

RAPT Meeting 2016

Minutes Subject to Approval at Next RAPT Meeting

October 26, 2016

2016-2017 Council:
Vanessa Appleton, Co-Chair
Krista Sevdalis, Co-Chair
Jo Arbus, Secretary (Absent)
Christine Shin, Treasurer
Tania Somerville, Exec Council Member
Kim Proud, Exec Council Member (Absent)
Georgia Panagiotopoulos, Exec Council Member
Voula Zontanos, Exec Council Member

Staff:
Ms. L. Chadder, Principal
Ms. R. Ormos, Classroom Teacher
Mrs. P. Aitken, Classroom Teacher
Mrs. R. Mirza, ECE
Pela Gardiner, Daycare Rep for Roadsters (Absent)

Call to Order at 6:05pm

Location: Rippleton P.S. Staffroom

1) RAPT Welcome -Vanessa and Krista

a) Welcome to all the parents and staff. Thank you for joining us.

b) Vanessa motion to approve Sep. 21st Meeting Minutes. Georgia and Tania approve.

2) Principal's Report - Mrs. Chadder

a) Welcome and introduction of staff present at meeting.

b) School Happenings Update

-Sports/Clubs- Cross Country went well-3 kids going on to city finals (Ryan gr. 6, Louisa gr. 5, Arwen gr. 4) Just finished Boys Slo-pitch and Girls Bordenball. Girls Basketball starting next week and Boys Volleyball.

-Primary Choir started Oct. 22nd.

-The school has an Eco Warriors Club made up of students in grade 4-6. There will be an Eco Schools kick off assembly will be held on Friday Oct. 28th. 2 assemblies (JK-3, 4-6).

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-Fall Food Drive- Ongoing until November 2nd donations are going to North York Harvest Food Bank. Group of students making daily announcements. As well as students are asked to bring a canned good to the Halloween party for the We Scare Hunger campaign.

-Remembrance Day Assembly will be on Nov. 11th for grades 1-6, from 10:20-11. Unfortunately, due to limited space parents cannot attend. Kindergarten kids will do something in their classrooms. Classes are planning to place poppies on the front yard. On November 11th Burrito lunch preparation, will take place in the staffroom.

-Lots of things happening at Rippleton this month, class trips and Scientist in the Schools visits have been planned for November.

- c) School Connects- If you are not getting emails from the school weekly, please let the office know, so Mrs. Reyes can check your email address in the system.
- d) Progress Reports- will go home on November 16th. Parent/teacher interviews will be held on November 17 & 18. Parents should hear from the classroom teacher on setting up a time to meet. SK students will get a Progress Report and parent interview and JK parents will only have an interview this time.
- e) PART-Fresh of the press letter. Will go out tomorrow or October 28th. Feeder Schools to Windfields and St. Andrews have gone through an area review. Krista and Lynn attended the meeting on Monday and Vanessa on Thursday. There is one more opportunity on November 16th for the community to provide feedback/speak. **(See letter attached)**. November 23rd is the projected decision date. Everything is on the TDSB website, link can be found through RAPT.ca
- f) EQAO- Rippleton's EQAO scores: In June, grades 3 and 6 write the tests in reading, writing and mathematics. It is an assessment of every child in Ontario. Different setting than our children used to.
- Grade 3: 47 kids wrote Reading-87% met ministry standard, 89% in writing, 77% in math. Increase in reading and writing, math more difficult. Well above the provincial average.
- Grade 6: 38 kids wrote Reading-100% met level 3 or 4, 92% in writing, 55% in math. Math was a significant drop for us. Reading and writing significantly higher than last year. Math- 55% is board average and provincial avg-50%
- Parents receive their child's scores in the fall of the school year after the test was written. Parents can get a breakdown if they want their child's strengths and weaknesses. See Lynn if want further information.

Math scores declined across the province. Ministry recognizing math support is necessary. There is no textbook that meets curriculum expectation at this point.

Rippleton will have a Math Lead Teacher- Mrs. Aitken was at a Model School previously and she will attend professional development courses and share knowledge with staff.

Vanessa: Mentioned that RAPT would like to further support the teachers in the area STEM through RAPT's fundraising. "Rippleton is great school we obviously want our students to perform the best they can, however we know the scores are just numbers on paper, and it is the teachers, parents and staff make the school a great school".

- g) School Craft Night/Concert- At the Staff meeting it was discussed that parents want children to have performing opportunities. Difficult to have a holiday concert as the gym is small and capacity is limited. Going to continue with December Craft Night – Dec 14th. On this evening, there will also be a Scholastic Book Fair, Grade 6's will do bake sale, Charmaine's choir will perform, Primary choir can perform, perhaps also recorder. School will do a performance night in the spring – Possibly an outdoor concert or maybe in classrooms...this has yet to be decided. Students/classes will also have opportunities to perform at monthly assemblies.

