

Suddaby School Council
Monday, November 21, 2016
Minutes
7:00 p.m. School Library

Katherine Akins	X	Aishah Binti Ali	A	Kathryn Blair	A
Sue Campbell	X	Madison Cox	A	Annie Doran	A
Bryan Grimwood	A	Brennan Hardy	X	Randy Harms	A
Aura Hertzog	A	Aasia Khatoon	X	Hari J.C.	X
Carlie Leroux	A	Aaron Lynett	A	Stephanie Meyer	X
Jessica McLean	X	Kristy McMahan	A	Sumona Mondal	X
Chris Nielson	X	Euen O'Connor	X	Matthew Oliver	A
Wendy Saulesleja	X			Susannah Schmidt	X
Daniel Sokolov	A	Nicole Morton-Westwood	X	Mary-Louise Skornyak	X
Jan Hansen	X	Wendy Daley	X		

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Road safety at Otto and Frederick Streets, Bob Henderson (Region of Waterloo). Bob presented in response to parent concerns about pedestrian safety. He noted there are 3000 intersections his staff manages. At Frederick and Otto, from 2011- 2015 there were 3 recorded collisions, 0 involving pedestrians / cyclists, all involving cars only. Figures come from police reports. He noted the region ranks intersections by safety (using statistical predictive data): Frederick and Otto is ranked 2862 out of 3308 locations, i.e. ranks very low for danger / is considered safer.

However he acknowledged that these facts do not make it a “safe intersection” as no intersection can be said to be safe or risk-free. Further apparently normal and well-designed intersections can have more safety problems than those that appear more dangerous due to driver complacency.

All the same, he notes the region reduces the probability of problems by having installed features such as pedestrian countdown signals and high visibility ladder crosswalks, both shown to reduce collisions. The signal design follows provincial guidelines and he believes it has really good visibility from a guideline perspective.

He said when it is reconstructed in future it would be done to meet Accessibility for Ontarians regulations – making it easier to push pedestrian buttons, more poles at intersections emitting audio signals, etc.

Parents said main problem is cars going up Otto turning Left: not enough time for people to cross AND to allow cars to turn, so drivers are frustrated and jump the light and turn fast. He said he will “ask staff to look at it.” The office is right there so they can observe.

Parent also raised concern about Cedar St. and George St. He has observed collisions near where kids get on bus.

Mrs. Daley and Bob will discuss resources for promoting kids / parents traffic education.

3. Suddaby Mother’s Group, Susan Streicher (ESL teacher) and Faduma Musse (School settlement worker). Susan summarized group is for newcomer mothers to Canada. Some moms are brand new to Canada, some have been here 5 – 10 years but may not feel connected. Group is Tuesdays once per month. Group offers child care. The group of mothers identifies needs and sessions are organized in response. Group sends invitations through children but also post info on the website. Families are called by interpreters if need be.

Suddaby father identified issue he faces of source of conflict between child and parent about language and he wondered if there could be fathers invited also / forum for fathers.

December 13 and January 24th are the next meetings. Parents Wendy S. and Susannah S. volunteered to go to the meetings in January and December respectively.

