per division. Jennifer suggested increasing this amount since additional money was

required for busing the children on field trips. Barbara suggested utilizing public transit for intermediate classes. Bettina mentioned that we should offer more money to primary classes as older classes don't require car seats. Wanda explained that the school board insists that primary students be transported by bus. Dena advised that there are only certain bus companies that are acceptable. Karen suggested the PAC allocate an additional \$1,500 to be available for field trips, bringing the total field trip budget to \$4,200. It was agreed that \$4,200 would be the field trip budget and it would be determined at a later meeting how that amount was allocated.

**4.4.3.** Barb suggested the school start a **recycling program** to put the onus on the students to raise funds for the Foster Child. Dena Domijan explained that this had been tried in the past, and was unsuccessful due to an ant problem in the school. Karen advised that an account could be set up for Sperling School at Kensington Recycle and anyone could choose to donate their recycling money to the school.

**4.4.4. Special Project** ideas were discussed.

**4.4.4.1.** Computers are required in Room 4 as it is a new classroom. Computers will be purchased through the school board as the school board will also cover maintenance. Rim would like to ensure that software for the computers is kept up to date. Luba will advise if new software is required.

**4.4.4.2.** Having authors come to the school or writing workshops were a suggestion for special projects.

**4.4.4.3.** It was suggested that new jerseys be purchased, as the existing jerseys are not sized to fit most students and give a poor representation of Sperling School.

**4.4.4.4.** Providing an Intermediate playground was brought to the table as a suggestion from previous years. There were concerns voiced regarding the large sum this would cost as well as concerns about where it would be placed and who it would attract to the school. Barbara advised she was involved in designing and selling playgrounds in the past and research shows that intermediate playgrounds benefit only a limited percentage of the school population. After discussion, there was agreement that an intermediate playground would not be considered as a special project this year.

**5. Motion to approve budget:** Barbara moved the budget be approved as amended. Motion was seconded by Rim. Motion was carried. The Special Project will be voted on at the November PAC Meeting.

**6. Adjourned:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm. Wanda advised that information regarding other items on the agenda would be forwarded in the newsletter.