

Lakeview Public School Council Meeting

Minutes – Discussion & Action Items

Meeting Details	
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 6:30-8:30 PM
Purpose:	Lakeview School Council Monthly
Participants and Regrets: (voting members in bold)	<p><u>Council Executive:</u> Melissa L (Chair), Carrie R (Co-Chair), Alexandra W (Treasurer), Caitlin C and Julie W (Co-secretaries), Kristy Banks & Jane Lefevre (Teacher Reps).</p> <p><u>Parent Representatives:</u> Shannon H, Shelagh M, Tracy B, Melissa S, Connie D, Tauhid T, Alexandre S</p> <p><u>School Trustee:</u> Theresa Kavanagh</p> <p><u>Regrets from:</u> Tracy N, Jenna N, Heidi W, Rick C, Sandra A, Sneh M, Jen S, Kasia B</p>
Quorum:	<p><u>Total in attendance:</u> 14 members</p> <p>Quorum: Not achieved – 10 out of 21 voting Council members in attendance</p>

Discussion & Action Items
Agenda Item #:
<p>1. <u>Call to Order & Approval of November 10, 2015 Council Minutes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melissa called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Before tonight’s meeting, Melissa e-mailed the minutes to Council. Due to not achieving quorum at the meeting – the approval of the minutes from November 10th, 2015 meeting was done via e-vote on December 18, 2015. Melissa asked if there were any corrections or comments. <p>MOTION: Melissa L SECONDED: Tauhid T</p> <p>“To approve the Lakeview Council meeting minutes of November 10, 2015 as submitted (or with changes - as indicated)”</p> <p>ALL IN FAVOR MOTION CARRIED (by 13 of 21 voting members)</p>
<p>2. <u>School Trustee report – presented by Theresa Kavanagh</u></p> <p>2.1 Changes to French instruction in JK/SK for all schools / and in Grades 1-3 in Early French Immersion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant discussions (most of the meeting time was on this) with many questions from parents Statistics showed that the survey results were supportive (60%) of the changes. The 50/50 kinder program seems favourable. Board considered suggestions on how to improve the changes incl. gradual phasing in of the changes. The current proposal is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective September 2016 – the changes to the amount of French instruction in JK/SK (i.e. 50-50) would be introduced and Math instruction in grades 1-3 would shift to English (recommended changes #1 and #2); and Effective September 2018 – English would be introduced as a subject in Grade 1 in the Early French

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Immersion program (recommended change #3)

- These changes would result in a reduction of 1 hour per day (5hrs/week) of overall instruction in French
- Numerous concerns that parents are not receiving ample information to make an informed choice when completing the new Parent Survey
- Serious concerns that the impact of these changes is not well known, or is not being described well. Parents want resources/evidence that shows these changes are good for French-language learners, and not just about the fiscal savings that these changes may produce for the OCDSB.
- Still numerous concerns about the unclear information as to what children/grades will be affected if implemented September 2016. Will it only start in the Kinder Level to start it off or affect Gr. 1-3 level immediately too?
- Mme Shields commented – perhaps changing the wording of “changes to the kindergarten program” instead of “changes to ETFI”.
- Questions posed to Trustee Kavanagh:
 - “Will it be better structured for the next vote?” (answer = yes)
 - “How had Theresa voted?” – Theresa’s response was voting to implement in 2017.
 - “What would it take for it not to pass?” Response = 6 votes from Trustees
 - “What would a typical day for JK/SK look like?” – 2 different teachers, ½ & ½, details still to be worked out. One teacher for English, one teacher for French.
- Yet to determine if they will have to hire new teachers or use the teachers currently employed – just redistributed.
- Also concerns regarding impact on student/staff attachment. # of teacher contacts that one student would have throughout the day?
- There will be no changes in the MFI (Middle French Immersion)
- English schools and Alternative schools will be affected by these changes too.
- Theresa to follow up in January.
- The [Parent Survey](#) may be the last opportunity to express concerns or support for all or various parts of the proposed changes.

2.2 Theresa offers congratulation for a job well done on the Council letter to Deputy Mayor Mark Taylor on needing to address traffic safety in the Lakeview community and supporting active transportation.

2.3 Theresa shared info for consideration on the “**Welcome Box for Syrian refugees**” - A new program endorsed by Refugee613 to put together a box for new refugees to welcome them. Strong community response and support. More info: <http://www.welcomebox.ca/> Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/welcomebox/>.

