

**Clinton Junior Public School  
School Council Minutes**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	May 22, 2019	
<b>Start/End Time</b>	18:10 – 20:00	
<b>Minutes Approved</b>		
<b>Attendees – Elected and Appointed Members</b>	TK DC SH KM	
<b>Attendees</b>	MN SS MM JD LA ZT SB FZ	
<b>Attendees – Staff &amp; Administration</b>	PR SA	

<b>Upcoming Events and Meetings</b>	
<u>2018 – 2019 School Council Meetings</u>  June 24, 2019	Come to School Council meetings to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the education experience of our school's children</li> <li>• Provide input and enhance school system accountability</li> <li>• Learn more about what's going on</li> </ul>
<b>2018-2019 School Council Events</b>	June 13, 2019 – Spring BBQ  June 19, 2019 – Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
<b>Action Items</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parents/Volunteers must submit receipts for Parent Social or other events as soon as possible after event (within 30 days).</li> <li>2. Council to post online and encourage parents to seek out corporate donation programs for those parents employed by companies which may offer these incentives. More info to follow.</li> <li>3. Council to post results of 2016-2017 TDSB Census to website.</li> <li>4. Council to post additional information to website regarding TDSB after-school support programs, such as programs operated by Toronto Foundation for Student Success (TDSB charity for food programs)</li> <li>5. Admin to investigate translation of vital information in initial school year package into relevant languages for school community.</li> <li>6. School Council exec to investigate pre-fab or other schoolyard items which may be donated to the Schoolyard revitalization project. Investigate partnership with Palmerston Area Residents Association.</li> <li>7. Council will investigate requirements of School Crossing Guards at nearby intersections (refer to School Safety Committee)</li> <li>8. Council will investigate the Value Village – 'by-the-pound' fundraiser opportunity</li> <li>9. Council to investigate Clinton signs or banners for community events</li> </ol>	

## 10. Council will email or survey community to investigate interest in school lunch programs

### 1. Intro and Welcome

Chair TK welcomes all and outlines the agenda for the meeting.

### 2. Cuts to Public Education Funding in Ontario

- Local parent and TDSB teacher Michelle Monk speaks to attendees about opportunities to voice concerns about recent cuts to education funding in Ontario
- MM has children in the TDSB and represents West End Parents for Public Education, a grassroots advocacy organization that has formed to resist policies of the current Ontario government
- Goal of presentation is to rally support for events, and potentially form a subcommittee of interested parents who want to address cuts at the local level
- MM outlines proposed and existing cuts to education funding: increased class sizes for secondary school (average class size increased to 28) as well as Junior grades (4-8). Average class size is ratio of adults to students in the school and can affect support staff too (custodians, classroom supports, librarians, etc.) Cuts will have fullest impact in 5 years after all reductions have been phased in.
- TDSB recently announced some of the classes that will be cut from next years' secondary school options: photography, drama, phys ed all affected. While core classes cannot be cut, the class size increases and will impact teaching.
- Mandatory online classes are a concern for many parents/students as well - for many students, completing this work with insufficient supports in place will be challenging
- Generally speaking, cuts will affect the most vulnerable students in the system – marginalized communities, ESL speakers, and spec ed students.
- Full day kindergarten program also under threat. Subsidized daycare spots have been slashed which will affect community.
- Student organizing over past several months has also been substantial – major walkout in early april may have been the largest student protest in Ontario's history
- West End Parents for Public Education Toronto (WEPPET) has been organizing events over the past couple of months to demonstrate parent and community resistance to these cuts. Some encouraging progress has been seen in other areas – ex. Reinstatement of funding for autism following outcry.
- WEPPET will be on-site tomorrow to promote upcoming events before the Clinton Rocks! Concert. May also be here Friday am before school handing out flyers. Encourages calling local MPP and writing letters to communicate concerns.
- UPCOMING EVENTS:
  - March for Education – Saturday, May 25 – Dufferin Grove Park at 11 am. Pots and Pans rally and potluck.
  - "Walk-in" event to show solidarity – June 26, 2019. Designed to be inclusive rather than a 'walk-out' event
  - Clinton school community will be participating in both events.

