



Record of Decision 2012-10-04

1) Welcome

- a) In Attendance: Elizabeth Fetterley, Denise Smeaton, Donata Leuenberger, Hana Bland, Joyce Blier, Kevin Gilmore, Malia Robin, Sam Loveridge, John Shea, Debbie Aufleger, Cathy Bryson, Jim Elliott, Louisa Fyfe, Connie Jesso, Corrie Hamilton, Nancy Lebrun, David Loveridge, Cherie Maracle, Denise McLean, Janet Patch, Nicky Romain, Christine Reus, Susan Woodhouse
- b) Regrets: Miriam Halevy, Laurie Mack, Jacquie Fildes, Jeff Clemenhagen

2) Approval of the Record of Decision for 2012-09-13 Meeting - *approved*

3) Elections

a) 2012-2013 Executive:

- i)Chair - Elizabeth Fetterley (*second term of Chair, graduated from Co-Chair*)
- ii)Co-Chair - Denise Smeaton (*acclaimed*)
- iii)Outgoing Chair - Mitch Quinn
- iv)Treasurer - Donata Leuenberger (*current*)
- v)Secretary - Joyce Blier (*acclaimed*) Nicky & Debbie to back-up

b) 2012-2013 Special Positions:

- i)Community Rep - *seat remains open* - Options to ask Deborah Wyatt or a representative from the Metro
- ii)OCASC Rep - *seat remains open*
- iii)WebSite Administrator - Hana Bland
- iv)Craft Fair Committee - Louisa Fyfe & Janet Patch
- v) PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Committee - Corinne Davison & Denise Smeaton

c) Voting Members - Debbie Aufleger, Hana Bland, Corinne Davison, Louisa Fyfe, Connie Jesso, Corrie Hamilton, Miriam Halevy, Nancy Lebrun, David Loveridge, Cherie Maracle, Denise McLean, Janet Patch, Nicky Romain, Christine Reus, Susan Woodhouse. *The Executive are automatically voting members; the Principal, Teachers's Rep & Student Rep. do not vote.*

4) Reports

a) Voices (Student) Report - Sam Loveridge

- i)25-30 student members of Voices
- ii)students are slowly moving beyond the situation with the teachers and trying to organise as many clubs and groups as possible
- iii)orientation day hosted by link crew - integrating grade nines
- iv)car wash for Terry Fox and the walk was held last Thursday
- v)today was CW spirit day - visitors to the school would have been blinded by orange & blue
- vi)upcoming Hallowe'en events - planned by voices - a Hallowe'en dance & Hallowe'en spirit day

Next CWSS Council Meeting: Thursday, October 4, 2012 @ 7PM in the School Library

- vii)planning as many normal items as possible with the limited supervision available
 - viii)leadership camp is in the works and almost completely set to go
 - ix)Co-Presidential callout to students (with Sam)
 - x)intramurals are stronger than ever -all held at lunch break - basketball currently running - there is still very much spirit at CW
- b) Teachers Report - Malia Robin
- i)great day for Terry Fox Run
 - ii)school impressions have changed as Orleans Wood parent commented
 - iii)Catherine Currie science teacher - grew potatoes - 2.7 kg - intention is to donate them to the food bank - hoping to expand for next year
 - iv)Ms. Trachy - both concert bands going well
 - v)Drama Program - auditions complete; rehearsals start Tuesday (*internal production not Cappies production*)
 - vi)Geography field trip - Lusk Caves
 - vii)Grounds greening - Eco-Schools - looking to get an outdoor classroom - butterfly garden going & vegetable garden going - some designs submitted but The Board has to approve - biodiversity is to be included
- c) Principal's Report - Kevin Gilmore
- i)Biodiversity: we are uniquely situated; grants have been provided for our cross country trails
 - ii)School Numbers (815) are phenomenal; we are busting at the seams; first portable to come. Currently, even though we are just under capacity our ability to rotate and have dedicated spaces is limited, e.g. reduces computer access. We not going to end up with a portable jungle since this year's outgoing grade 12 contingent is larger than the projected incoming grade 9's for the following year. So our numbers should still go down. This all good news as we have gained new staffing and lots of support from The Board; there will still be some slight adjustments to classes and some sections have been added for next semester. This means we are a school of choice! Fantastic news!
 - iii)Challenges: we are facing real challenges due to the labour situation; 2/28 schools have a full program of extracurricular activities and some of these are now succumbing to attrition
 - iv)Homework Club: a contract position created - staffed by Steve McFadyen
 - v)School Spirit: currently still a positive spirit among the students - remarkably - this is reflection on where the school is at this point - very democratic. Our challenge is to show that we have a great culture in the face of great adversity and challenge; lunch time is very vibrant - old time games are being played and teachers are very supportive with intramurals. This should carry over to other aspects of school - there is no shortage of ideas from the students on activities that could fill the void
 - vi)Core Education: is getting done very well in the school - classroom atmosphere is very positive also
 - vii)**Parent Volunteers:** we are open for volunteers - not very many people coming forward - *perhaps awareness needs to be boosted by Council*
 - viii)Winter Athletics Deadline (Oct 31): swimming, Jr & Sr boys basketball; hockey and downhill skiing. Volunteers must be aware up front what is involved - Miriam Halevy to admin ski club
 - ix)Leadership Camp - 5 parents have volunteered - VPs and Principal will rotate out
- d) Financial Report - Donata
- i)Total Income: \$0 - Craft Fair estimated at \$3930 with 70+ tables booked to date; Total Expenditures: \$0; Bank Balance: \$1370.69; Outstanding Payments: \$0; Earmarked Funds (including summer carry-over and funds held on behalf of other groups): \$652.12; Unencumbered Funds: \$0