2.4 Theresa shared info for consideration on an event held at Woodroffe P.S. - **Bring your grandparent to school** – Grandparents were invited to come to school and read with classrooms/students. Strong response.

2.5 Secondary school reviews being conducted

- Considering what to do about those schools with lower capacity (e.g. Woodroffe HS), looking at numbers and programming, looking at possibility of having an International Bacc program offered in a West end school (currently only at Colonel By)
- Bell High School is in good shape with a strong program
- Review will also include looking at eliminating transitional schools, i.e., middle schools (e.g. DA Moodie IS)

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2.6 **Report cards** – will be sent to parents by Thursday Dec. 10th.

2.7 Question from parent – **“What is the Budget for next year?”** Answer: Tight, depends on enrollment #s, will have cuts (not major but noticeable) – cutting special education supports, emergency ECE’s

3. Principal’s Report – presented by Rebecca Shields

3.1 **Report cards** – Due to ETFO labor situation distribution had been delayed. Please note that the progress report we will receive will only assessing student progress up to Oct. 30th. A 2nd progress report card will be received in early Feb 2016.

3.2 **Early French Immersion changes**

- Theresa covered most of the information.
- Encourage parents to do survey, have your say – take advantage of it
- A letter and info document went home with kids today outlining further details.
 - Enquiries to making sure that this letter is translated – **Rebecca to find out**
 - The document makes comment to “Staff report” – parents were not given that but gave link to parents listed on OCDSB website
- Parent Question – “Where can a parent get fully educated on changes? To understand the repercussions?” (Talk to the teachers, gather the information from other parents, media). Parents expressed interest in hearing from the teachers.
- Other than the new Parent Survey, no other public consultation will take place. A report will be brought to Committee of the Whole on February 2, 2016 that will include staff recommendations informed by Phase 2 of the consultation. A decision will be made at a board meeting in February, 2016 (date TBC)
- Parent Question – “Is there curriculum specialists that can talk to parents and answer parent questions? – Yes, but very few of them. Perhaps a consideration before the deadline for input on the Parent Survey.

3.3 **Technological Supports**

- LPS is part of a cohort receiving \$7000 for spending on technology this school year
- Mme Proulx/Mme Kavita/Mme Shields – attended a meeting today to choose resources from a list of approved technology - accessories/tech tubs/mice/wireless items/iPads, etc.
- Current plan is to dismantle the COWs (cart on wheels) and equip each class enough technology to support embedded learning – as a natural part of the day. Helpful for students that like using tech in class.
- Mentioned needing the infrastructure in school to support all involved to move towards this goal.
- Currently there are 5 classrooms that don’t have projection equipment. This will need to be addressed in the plan.
- Plan also needs to determine what else needs to be spread around to all classes; get the teachers on board; then implement all the right products; then encourage everyone to use products.
- The money needs to be spent before end of December
- School also has to factor in installation costs (and timing, as there can be a long wait to have IT support)
- The funds are sufficient to kickstart this plan but there will be ongoing/future needs. School Council may be approached for financial support once a more concrete implementation plan is in place.
- Council agreed in principle will need to see/consider the plan noting that ensuring that a key challenge is having staff trained adequately on integrating these tools in their teaching

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- This will be a great opportunity as students will be expected to be familiar with and use all this technology when in Middle School.

3.4 Australian's High Commission Holiday Greeting card contest

- The Australian High Commissioner will present awards in-person to our contest winners on Dec. 17th just before the holiday concert.

3.5 Chess Club changes

- The Learn to Play Association (LPTA) will be offering chess to Gr. 1 and 2
- Mr. Amjoun will also be organizing a chess club for Gr. 3 to 5. Also planning possibility of attending chess tournament(s).

3.6 Swim to Survive for Gr. 3 students

- Three in-pool dates at the Dovercourt Recreation Centre Pool. Three in-class sessions are also planned.

3.7 Meeting with principal of DA Moodie

- Discussed how the students are doing with the DA Moodie transition, EFI with MFI. Not sure if able to mix EFI and MFI, depends on MFI #'s – but confident they won't need to mix them. Perhaps an opportunity for our teachers to meet with their teachers on how to help with transition.

