



## APPLEWOOD HEIGHTS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

**Thursday January 15, 2009  
MINUTES**

### **PRESENT:**

**Parent Members:** Jan Yousef (Co-Chair), Penny Devine (Co-Chair), Annemarie McKay (Secretary), Debbie Austin (Communications), Ella Dicker (Communications-E-Mail), Wendy Chant, Lisa O'Brien, Vida Stripinis  
**Staff Members:** Ted Byers (Principal), Patrick Tannahill (Teacher)  
**Student Members:** Gloria Hu, Shani Ocquaye

**WELCOME:** Penny Devine welcomed all present, and introductions were made.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of meetings held November 27, 2008 were approved.

**STUDENT REPORT:** Gloria Hu (Grade 10) and Shani Ocquaye (Grade 12)

- Dec 1-Dec 5: Spirit Week (DDR, Guitar Hero, Karaoke, Movie Day, sold popcorn)
- Dec 3 Annual "Sounds of the Season" Concert was very entertaining
- Raised \$350.00 to be donated to cancer research
- Dec 19<sup>th</sup> Last day of School = Christmas Concert-school was let out early because of Snow Day
- Dec 22-Jan 2 Christmas Break
- Semi-Formal on February 20<sup>th</sup>: Location Pavilion Royale Theme: Las Vegas-Tickets \$40-\$45 per person
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Semi-Formal planned in April-Student Ajay Aery-Red Rose Banquet Hall \$30.00 person
- SAC Breakfasts
- Selling cotton candy and popcorn regularly or every two weeks

**PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE:** Ted Byers, Principal

### **1. Course Selection Process has began for Next School Year**

- Grade 8 students received selection forms in December and they are being returned now
- Our students began course selection January 14<sup>th</sup> using course selection website and deadline For submissions is Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>

### **2. Program Update**

- Continuing focus on assessment and data:
  - Early identification of students at risk and remediation
  - Importance of formative assessment throughout the course to build skills and confidence
  - Guest Speaker on May PD Day: Damian Cooper, author of Talk About Assessment
- **Literacy EQAO Preparation:** EQAO Test: Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup> (province-wide)

### **3. Upcoming Events**

- Black History Month- February
- Term 2 report card March 5<sup>th</sup>
- Parents Night March 12

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Jan Yousef, Co-Chair

**Project Mosaic 2**

- Grant application submitted to Min. of Education for the Parents Reaching Out grant program for Project Mosaic 2 to continue our work from last year. Still awaiting approval.
  
- Planning for 2008-09 workshops has begun in partnership with the school Guidance Dept. We plan to start with:
- **Study and Exam Preparation Skills** - fall/spring
- **Planning for the Future** - March 12/08 at Parent/ Teacher night
  - Topics to be covered include:
    - Post-Secondary learning alternatives (Guidance Dept.)
    - Scholarships, bursaries, grants/loans available (Guidance Dept.)
    - OSAP Program (guest speaker arranged by Guidance Dept. – R. Sutton)
    - Summer jobs and how to find them (Guidance Dept.)
    - Summer Company Program (Jan to arrange for guest speaker from Ministry of Small Business and Consumer Services Summer Company program)
    - Volunteer Opportunities ((Guidance Dept.)
- **Careercruising.com** - Dec./08 parent night
  - Hands on workshop lead by Teresa Allworth in a computer lab to check our how to use careercruising.com website to investigate different careers
- **Career Theme Night** - Apr./May-Date to be confirmed
  - More volunteers needed. Let us know if you can help or if you know someone who can. I'm sure we have lots of talented parent professionals in all lines of work at this school (professions, trades, etc.) – we need their help for this. We'll also need volunteers to help coordinate this event. That's why we plan to have it in the spring to allow us time to plan it properly. Have two people confirmed so far.
  - **Developing Social Skills as an Adolescent**
    - Have asked SAC reps. to help us determine topics to be covered (#1 choice from student survey)
- **Council Website** – Now Live. Check it out. Jan also wanted to thank Mr. Stephen Knox for his assistance in working with her to get the council website up and running. She also wanted to acknowledge her son Michael for his help as well.
- **Email Database**
  - We are currently at 200 addresses.
  - Ella actively collecting e-mail addresses at school events and has engaged students to assist and earn volunteer hours
- **Staff Appreciation Breakfast**
  - In the past, council has organized an Annual Staff Appreciation Breakfast to say thanks to teachers and staff for all their hard work with kids. Usually held on the turn around day in January (Jan 29th this year) parents drop off foods/drinks on the morning of the breakfast after 7:30 a.m. Need parent volunteers to help set up in morning. Need volunteer to help coordinate this and have last year's instructions and invite poster to guide up with planning the event.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** all

- One parent was inquiring about a program called Canadian Parents for French. The principal said that he was going to look into it further.

Next Meeting: February 19, 2009

*Minutes Prepared by A. McKay*