

RAPT Meeting 2017

Minutes Subject to Approval at Next RAPT Meeting

November 29th 2017

2017-2018 Council:
Vanessa Appleton, Co-Chair
Tania Somerville, Co-Chair
Jo Arbus, Secretary
Christine Shin, Co-Treasurer (absent)
Krista Sevdalis, Co-Treasurer
Georgia Panagiotopoulos, Exec Council Member
Voula Zontanos, Exec Council Member
Mary Lambiris-Marshall, Exec Council Member

Staff:
Mrs. L. Chadder, Principal
Mrs. P. Aitken, Teacher
Mrs. R. Mirza, ECE

Call to Order at 6.06 pm

Location: Rippleton P.S. Staffroom

1) RAPT Welcome -Vanessa and Tania

a) Welcome to all the parents and staff.

b) Vanessa motions to approve October 23rd 2017 Meeting Minutes. Approved by Krista and Voula

2) Principal's Report - Mrs. Chadder

a) Welcomes everyone.

a. Thanks to parents for all the work you do – dedicated group

b. Was at a principal's meeting where there was discussion around the general poor attendance/involvement at school run events by parents and caregivers

i. Other schools experiencing similar situations/involvement

ii. trying to find ways to increase community involvement and bring parents into the schools (hosting events in afternoon, or in conjunction with movie night for kids)

b) Recent & Upcoming School Happenings

a. Holiday luncheon next Wednesday Dec 6th

b. Craft night 6.30-8.30pm on Dec 14th 2017

i. Each child to do only 1 craft in each room they visit – teacher 70-80 crafts per room

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- ii. Scholastic book fair open same night – as well as the week of December 11-15th Mrs. Dafos is looking for more parent volunteers!
 - c. Girls basketball did very well today. 3 way tie for 2nd place
 - i. Boys volleyball next Thursday at Armour Heights
 - ii. In the new year there will be girls volleyball and boys basketball
 - iii. Joint Denlow/Rippleton hockey team (grade 4/5/6) – try outs continue tomorrow at York Mills arena – games are in the New Year. Dexter Moore and Mr Williams are coaches
 - d. There will be a Multicultural Winter Holiday Storyteller on December 18th
 - e. November 30th is crazy hair and/or spirit wear day
 - f. We are attempting to restart monthly assemblies, this month we will recognize kindness. These assemblies will include performances from classes. We will also be recognising kids for a variety of successes – ie. character traits, sports, arts etc.
 - g. Due to the size of the gym and the number of students we need to accommodate, parents will not be asked to attend these assemblies. Ms Chadder would like to find some way of visually recognising the children who receive the awards– maybe a board dedicated to those who receive the recognition, have a group photo posted. Students will receive their certificate in their classrooms.
 - i. Graduating classes will receive annual awards (principals award, citizenship award, sports, etc.) – these awards will not just reflect the current school year however staff will reflect over their entire time as a student at Rippleton
- Staffing –
 - Melissa King had a baby boy on November 21 – Nancy Soo will be her replacement and is here until the end of June
 - Julie Buck on temporary leave of absence – interim Mrs Orr is covering the Grade 2 class
 - RAPT votes to donate \$100 (out of the establish caring and compassionate fund)- to either the Canadian Cancer Society, or Leukaemia and Lymphoma Society on behalf of parents
 - If any parents want to send a card etc, please give to Ms Chadder and she will send all of them together
 - Elina Mereli – is covering the ESL half time in the morning

- Christine and Ms Chadder met to discuss the school fundraising financial plan. There is a new online system to enter this information. This was done on behalf of RAPT based on previous years.
- School Wish List Items
 1. Recess bag replenished for each class (teachers will identify what needs replacing)
 2. \$150 per class for indoor recess supplies (\$2100 total)
 3. Lunch clubs may have some requests funds for supplies (yarn, choir music etc.) Knitting club, Eco club, Choir, board game club – looking at other options
 - Northern Karate club – has finished for the term
 - If parents want vendors from outside we need a parent to coordinate and supervise these activities. We are limited access to space.
 4. Would like to continue upgrading the library space (\$6000-\$7000)
 - a. 2 large area carpets (approx \$1000)
 - b. Shelves \$4000-\$5000 from fix it club
 - c. Remove the couch and add one more round table
 5. Continue enhancing to our STEM equipment –currently have 5 Dash & Dots (robots – approx \$150 each) Coding tool and can integrate and program to help with language/math/science – Would like 3 more for downstairs/primary grades.
 6. Junior classes would like to purchase 2-4 inexpensive digital cameras (approx \$500)
 7. Approx \$5000 to upgrade computer equipment (Mrs. Chadder was going to check to see if the money was in addition to the \$5000 RAPT allotted in the spring)
 8. \$2400 in coverage for sports teams allotted (now needs to be 2 TDSB employees on all trips)
 9. Sports tent – Current frame cannot fixed – replacement is approx \$850
 - ii. Q- regarding last years purchases.
 - A- I pads that were purchased last year are being used daily by many of the classes.
- RAPT – Vanessa motioned to approve the spend with exception of the computer lab funds and the Dash & Dots purchase. Mrs. Aitken was going to see if there are better options for primary grades. She will report back at another meeting.