4. **Minutes of September meeting:** Aasia proposed accepting minutes. Stephanie seconded this. Council accepted minutes.
5. **Financial Update:** Same as last time. Council has \$500 from the parent involvement committee to spend.
6. Principal Report
 1. **School Improvement Planning:** We continue to focus on Mathematics and Assessment for our school goals. Our teachers have had opportunities to review their assessment practices during our Professional Development last week, with a focus on developing learning goals to help the students make a connection between what they are doing and what they are learning. We continue to access professional development opportunities directed towards mathematics.
 2. **Strong Start** has begun at Suddaby. Many thanks to our new program coordinator, Katherine A. and our volunteers Wendy S. and Stephanie M. for getting the program underway! Our goal is to increase the number of volunteers to increase the number of students who are being supported during the winter session. Please contact Mrs. Daley if you are interested in this volunteer opportunity.
 3. As we enter into the final 5 weeks of 2016 there are many activities planned for the school and classrooms. We appreciate the support from our families during this busy time of the year.
7. Staff Representative report: Dance a Thon was lots of fun. \$3000 about was raised. Poetry contest for grade 1 – 6 is on and has been submitted. Cartooning workshop was last week for junior students. Grade 3 students went to Huron Natural Area. Ways to solve problems in playground workshop was held. MP Raj came to visit grade 4,5,6. Primaries went to symphony. Movember month is going on with male staff growing moustaches; there will be assembly where staff member will get pie in the face. Elf Musical, grade 1 –6 at Registry Theatre. Laurier hockey game.
Holiday concert is Dec 21st, time to be determined.

Running club is done until the spring. Coding club is happening with Chrome books. A few staff members went to the digital summit put on by Board. This was chance to see how tech might improve student engagement and learning in classroom using Chromebooks, robotic balls, applications on the iPad.

8. Subcommittee reports
 - a. Parent workshop committee (Katherine). A first workshop has been organized about nutrition and healthy eating, Monday 28, November; flyer has gone out and it's on website; info will go on Twitter. Other prospective workshop is in the works with a provider about mental health, parenting, family conflict, etc A motion was made by Stephanie to put \$150 towards nutrition workshop; Euen seconded motion. Council accepted this motion.
 - b. Fundraising committee and grants update (Wendy S., Sue C.) Six members met. Noted council funds have decreased over recent years. Some early concepts include playground for 3 -5 year plan; funding field trips short term.

Also talked about: online auction; Mabel's Labels (school is already signed up; visit fundraising area on Mabel's Labels website and school will benefit from products ordered); magazines; apple selling; hot dog

lunches; movie nights, more. Talked about dance-a-thon April 2017; selling spirit wear, perhaps in May or next fall (items would be pre-ordered); Kernels popcorn. Kernels gives school \$1.30 profit per \$2 pre-bagged popcorn; fun fairs (raises lots of money, take lots of work, idea to plan for spring of 2018).

Regarding selling consumables, vision is that item should be healthy. Some suggestions: from McMillans (cookies, muffins, appetizers, etc.), the Bean Ladies, apples. Council members encouraged to look at these ideas online to offer feedback.

Idea is to do one in winter, one in spring, some ongoing (popcorn, labels). One goal has been not to send kids home items that parents are meant to sell.

Sue C. said she has found there are lots of grants available for playgrounds. Mrs. Daley said there is requirement by the board that there would be project manager assigned to new playground. Project manager would suggest suppliers tendered through board.

9. Focus items:

- a. WRAPSC report: not covered, rep absent.
- b. Strong Start program (Katherine) – covered by Wendy.
- c. iPad program/donations (Aasia) - iPad laptop is being donated by dental office Mrs. Daley reminded council Board forms need to be filled out to receive gift-in-kind donations.
- d. Mistletoe Market will be held Wed. and Thurs Dec 14 & 15. Families will be donating small gifts so that kids can “shop” at Suddaby to get gifts for family members. Each student brings in \$2.00 to shop for all members of their immediate family. (If \$2 is not received, kids could shop) We have a need particularly for dad gifts and teen gifts.

Many parent volunteers needed: Thursday, Friday Dec. 8 -9 (sorting gifts); Monday 12th (daytime or evening); Tuesday 13th (evening); also parents needed on the shopping days. Suggestion to put on event flyer that parents are needed to sort gifts on 13th.

If council members can come on Thursday Dec 8 or Friday Dec 9, contact Stephanie; an email will go out to confirm time slots. All council members who can come on Tuesday 13th evening are encouraged to attend.

- e. Other council activities/events: 16 holiday hampers are being organized for some Suddaby families by Bethany Church.

10. Other business

11. Next meeting...Monday, January 16, 2017