3) RAPT Treasurer's Report – Christine

- a) 11k was raised Direct Donations. Down about 2k from last year. This money goes into the school budget account. The winner of the Draw for Pizza/Burrito Lunch was a sister and brother (Ella and Chen Kai Gao) and the family donated the money (\$225.00) back into the Grade 6 Graduation fund.
- b) 43k has been raised from pizza and burrito lunch sales.
- c) Gr. 6 Graduation Fund (15/16) – I was thought there was \$780 left over. It was discovered that the trip supply teacher had not been paid for from the fund. Because of this no money raised last year was left over.
- d) RAPT would like to request a school wish list for this year from teachers as soon as possible.
- e) Some items were allocated last year. Need to be revisited. Money put aside but hasn't been fulfilled.

4) RAPT Report (Fundraising & Events)- Vanessa and Krista

- a) RAPT purchased popsicles for students to enjoy after the Terry Fox run as the school raised over 3k

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- b) Spirit Wear Store is open online www.RAPT.ca SHOP. Nov 25th is a Spirit DAY- wear your spirit wear and/or crazy hair day. Dec 23rd is Pajama Day and/or Spirit Wear Day.
- c) Class Reps- Every class has class reps now. Some classes 1, some 2 or 3. If you would like to be include on your class rep email list please email RAPT and we will put you in touch with your REP.
- d) Recess Bags – were on last years wish list, for classes 1-6. Brought example-bags. There are balls, bat, sports equip, etc. Still need to purchase sand and snow toys. Teachers to use for daily physical activity and recess time. Teachers are asked to introduce equipment as they see fit. Everything labelled with classroom number. Teachers are to explain that students are responsible for their equipment. Lynn suggested RAPT provide inventory list. The bags will be distributed by Nov. 4th.
- e) Halloween Party – Sergio (DJ) to come to set-up at 8:30am. **Schedule attached.** Everyone will eat lunch in their classrooms on Monday. 40 parents coming to assist. Students are asked to bring \$1 or a canned good for the WE SCARE HUNGER campaign.
-RAPT donated a pumpkin to each class to decorate or carve. They will be used to as decoration on Halloween day and displayed outside of the office.
- f) Arts Performances- Money has been put aside to support performing arts shows this year. For the 1st prologue performance RAPT has tentatively booked the Dufflebag Theatre (acting group), for The Night Before Christmas. They will come on Monday, December 19th. Parents present were poled and there was no issues with having a “Christmas” themed show. Krista Motion to approve this show: Georgia, Vanessa, Voula, Tania approved. Two shows, grades Preschool-2 and 3-6. RAPT asked staff for some input on an arts presentation for the spring.
- g) Wellness/Character Matters/Anti-bullying Presentation. Speaker Sara Westbrook -Up Power Concerts. Tentatively booked for March 29th. We will have her for 2 student presentations & she could stay on for parent presentation in the evening. Sara’s topics for students are Jk-3 Superheros for Respect, Grades 4-6 Healthy, Resilient Mind Matters and for parents is 3 Habits of Resilient Families.
- h) PRO-Grant – School was given \$1000 for this year. On behalf of Kim, Vanessa spoke about Beverly Cathcart-Ross, our presenter from last year. Read list of her most popular topics.
It was suggested we bring both Beverly and Sara Westbrook to the school using our PRO-grant fund. Sara is \$400 and Beverly is \$500 so we can do both.

Vanessa motion to approve having both speakers. Georgia, Voula approved. Unanimous approval from the group to hold 2 separate parent nights.

The parents present decided to have Beverly speak about "Setting Limits" in February (date TBD).

5) Grade 6 Grad Fundraising Committee

a) Events- Book sale November 17th from 1-8 pm in conjunction with parent-interviews. There will be a bin in the foyer starting November 7th to collect used books.

-Bake Sale Dec. 14th. More Details to follow.

b) Party- Grad Committee has booked Breakout Studios for the grad party. Graduation is June 22. Committee will bring their own pizza, food and drinks.

6) Other Business, Comments & Questions

a) Artist Program: RAPT has supported artists in the classrooms the past couple of years. We would like to continue to offer these experiences to our students. It was brought to our attention that there are amazing programmes at AGO. Students would have 120 mins in the session. Cost about \$15 per student. Originally RAPT allotted \$250 per class for the artist, Parents to pay remainder. The money could also be drama, visual arts, fine arts etc. Krista motioned a vote to allow the use of this money to be put towards going on a ARTS field trip (AGO, Harbourfront, Theatre, etc.) for grades 1-6, as well as, she motioned to increase artist amount to \$300 per class. Tania and Vanessa approved. Unanimous positive response from everyone in attendance.

b) Starboard Training: Ms Tam has booked a half day with trainer for staff. The cost is \$450, not all money that was allocated last year for training was used. RAPT will also need to contribute to supply teachers costs to relieve teachers for training on this day.

c) PIAC Conference for parents at Earl Haig SS Nov. 19th. Online registration Closes Nov. 11th
www.tdsb.on.ca/community/howtogetinvolved/conference.aspx

d) BBQ- Date change for the BBQ/Fun fair: Saturday June 10/17

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next RAPT meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 23rd, 2016 at 6pm, in the staffroom.