



Kars on the Rideau School Council Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Minutes taken by Kara Hayne.

Present: Rick Haggar, Sherrie Guthrie, Shereene de Rosayro, Kara Hayne, Kim Cable, Diane Dey, Vicki Arkinstall, Gabriela Guigou, Lynn Scott, Rowena Pearl, Bonnie Fiarchuk, Lianna Titcombe, Carm Janneteau

Regrets:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Kim welcomed everyone and informed the group that she would not be running for Chair on Council for the 2017/18 year, as the KOTR Council Bylaws allow members to serve as an executive for a maximum of 2 consecutive yearsⁱ (unless there is no other expression of interest in the position).

All participants introduced themselves.

2. Principal's Report

- Rick introduced and welcomed Sherrie Guthrie, who is half time Vice Principal and half time teaching kindergarten. Rick also praised all the teachers for their commitment in getting settled for the year so quickly.
- The new music teacher Mrs. Eastman is working very hard to ensure all students get their first pick instrument. A shipment of additional instruments is coming soon to make this happen.
- The school successfully reached its goal of increasing communications with regards to busses. Safety talks at assemblies contributed greatly to this.
- Meet the Teacher night conflicts with other schools in the area and therefore the KOTR Meet the Teacher night will be rescheduled to Tuesday September 19th (5:30-7:30pm).
- The calendar of events on the KOTR school website already shows all planned activities for the entire school year. The date of the Meet the Teacher will be corrected in the calendar and communicated to parents through flyers sent home with students.
- The school now has 300 devices (iPads and Chrome Books) (from zero just 3 years ago!). Approximately 40% of new purchases in the past 2 years have been paid by Council budget. This has significantly increased students' access to technology.

- Joint ventures between the School, Council and the community have improved KOTR with:
 - a new track,
 - fully updated and equipped gym (projector, screen, mats, fresh coat of paint),
 - 300 devices, and
 - Physical wellbeing in physical play (outdoor balls, new basketball court with lines in pavement)

3. 2016-2017 Council Summary

- None of the Council executives plan on returning as executives this year. Elections will be required for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Kim Cable shared a copy of the final August and draft September Financial Reports. In 2016-17, Council spent:
 - \$18,050 on school funding requests including technology, light boxes for Kindergarten rooms, gym equipment, and kindergarten play equipment, etc. Council aims to raise and spend the same amount in 2017-18.
 - \$8,000 on Standing Motions (pre-approved budgets) including admin expenses, retirement/leaving gifts, greening committee, reading and literacy, teacher consumables, etc.
 - \$17,000 on additional expenses including school trips, grade 8 graduation, and educational programming (dance workshops, stained glass, Scientists in the School, etc), etc.

4. Council Elections 2017-2018

- Kim announced that only 2 nominations were submitted – one for Secretary and one for Vice-Chair. Other positions will remain vacant for now, and Council members will encourage parents to apply. The Teacher Rep is not yet identified.

MOTION to accept Kara Hayne's nomination as Secretary:

Motion made by Kim Cable

1st Diane Dey, 2nd Rowena Pearl

Motion **PASSED**

MOTION to accept Shereene de Rosayro's nomination as Vice-Chair:

Motion made by Kim Cable

1st Bonnie, 2nd Rowena Pearl

Motion **PASSED**

5. Current Business

a) *Approval of June Minutes*

The June 2017 Council meeting was held off-site and no minutes were taken. However the Council had made a decision to leave the \$5K surplus as seed money for the 2017-18 school year.

MOTION to affirm the decision to leave the surplus of \$5,192 as seed money for 2017-18:

Motion made by Kim

1st Rowena, 2nd Diane. All in agreement.

Motion **PASSED**

b) September Financials:

- Kim suggested the fundraising goal be the same as last year and therefore is forecasting the same expenses as last year. The budgets for items in the standing motions and additional expenses are forecasted the same as last year for now. The budget for School Funding Requests is also forecasted the same as last year (\$18K) with items TBD.
- No expenses this school year to date.

c) Proposed Council Events for 2017-2018:

- The proposed council events this year include: weekly lunch and milk program, jar walk, loonie/toonie sale, festive hot turkey lunch, dance-a-thon, cake walk, used book sale, staff appreciation luncheon, and provide volunteers and support for the End-of-Year BBQ and Scholastic Book Fair.
- The Jar Walk will be changed from Oct. 12 to 19th. More volunteers are needed.
- The Used Book sale is an extreme amount of work, but also one of the biggest fundraisers. To be discussed at next meeting how to lessen the load.
- Coordinators for each event to be given time on each Council meeting agenda to provide updates. Volunteers are needed for several fundraising activities.

Additional Business:

- Update from our Trustee, Lynn Scott:
 - The province is looking to update the Ontario curriculum. It will likely be based on the OCDSB Exit Outcomes Report. Ontario government will do consultations, but how and when are to be determined. The EQAO test may be broadened and de-emphasized as it is not meant to be assess school quality and student performance, but as a diagnostic tool. No changes will be made to the school day (schedule). They may change the report card format.
 - Parents are highly encouraged to visit the school board website to provide their input into the communications and consultations plan.
 - Equity continues to be a priority in the strategic plan in terms of ethnicity, language, special education needs, socioeconomic status, etc. But another aspect is rural equity – distance from homes makes long bus rides which takes away from children’s day and reduces their opportunity for extracurricular activity. The school board is exploring ways to bridge this gap (e.g. sharable devices to complete homework, internet connectivity and service providers increasing speed).
 - Parents are highly encouraged to do an internet speed test from their home to help with data collection. (<https://performance.cira.ca/>)
 - School accommodations review process is on hold
 - Osgoode Township boundaries may change due to Castor Valley overcrowding.

6. Coordinator Updates

- a. Teacher Representative - TBD

- b. Lunch & Milk Program
 - o Kim is happy to report that the new online lunch ordering system using PayPal is going smoothly. About 80% of lunch orders were done online, through which a good number of parents signed up for volunteering. The remaining 20% of orders were paid by cheque.

- c. Other:
 - o Bonnie will use some of the Greening Committee's budget on mulch for gardens around the school property (done every 2 years). This is a standing motion and therefore is pre-approved. No vote is necessary.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting will take place on October 10, 2017

ⁱ 5.4. No Parent Member may be elected for more than two (2) consecutive terms for any particular officer position. a) Notwithstanding section 5.4, a Parent Member may hold the position of Chair, Vice-Chair (or Co-chairs), Treasurer or Secretary for an additional term if no other Parent Member expresses interest in holding the position. Source: Page 3 http://kotrcouncil.weebly.com/uploads/1/3/0/3/13037032/kotr_bylaws_nov-2016.pdf