3.8 School parking lot situation

- OCDSB is not doing anything to increase space for parking.
- Parking spots are at a premium therefore to be kept for LPS staff. Volunteers/parents coming after 8:31 am can park in the bus lane as well as on the side streets.
- Please note that Corskstown parking lot may not be plowed over the winter.

3.9 Buddy bench update

- Because the buddy benches have to meet with strict safety standards, bench purchases have to be done via a specific purchasing procedure thru the school board.

3.10 Parent Question: **Kinder playground** needs major improvements due to grass being destroyed and creating a lot of mud. Mme Shields intends to work with the Board Facilities folks to find a workable solution given that sod cannot be planted until Spring and needs to be cordoned off and tended to regularly for it to grow/thrive. Soccer fields are also in bad need of grass seeding/sodding.

3.11 Comment: School website calendar is missing the School Council meeting dates.

4. Leadership Report – presented by Melissa L and Carrie R

4.1 Possible Funding Initiative #1 - Painted game(s) lines on playground asphalt

- To provide more play options, Chairs put for consideration funding the cost of new painted games on the school ground asphalt. I.e., hopscotch, 4-square, snakes/ladders, mazes, Twister, 100's chart, etc. (Google has lots)
- There are many that can be used as teaching tools as well
- Mme Shields has a contact she will provide so we can get an idea of costing/options. This will not occur until

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late Spring.

4.2 Possible Funding Initiative #2 - RBC “Blues in Schools” Program

- Background document provided before the meeting. 2 week program, cost to Council would be \$900 – details of what’s offered are in the background document.
- Chairs proposed that LPS submit an application for this program. Mme Shields has had experience with this in another school.
- Mme Shields to complete the application, although organizers have said that there is a large number of applicant schools, but we will still apply nonetheless.

4.3 Ukulele Kids Lessons

- With Mme Shield’s support, we would like to try and offer the Ukulele Kids program to our students. Details provided in background document sent prior to meeting.
- We are gathering information about the program to send home to parents in the new year to determine if we have sufficient students enrolled to run the program (a minimum of 8 students is needed)

4.4 Social Media Safety Presentation by Paul Davis

- Paul Davis is a very well-known educator that has presented to numerous schools/students about how they can/should use social media in a safe and appropriate way. He also speaks to parents about their responsibilities in guiding children in the world of social media.
- Thanks to Mme Shields’ support, Council has an opportunity to join with Grant Alternative School (on Draper Ave – about 7min from LPS) who is hosting Mr. Davis on **Monday, February 22** for a parent workshop that evening.
- Lakeview parents would be invited to join in this evening session.
- Lakeview students in Gr. 3-5 would also receive a 60-minute presentation from Paul on the same day.
- LPS Council will be asked to split the total costs (approx. \$600 is our share).
- It will be important to really rally as many parents to go to the event as we can.
- Council could offer carpooling to parents. Welcome other ideas.
- **Melissa will send an E-Motion in the New Year to vote on our share of the costs / or vote at January meeting**

4.5 School Travel Planning Committee

- Mme Shields is trying to find a teacher representative for this committee, replacing Mme Gagnon.
- Lakeview Community Walking Group Idea - parent-driven/run
 - Determine 2-3 meeting points (i.e. Lakeview Park / Corkstown Pool / somewhere off Crystal Beach Dr.) where parents can drop of their child at 8:10am and be walked to school in a group with a few parent 'leaders' to supervise.
 - This would be run outside the school (i.e. no need for 'permission' forms and no teacher supervision)
 - Promotion through: Council; signs at meeting points; giveaways from GCC and OPH; iWalk club cards (collect stamps/earn prizes) etc.
 - Aim to do it once a week (i.e. "Walking Wednesdays")
 - Once a month, we could get school buses to drop off at Corkstown Pool and walk the bus kids up (this

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would require blanket field trip approval and teacher supervision – Mme Shields to seek interest from staff)

