



AGINCOURT SCHOOL COUNCIL

1250 Agincourt Road • Ottawa, ON • K2C 2J2 • (613) 225-2750
<http://asc.ncf.ca>

School Council Meeting September 15, 2009

Attendance: Teresa Williamson, Sonia Simoneau Heather Esdon, Shirley Brackenbury, Kerri White, Penny Mayo, Maureen Shepherd, Michelle Demery, Julie Parker, Shauna Lafrance, Petra Morewood, Shirley Brackenbury, Beverly Doraty, Elizabeth Doering, Janet Li, Norah Vollmer, Arlene Seletaria-Childs, Charmaine Kippen, Jennifer Golanowski, Albert Kaprielian, Sarah Wilson, Laurie Wymark, Jewel Lau, Fariba Rasouli, Debi Ambrose

Welcome and Introduction.

Minutes of June 10, 2009 meeting approved without amendments.

Ratification of Exec and Elections

Chair	Penny Mayo	Accepted/Ratified
Vice Chair	Fariba Rasouli	Accepted/Ratified
Treasurer	Jewel Lau	Accepted/Ratified
Event Co-Coordinator	Julie Parker	Accepted/Ratified
Class Parent Coordinator	Jodi Bodkin	Accepted/Ratified
Communications	Bev Doraty	Accepted/Ratified
Secretary	Michelle Demery	Accepted /Ratified
Community Rep	Debi Ambrose	Accepted/Ratified
OCASC	Norah Vollmer	To be ratified at next meeting
Parent Involvement Rep	Janet Li	Accepted/Ratified

Treasurer Report – Julie Parker

- Balance is \$4285, 66 which includes the \$2,000 float.
- A few cheques from last year's popcorn sales have yet to be deposited.
- Nothing promised or owing at this time.

Principal Report – Shirley Brackenbury

- Much of what you see in the school was done over the summer. Thanks to everyone who helped make the school come alive. Everything is coming together and has a common thread. Goal is to make kids good citizens and lifelong learners.

- Currently at 528 students. Not sure if this means that there will be a reorganization (particularly for French immersion). There is a 20 student cap per class for grades 1-3.
- If there is a new class added, a junior class would move to a new portable.
- There was an ambulance at school this morning. One of the teachers became ill when he arrived at school. Measures were taken to assure the kids that everything was going to be okay.
- Teacher/administration requests to Council for funds will be presented in October.
- H1N1 – information is being provided by the Department of Public Health. Hand sanitizers are being provided although soap and water is best. The office has an ear thermometer to test kids who come to the office complaining that they are ill.
- Parents are asked to keep their kids home if they are ill or coughing excessively.
- Doors in the school are being propped open to limit the number of times that kids have to touch the doors.
- Agincourt has had no reported cases of H1N1 to date.
- Please make sure that the contact information that the office has on file for you is current.
- EQAO scores will be presented at the October meeting. Scores are up and staff is examining where further efforts can be made.
- There will be a change in the report card comments to make them more meaningful and clear.

Vice-Principal - Beth Doering

- Will be focusing on character education this year with targeted assemblies. This month's topic is responsibility. October's assembly will focus on respect.
- Cross-country meet will take place Friday October 16th.
- Agincourt would like to get an Eco School designation this year.

Teacher Report – (no report this month)

Events Coordinator – Julie Parker

Penny

- Lunch program - Looking for someone to help out every second Wednesday to hand out subs.
- Sue Netherton to run popcorn again and will need about \$642.
- 50th anniversary plans - will form a parent-led committee to plan anniversary activities.
- QSP – September 28 – Patti Stevenson is coordinating this fundraiser.
- Halloween dance scheduled for October 30th and a coordinator is needed. Scott Esdon has volunteered to DJ. If a coordinator is not found, the dance will have to be cancelled.

Gingerbread House Workshop - Michelle

- Event will be held the first Saturday in December.

- Many volunteers are needed for the event to be a success and an e-mail will be going out shortly to request volunteers.
- If anyone is interested in coordinating this event, please let Michelle Demery know. If a new coordinator does not come forward, Michelle Demery will coordinate again if there are sufficient volunteers.
- Debi Ambrose has volunteered to call local businesses for donations.
- Donations of candy, gift cards etc. are welcome. Please speak to Michelle Demery.