- e) OCASC Report
 - i) Reports available on the OCASC web page - Council will add a link to OCASC to the Cairine Wilson SS Parent Council page
- 5) Guest Speaker - *John Shea*
 - a) come by 2x per year - based on a good discussion in september
 - b) Background of current teachers' labour situation: Early in 2012 bargaining is ongoing with Province; Province signs Memorandum of Agreement with English Catholic Teachers (OECTA) and subsequently French Teachers; Aug 31 collective agreements expired as no agreements with Public School Teachers (OSSTF & ETFO); Sept 11 Bill 115 is assented - in essence collective agreements not imposed but requires boards to negotiate collective agreements **by Dec 31** - all local agreements to be "substantively identical" to the Memorandum of Understanding; The Bill does not prevent strikes or lock-outs, only gives the government special power to order workers back to work in this event; the education workers unions are strongly opposed to this legislation and plan to challenge the constitutional validity of the Bill by way of protest, specifically by "taking a pause" on extra curricular activities - *Sept 18 the Board of Trustees met and the main topic was labour issues - the Board staff needs to do anything and everything to salvage the winter season - so ironing out volunteer parameters is key*
 - c) Negotiations Process: Collective Bargaining is still governed by the Labour Relations Act (Bill 115 simply covers what happens if the process fails) - the Board & the Union must still follow the same steps as always to reach an agreement; strike vote not an uncommon tactic in the bargaining process and doesn't always lead to a strike - *Oct 24 & 25 both Elementary & Secondary unions took overwhelming strike votes - Ottawa has a good relationship locally with the unions, yet what we are seeing now at the '2' schools is that the teachers have given up on their positions to volunteer - furthermore there is a clear direction coming from the larger and more numerous school districts in the Toronto area - the situation is evolving quickly;*
 - d) Either side may ask for a conciliator to be appointed by the Ministry of Labour to help reach an agreement - if no agreement is reached during this process then the conciliator has the power to issue a report advising both sides that a Conciliation Board will not be appointed (a "No Board Report"); no strike may occur before the 17th day after a "No Board Report" - *OSSTF centrally requested Conciliation Officers for the bargaining units - 6 conciliators appointed so far to 9 bargaining units - no dates yet - It is possible for further labour disruptions to occur in the coming weeks and months. "While this is a possibility, I want to reassure you that the Board of Trustees remains committed to negotiating an agreement with our unions."*
 - e) *Remember Dec 31 is the date by which Bill 115 requires all school districts will have collective agreements in place, otherwise the government reserves the right to impose collective agreements as part of its authority under the Putting Students First Act.*
 - f) Extra-Curricular Activities: *As parents* we need to create immediate wins for the kids - we need to look ahead at sports and other non sports-teams
 - g) *From the student body perspective* - at this point the teachers will not go back this year - students will support the teachers
 - h) So the student body must give us some ideas as to where they want Council to support them: dance supervision could be one place to help, i.e. one-off events; we need to define the box - How far can parents go? How can we help?? The admin staff also suggests steering kids to community sports and activities/events
 - i) *John Shea* - closing comments - as former student of CW - the loss of extracurricular activities at such a formerly vibrant extra-curricular school breaks his heart - yet he is glad to see that Cairine seems to be moving in a positive direction...
- 6) Old Business
 - a) Meet the Teacher
 - i) very successful night - teachers were very supportive

- ii) info session afterward also - some parents attended to ask questions and voice their opinions
- b) Increasing awareness of Council
 - i) More visibility among parents - reached out further than just Parent Council members via the Council table as well as revamping the website and creating a Facebook page... more to come
- 7) Action Items
 - a) fall funding
 - i) need some flexibility with what we provide - other options that may task our finances because of the labour action - perhaps more student support than teacher support - we need a plan for how to support the kids' experience
 - ii) move to support Cheryl Daniels \$100 - *carried*
 - b) Parental Involvement & PRO Grant - *thank you, Denise Smeaton and Corinne Davison*
 - i) discussion deferred until next month
 - c) Craft Fair - *thank you, Louisa Fyfe*
 - i) Voices will get student volunteers - Link Crew & Voices to band together - motion to provide Voices \$150 for food for the café - *carried*
 - ii) Volunteer lists; donation of drinks, disposable cups, etc.
 - iii) Sign Distribution - need a Sign Champion: involves updating the signs to reflect this year's date. distributing them, with a small map to the area to be covered - volunteers, collecting signs from volunteers, then taking the signs back to school for storage.
 - iv) The kitchen supervisor - needed all day in the kitchen of course this can be done in 2 or 3-hour blocks.
 - v) A Food Purchaser - would purchase ten packages of hot dogs, an equal number of buns, and appropriate amount of condiments, paper plates and serviettes. They would deliver the food on the morning of Nov. 17. We have a donation of plastic cutlery from a volunteer, but I do not know the exact number. Supplemental plastic cutlery may need to be purchased.
- 8) New Business
 - a) Student Activity Fees
 - i) \$35 voluntary fee - primarily for Voices, student initiatives are being run
 - b) Post-secondary pathways are high priority for grade 12 students
 - c) October speaker - none (we will have plenty to action before the Craft Fair)
- 9) Adjournment - 9:12 PM

Thanks to all Council Members for your time and effort!