

## John English Junior Middle School Student Advisory Committee

Wednesday, January 15

### Principals/Vice Principals Report

- **Ice:** The schoolyard is obviously covered with ice and it is quite treacherous. Indoor recess has been imposed until it thaws or is cleared for safety reasons. The school board had made a decision that the playground areas would not be ploughed. Mr. Howe has made many enquiries trying to find a solution and had to go to a senior person in the TDSB to get the area iced. The caretakers have also been breaking up the ice whenever they can and they are now starting to make some progress and outdoor recess will resume.
- **Staff Changes:** Mr. Bedrosian will be going on leave and going to move to a secondary school position effective Friday. There will be a substitute teacher for one week and Madame Way will be the new teacher starting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. Madame Gravel is going on maternity on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be replaced by Madame D'Sa for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Bedrosian and Madame Gravel will be preparing the report cards for their classes before they leave the school.
- The winter concert was a huge success and our auditorium was packed!
- French Immersion Parent information night took place last week and 35 to 40 parents were in attendance.
- Report cards will come home on February 11. Interviews will be held on February 13. During this period not all students will receive an interview. Interviews will be held for those requested by the teacher. However, all parents are welcome to connect with their teacher to discuss any questions, or concerns that they have.
- Skating will commence soon for the Grade 1 – 5. Skating dates will be posted or sent out soon.
- Ski trip to Snow Valley for Grade 6 – 8 pm January 30<sup>th</sup>.
- January 23 from 9 am – 11 am Trading Exposition for Grade 6 will take place in the cafeteria.
- Volleyball, hockey, basketball and Co Op Games are underway.
- Musical rehearsals going on every day to prepare for the May performances
- Ukulele, Art Club, Chess Club, Eco, Equity and Science (Lego) Club are all underway
- February 19 – A Citizenship ceremony will take place at John English. Some students will be in attendance.
- Albion Hills went very well for the Grade 7s.
- January 23<sup>rd</sup>: a singing and dancing performer will be in auditorium for the younger grades (Jack Grunsky)

### Board Business

The following are tentative dates for upcoming annual events:

- Movie night: April 4<sup>th</sup>
- Dance-a-thon: April 25th

- Chapters night: TBA
- Music Monday: May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Spring Concert (late May week of 19<sup>th</sup> or week of 26<sup>th</sup> - Thursday)

### **Treasurers Report**

- Terry Durette not present/no report

### **Fundraising**

The fundraising committee has the idea to do a pizza day on certain Fridays as a fundraiser. However, we need volunteers to run this kind of program. There was a suggestion to have the Grade 8's assist with the organization of the program which could directly benefit their graduation trip. If you are interested in working on this initiative that is fun for the kids, convenient for lunch-packing parents, and benefits the school, please contact the SAC. [sacinfo@johnenglish.ca](mailto:sacinfo@johnenglish.ca)

### **Programs**

#### **Ukulele**

- This year the program has its biggest group so far: 75 students. There are some challenges around scheduling this year with the strings program, instrumental and the school musical but it is working out with some arranging with parents and teachers.

#### **Healthy Bites**

- From Wendy Kitson: HB gets money from registration as well as from the TDSB. There was a \$14000 surplus at the beginning of the year. \$8000 was just spent on a new oven. Now the fridges are starting to break down. A suggestion has been made to have some of the proceeds from movie night go to the Healthy Bites program, either on a one year on one year off, or a split. This idea was put forward as HB needs to put together a fundraising plan. Recently, the surplus was depleted with the purchase of some expensive equipment. The committee foresees that there will likely be a need for more replacements as equipment ages. As the HB program contributes to the movie night fundraiser through volunteer time, this motion has gone forward and was approved. Marie suggested that the treasurer would need to be consulted before giving a commitment of an actual dollar amount.

#### **Health & Safety Committee**

A parent has voiced a concern about children crossing the intersection at Hillside and Central. Close by, Mark Grimes has lobbied to put a four way stop at Central and Symons. (This has already been approved by the city). As there is already a motion approved so close to this location, Mr. Howe said that the recommendation from the municipality will likely be to send the children a different way.

**Other Business**

A parent suggested having a SAC meeting during the day so that she can take advantage of the time when her children are in school. This will be raised at a later date with the parent population through a survey to see if this is something we should consider.

**Next meeting will be held: Wednesday, February 12**