Julie

- New Parent Breakfast - For JK and other new parents to welcome them to Agincourt
- Entertainment book – hoping to make \$5,000. If we meet our projected sales target, Shirley and Beth will come to schools dressed as clowns.

There is some concern regarding the claims on the cover of the Entertainment book that it contains \$30 in Metro coupons but that it actually only contains \$20. Penny/Julie to follow up.

Note: Penny and Julie contacted Charlyne McGillivray (Account Specialist, Entertainment Book) regarding the Metro Savings question that came up at the council meeting. This is the response.

"The Metro coupons actually equals almost \$35. with the airmiles. Each airmile coupon is \$7.80 in grocery card value. Basically Metro did it so that you can redeem your airmiles toward a grocery card. Normally in order to get 25 airmiles, you need to spend \$200. but in this case they are offering it at the \$100. mark."

Penny and Julie have responded that Agincourt is disappointed with this false advertising Airmiles coupons are not real cash savings and that people who do not collect Airmiles do not benefit at all from this. The account specialist we are dealing with is raising the concerns with head office.

- Proposal to replace walkathon (given proximity to Entertainment book fundraiser) with a dance-a-thon and tie it in with the 50th anniversary by having 50 songs. Details are still being worked out.
 - Some concerns were expressed about not doing the walkathon
 - Having that number of children in the gyms and time of year are also concerns
 - A dance-a-thon may not appeal to boys
- A decision was made to go ahead with the walk-a-thon as planned.
- Petra Morewood has volunteered to coordinate the walk-a-thon.

Volunteer Coordinator – Jodi Bodkin (no report this month)

OCASC Report – Norah Vollmer

- Meeting will take place Thursday September 17th.
- Discussion re: parent involvement grant is on the agenda - Norah will pass on information on Math Night.
- Any new ideas will be shared with Janet who is preparing our Parent Involvement Grant proposal.

Correspondence and New Business – Penny Mayo

School Supplies (Teressa)

- Some progress was made in how to deal with school supplies for this school year.
- Teressa will pursue further changes and is looking for other interested parents to work on this issue
 - Goal is to get to a point where the children require fewer new items and minimize discrepancies between classes

Action: Shirley and Beth will speak to the staff to see if there is a possibility of increasing consistency in orders.

Insurance (Penny)

- School Board will send information regarding insurance to cover school council events when Principal/vice-principal is not present

Fundraising Reporting (Penny)

- Every year the school board asks Parent Councils to report on our fundraising activities. In the past, Agincourt has not reported.
- If it is not reported to the school board, they may be subjected to a qualified audit and face higher costs for borrowing.
- Information is already reported to the community.
- Vote passed to report to the Board.

New Business (Norah)

- Math Night kits could be prepared for new families so that all Agincourt kids could have access to the same resources.
 - Cost for preparing the additional kits is probably about \$200 (more exact estimate to follow)
 - Information on how parents can help their kids at home is available on the web site

Front lawn Care (Heather)

- Volunteers are needed to help Scott and Heather Esdon work on landscaping the front lawn of the school. Anyone who is interested should contact Heather. There is also need for the use of someone's trailer.
- Suggestion made for a "Rise and Rake"
- Could also consider asking high school kids to help out for volunteer hours

Community Rep – Debi Ambrose

- Wanted to congratulate Shirley and Beth for the School on the Move Awards.
- Would like to dedicate one of the murals to commemorate the award.

Votes

Vote to continue with Walk-a-thon as planned on October 15th (October 16th – raindate) – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**

Vote to report to the school board on Parent Council fundraising activities – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE** (12 in favour, 2 opposed, 8 abstaining)

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➤ **Requests for money:**

1. Request for **\$640** for the purchase of popcorn – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**
2. Request for **\$100** for the server space for the school web site – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**
3. Up to **\$200** for the purchase of supplies for additional Math Kits – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**
4. Request for **\$35** for OCASC - **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**
5. Request for **\$100** for insurance – **PASSED BY GENERAL VOTE**

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next meeting will be Tuesday October 20, 2009.