### **West End Parents for Public Education**

West End Parents for Public Education are a group of concerned Toronto parents, guardians, grandparents & citizens organizing to resist the current Ontario government's cuts to public education. West End Parents seeks:

- A fully-funded public education system that includes low class caps, excellent needs-support, no mandatory e-learning, and well-maintained buildings.
- Funding that provides equitable enrichment opportunities across the system and reduces the burden on school-based fundraising.
- An inclusive curriculum and respect for the diversity of our students and educator

<https://www.facebook.com/WEPPEToronto/>

- Discussion follows around how cuts will affect Clinton specifically, including ESL students.
- TK speaks to actions taken by Clinton School Council – two letters have been drafted and sent. One to Education Minister/Premier to oppose cuts, the other to Clinton staff to express support. Will be posted online. 3 petitions are currently circulating for our consideration, including one released just today by City of Toronto.
- Next School Council e-blast will include contact info for MM for any interested parents/community members
- TK will investigate whether we have a sign or banner we can make available for Saturday's event

### **3. Approve Last Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes of April 30, 2019, with financial statements attached. Corrections to be made include:

- Full list of attendees
- EQAO testing was the week of May 20, 2019, not May 28.

Motion: SH

Seconded: DC

**CARRIED**

### **4. Chair's Report**

#### **CLINTON Rocks!**

- Fundraising concert will be held tomorrow, May 23, 2019.
- Clinton Rocks! is a parent led fundraiser and supports the music program. In 2018/2019, via the wish list, teacher LW requested approximately \$8,000+ to support music instruments. Typically council has put approximately \$1,000 towards the music program.
- Last year Clinton Rocks! earned over \$3,400, and this went towards “orff” instruments. Other items on LW list includes bass guitar, amp, etc.
- Clinton Rocks! is also a platform for the choir and Clinton students to showcase talents; experience of working with a professional band
- Parent SS is organizing up the food/dinner as well as volunteers and outlines process.
- To date, have sold more than 160 tickets, expecting 200 + sold.

#### **School Yard Improvement Project**

- TK and SA have met with TDSB project leads for our school yard project and have some good news.
- TDSB will possibly pay for paving the entire schoolyard, instead of the currently committed 80% of the yard.
- TK raised safety issue of current location of basketball nets near north play structure. Moving the nets to the south side by the wall off the would address safety concerns, but TDSB would be required to pave that area too. Got a partial commitment from TDSB staff but not confirmed yet.
- TDSB pays for all paving work and Council cannot contribute to that. Project is slated to start sometime in 2019. Field replacement will begin this summer. Field is already permitted by the TDSB for this purpose.
- Parents should anticipate disruptions to the play areas for lots of 2019-2020. Impact on daycare over the summer is expected.

- Council has currently raised \$16,000 of the \$20,000; online auction is designed to close that gap. Auction starts next week and will run to June 3(ish). \$20,000 cheque needs to be given to TDSB in June. Further enhancements can be done with grants or additional fundraising in the future.
- Discussion follows on specific changes, including the new kindergarten area proposed for front of school. Historically, the Centro Clinton Daycare has contributed some funds to improve the kindergarten/daycare play areas – they have access to other grants that the school does not. Play areas are owned by TDSB but Centro can fund enhancements with own monies.
- Online auction is expected to begin next week and run for approximately 8 days. Will include notifications and emails to registered auction participants.

#### Update on Street Parking – Clinton St/Manning Ave

- School Council requested that the City extend parking times on Clinton and Manning to 20 minutes (from current 15). Both streets have had this approved, however it does not take effect until the signage has been updated.
- Additional parking on Clinton to take right up to the alley across from Jersey ave - approximately 8 spots, was also approved by City Council
- Changes do not take effect until signs have been replaced; which is expected to occur soon but must be done by the City of Toronto. TK will continue to push City to install quickly.

#### Remaining Events - 2019

- Only two more pizza days in 2019! Parent JD has committed to running pizza days next year.
- Spring BBQ – June 13
- Final School Council meeting – June 18
- Teacher appreciation lunch – June 19. Teacher appreciation sheets handed out for students or parents to write a message to parents for the teacher appreciation luncheon.

Chair TK would like to begin planning process for next year. A Co-Chair is required, and asks that attendees spread the word and recruit interested parents.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

- DC delivers treasurer's report via handout
- Clinton Rocks! ticket sales income is showing, but only partial to-date.
- Biggest challenge financially this year was cancelling the parent social and the silent auction, we are currently short approximately \$4,000 in our commitment to the Schoolyard project.
- Final meeting of School Council will include a completed financial update.
- Council received a \$1,000 donation from a local family to support the music program and phys ed program; this was received via the TDSB and will be transferred to Clinton via the Board's process. Donations direct to the TDSB are eligible for a tax receipt.
- DC and SA met with representatives from the TDSB regarding the roll-out of the TDSB's Cash Online 'financial platform', which allows parents and caregivers to transfer funds to cover student fees and expenses directly to the school electronically or via credit card.
- New system avoid teachers having to manage money and simplifies administrative process. Clinton Junior PS is one of the final schools to join the platform, and have avoid some glitches with implementation by delaying.

