

HAPSC Meeting Minutes
10 March 2009

Present: Adam, Barbatbun, Brommersma, Calder, Daniels, Franklin, Inglis, Jull, McDonald, Owens, Savoie, Sprott, Weber, Gleason, Hill, Turpin, MacDonald, De Grandpré, Theriautt, Hiltz, Small.

Regrets: Charland, Goodrich

Absent: Fines, Johnstone-Hobbs, Maule, McAtee, Oliver, Turnbull, Huang, Santor, Nadia.

1. **Rob Campbell, OCDSB Zone 9 Trustee** addressed Council on proposed removal of Congregated Gifted Program from Hopewell and First Avenue to D. Roy Kennedy.
2. **Agenda** approved; **February minutes** approved.
3. **Principal Nicole Turpin** reported on (a) **Fifth Disease** presence in the school. (b) **Space Camp** recently returned and went well, many thanks to Kathryn, Tina, and other parent volunteers. (c) **Band Concert** will be held April 7 rather than previously posted April 8. (d) **A Buzz of Activity** in the classrooms throughout the school, including science experiments, plays, etc. (e) **The Balanced School Day** which is under consideration for next year. Ms Turpin and **Vice Principal Kim MacDonald** showed a Power Point presentation prepared by the Board. Arguments for the change include larger blocks of instructional time and recreational/nutritional time, resulting in improved learning; decreased discipline problems in the yard (the last 10 minutes of lunch typically being the time when discipline issues arise); improved nutrition opportunities (empirical observation that more children eat more of their lunches in this scenario); additional options for extracurricular activities; fewer transitions (snowsuits); improved contact with specialist teachers. Discussion followed concerning possible timetables, the accommodation of intermediate students on the yard during breaks, and the loss of “lunch” as we know it. Ms Turpin also mentioned that next year Hopewell will adopt a M-F schedule instead of the current 5-day schedule.
4. **Reports:** (a) **Space Camp:** Kathryn Owens reported that the Space Camp trip went very well. Organization, programs, children’s behaviour, safety, chaperones, fundraising efforts all excellent. Ms Owens asked for a working group to be struck if the structure of the program is going to be changed; Ms Turpin assented. (b) **Safe & Caring Schools:** Tina Daniels reported that the Administration has allocated \$500 for the purchase of playground toys and that a request has been made to the Budget Committee for an additional \$500. Ms Turpin proposed hiring David Ho to train intermediate students to run games and sports for younger children in the yard. A security camera will be installed in the parking lot/entrance to school over March Break. This will not be a live-feed camera. (c) **Shop Local Initiative** sold 367 books, earning \$3,640 for Council. One-half of proceeds goes to the Shop Local Organization. (d) **Band Trip** is a go.

5. **Chair's Report:** Council Chair Tina Daniels discussed the proposed removal of the grades 7 & 8 Gifted Program from Hopewell. Burgeoning enrollment at Hopewell calls for hard choices; the two classrooms that would be freed by the removal of the program are desperately needed. Alternative would be to remove JK/SK to another school (by bus). Ms Daniels states the removal of the program is a short-term solution, but a major accommodation review is what is really called for; she urges Council to put pressure on the Board for a review of boundaries.
6. **New Business:** (a) **Traffic Committee** to be struck to look at issues consequent to the proposed Shoppers Drug Mart on the Bank/Sunnyside corner. (b) **BBQ/Kindergarten Info Night** proposed for June 17, but Ms Turpin will check whether that conflicts with Band Trip.
7. **Next Meeting:** April 14.