- Mme Shields will post an online 'survey' to see which parents would be interested in being a walking group leader; how many parents would be interested in dropping their child off at the drop-off points to be walked to school in a group; which day of the week is preferable (Walking Wednesday is what we prefer).
- If there's interest, we could kick off in February Winter Walk Day (Feb 10)
- We could 'train' Gr. 5's to be leaders and help walk the group.
- Green Communities (our partner) can organize to have Ottawa Safety Council do a presentation to core group of parents and Gr. 5 leaders on walking group safety
- Melissa wrote to Deputy Mayor/Councillor Mark Taylor about: feasibility/installation of flexible speed stakes (for the spring); ensuring the Transitway development is closely watched for impacts for the school; and getting Corkstown Pool lot plowed for winter. Expect to meet with Mr. Taylor in January for an update on possible measures he can help with.
- Rick Collins has offered to keep us posted on Transitway construction at Corkstown near Moodie and will represent the school's interests at future meetings.
- Winter Walk Day is planned for: **Wed. Feb. 10, 2016**
- Community reporting about speeding/near miss issues on Corkstown should be done via the Ottawa Police Services' [online reporting tool](#) - **the only way to get more police enforcement on our streets.**
- Next STP Committee meeting is: **Mon. Jan. 18, 2016 at 4:00pm.** – All are welcome to join!

4.6 **Crossing Guard** - Current crossing guard to stay; Possible gift card for the holiday season as a thank you for their service.

4.7 **LPTA Recess/Lunch Programs** - Parent express desire to have more program diversity. Can they accommodate other programs? Mme Shields to follow-up and report back.

4.8 Possible Funding Initiative #3 - Buddy Benches

- A small description of this initiative was sent when the agenda was sent out.
- Some discussion on how to ensure the 'bench' isn't used as a means of ridiculing children who are feeling excluded.
- The feeling is there is a large teaching piece that must accompany such a project but one parent spoke to its success at another school; and there are many testimonials out there of it working.
- This was raised as a potential "fundraising goal" for Mayfair 2016.
- Costing can be up to \$1000/bench (must adhere to OCDSB procurement policies)
- We would propose purchase/install of TWO benches – one for the kinder yard/one for larger yard.
- No decision is needed yet, but Chairs welcome your thoughts/support/concerns.

4.9 Sound System

- Carrie reported that she has found a company that will take our current system (stored at her house) for a

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trade-in (\$400 approx) and has a system that will suit our needs that we can purchase.

- The total cost to us after the trade in will be around \$200.
- We would be keeping the microphones, cords and the speaker stands (which was deducted from the trade-in value)
- **UPDATE** – post meeting - Teachers expressed a desperate need of a functioning sound system for their holiday concerts so Chairs proceeded with the trade-in of the old system and purchased the new one.
- We are happy to report that the new system was a success!

4.10 Leadership opportunities for Syrian refugees (Mme Jane)

- She hopes to initiate some form of support as a school but would appreciate when/where Council might be able to participate
- She suggested addressing on-going refugee needs as they develop over time, possibility tying it into February Friendship concert, possible Read-a-Thon, etc.

4.11 Holiday Baking for school staff

- Baking for staff (Dec. 14th – 18th) Traditional foods, sweets, healthy snacks too; will be soliciting happy bakers; list to go out; will need 2 volunteer bakers per day (37 on staff, 3 are gluten free, nut allergy too)

5. Fundraising Update – presented by Sneh M

5.1 Fundscrip Gift Card Campaign

- Holiday ordering period ended but the site will remain ‘active’
- We have had 24 supporters sign up, but only a handful placed orders.
- We will trial this as an ‘open/ongoing’ fundraiser (like Mabel’s Labels) and determine if it is worth continuing
- Consider setting up a table with a laptop at the next movie night where parents can sign up and see how it works as a way to promote it
- Open to feedback/ideas.

5.2 Proposed future Movie Night dates

- Friday, January 29th
- Suggestion to have students vote on 2-3 movie options and to show winning vote. Aim for movies that are more current to draw in the older grade students (i.e. Inside Out)
- April 1st (April Fool’s) – this movie night could be a “Parent Appreciation” night with no costs for admission.

5.3 Electronic Waste Community Event

- Consider hosting another E-waste fundraiser on the April 1 movie night / or on the Saturday (April 2) but allow families to drop off their items at the movie night.

5.4 Lakeview School Swag Clothing

- Using SAM Group (like last year), but will be adding some new items for purchase (new color, new logo)
- This will be run likely over the 1st 2 weeks of March (before March break like last year).

6. Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned by Melissa at 8:45 pm.

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Signatures

Melissa Lebel

Melissa L , Co-Chair

Prepared by Co-Secretary: Julie W

Next Meeting is ****Tuesday, January 12th, 2016, 6:30 p.m.****

Send regrets to: chair@lakeviewschoolcouncil.ca