- TDSB spent time with DC and school admin to demonstrate options on the platform. EX. Pizza day orders and funds could be taken via this platform, and may save Council 2-3% currently paid to payment processing companies.
- Some School Councils have expressed concerns with the platform and ongoing issues. Council will sign-up for the platform before June 2019 to avoid a registration fee, but may not make use of the platform in 2019-2020 if existing systems are preferable.

Question from the floor – What is Council doing regarding meals at school and having a more frequent lunch program for interested students/families?

- Discussion has occurred annually, with varying levels of interest. This year, Council moved to 2X/month pizza days, but volunteers for distribution and organization are required to continue this. Parent JD has volunteered for next year
- Parent SS researched various companies offering meal services last year. Challenge is always having a volunteer/volunteer(s) to manage the program. Other issues are waste, minimum order requirements, and whether or not students are interested in eating the offered food.
- ACTION – Council Exec to survey parents to investigate interest in lunch programs

Question from the Floor - Air conditioning in the Gym – is it working, and will it be available for concert tomorrow?

- SA confirms that Air Conditioning is working in the Gym. However, a/c is controlled centrally by the Board and may not be available tomorrow
- SA will investigate with facilities/family team leader whether it can be turned on tomorrow to support the concert.

Question from the floor – How will silent online auction work – will users get notifications and emails if outbid?

- Yes, Council has developed/secured an online auction platform that functions well. Similar to ebay and you will be notified if outbid. Mobile friendly with notifications. Users must create an account to bid. Discussions follow around payment options and platforms.

Question from the Floor – Why was the Blue Jays Game day not pursued this year, and could we take it on as Council next year?

- Parent SS is interested in reviving the Blue Jays Game Trip/Day for the school – was well received by participants last year
- School did not organize this year due to price increases in tickets. Teacher is required to organize the process, which began originally with just one class attending. Prices have spiked this year due to teams available, and students would be forced to sit apart. A Marlies game was considered, but was not able to be organized with available dates.
- Discussion follows on Blue Jays game day and potentially revisiting next year if parents are interested. Requires organization/registration in Fall 2019.

## **6. Principals Report**

- SA delivers a report from principal/administration
- Air conditioning update reflected in the above Q+A
- Staffing Updates: little to update since last meeting of April 30, 2019. Our Vice-Principal allocation of 0.5 has been confirmed for next year, and PR is expected back in that position. Typically a 0.5 VP is also provided a 0.5

teaching position at the school. The existing lack of clarity on funding means that currently it is not clear how the other 0.5 allocation will be distributed next year

- Clinton is still at 2.5 'surplus' assigned teachers for next year. We also have 2.5 'centrally assigned' teachers at the school, but these positions have not been set yet for 2019-2020. Movement will occur of the next weeks and months as teachers retire, transfer, etc. Clarity on staffing likely to occur around August 2019.

Question from the Floor – When will students find out their teacher for next year?

- Classroom numbers is assigned on final report card in June. Teacher assigned won't be known until late August.
- EQAO testing is ongoing this week. All grades (6 and 3) are writing the tests this week, in the past it has typically happened over two weeks (one for grade 3 and one for grade 6).
- Testing will be completed on Friday. Split grade classes allow the younger students to observe the testing process which benefits some students

#### JUMP Math Lunch and Learn

- 13 teachers and 3 support staff attended a presentation / lunch and learn session with Dr. John Mighton of JUMP Math.
- Presentation was similar in scope to what was presented to parents. Also included some demonstration lessons and discussion of support materials.
- Lunch and Learn was well received by attendees and teachers enjoyed the pedagogical discussion with Dr. Mighton, including teaching children a growth mindset in math, collaborative learning and problem solving in mathematics. Opportunity for Q+A and discussion.
- Dr. Mighton will follow-up with individual parents as well as School Council to discuss opportunities to promote the JUMP program to the Clinton community. Emphasizes this is not just a workbook program, and examples of lessons and supports are available online

Question from Floor - Can teachers use or implement JUMP Math programming in their classroom if they choose to do so?

- SA – yes, teachers are free to use the JUMP Math program to support their own teaching practices as per their professional discretion.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 745. Next meeting is June 24, 2019 in the Art Room.**