Mary and Jo second the motion to spend.

- c) School Budget
 - a. Deferred to another meeting.

- d) Volunteers- Police Reference Checks
 - a. Thanks to parents who have done this
 - b. It is a TDSB requirement
 - c. One time \$20 fee that goes to Toronto Police Services
 - d. Annually parents must do online declaration with Mrs. Reyes (free)
 - e. Please bring original PRC to Mrs. Reyes in the office once you have received it in the mail.

3) RAPT Treasurer's Report –Krista

- b) RAPT Budget Update
- c) School Generated Financial Plan
- d) Current Spends and Requests.

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

- a) School Statement of Needs (SSON)
 - Completed by Vanessa and Tania – this goes to the superintendent and is used as a guide if our principal is replaced.
 - RAPT helped to prioritize the 5 areas of community needs
 - Safe, welcoming caring school culture
 - Equity and diversity
 - Improving student achievement
 - Parent & community engagement
 - Support extra-curricular activities and enhance school experience

- b) Questions for School Transition Meeting
 - Tania had met principal from York Mills at meeting in October
 - She has reached out again and would like to discuss concerns and questions of Rippleton parents prior to a TDSB meeting being held for staff and parent council chairs on Dec. 13th.
 - Vanessa has compiled a list of parent concerns and questions that were raised last year. If anyone has any questions regarding the transition, please email RAPT prior to this meeting.
 - We will report back on the discussions of this meeting at our next RAPT meeting.

- There will be an open house at both St. Andrews and Windfields in the new year for our graduates and parents to attend.
- Optional attendance forms will be out in the new year.
 - All children the live in Rippleton catchment area will now be streamed into Windfields for middle school (previously had option of Windfields or St Andrews)
 - All Students can apply for optional attendance at any school however entrance is based on a lottery system, this process takes place in February.

c) Update on RAPT Activities...

- Halloween Dance Recap
 - All classes had fun at dance, the schedule seem to work well.
 - Loved pumpkins, thank you to each class for participating
 - TDSB policy no longer allows smoke machines to be used so we will need to keep this in mind going forward
- Pro Grant Recap
 - Steve Chapelle spoke to Grade 3-6s during the afternoon and 14 parents at night on phone/internet safety
 - Student presentation was great, really good for Grade 5-6's. Students were very engaged, and many had questions for Steve at the end.
 - the parent presentation was very informative and practical, unfortunately attendance was not great.
- Mitten Tree – now called the giving tree
 - Set up yesterday.
 - Running until 20th December
 - Students encouraged new mittens, hats and scarves. Also can donate gently used boots, jackets and snow suits. All sizes needed Infant to Adult.
 - donations will go to New Circles Community Services
- Holiday Potluck Luncheon
 - Wonderful community event to show appreciation to our staff
 - We need more food donations (sign-up online)
 - Invitations to staff will go out tomorrow
- Multicultural Winter Holiday Show- Dec 18th
 - Cheryl Thornton – 7 holidays celebrated around the world.
 - 2 presentations for both primary (incl. Preschool) and junior students

- **Holiday Treat Sale**
 - RAPT decided to sell Vanilla Snowman Cookies the last week of school.
 - will Charge \$2.00 and profit will go New Circles. (Or depending on sales we can donate a certain amount out of the establish caring and compassionate fund)
 - we will order enough for all students plus daycare
 - teachers will distribute at their discretion (recess, class snack or end of the day, etc).
- **Social Night(s)**
 - After sourcing a variety of options it was decided by RAPT that these nights will Probably need to be in the school
 - We will do a Movie night for grade 1 & 2; 3 & 4 in the new year (5 & 6's have their trip and grad party)
 - Kindergarten – the movie night doesn't work so well for this age group, we need to decide on something else for the kindies in the spring
 - PA day – skating day is still a possibility
- **Bully Awareness Magic Show**
 - For JK-Gr. 4 students – coming January 23rd – 10am

5) Quick Bits...

- a) Reminders: -Classes can book a Class Artist Visit (visual, dance, drama)- (\$300)
-Scientist in the Schools/Logistics Academy Visits- classes get 3 visits a year or 4 if split class
- b) Scholastic Book Sale – need parents to volunteer.

6) Grade 5/6 Grad Fundraising Committee –Krista

- a) USED Book Fair Fundraiser
 - a. Raised approx \$1400
- b) Coffee Sales are ongoing
- c) Samko & Miko Toy Sale
 - a. On until December 3rd. Return receipts to teacher.
- d) Bake Sale
 - a. Selling Muskoka coffee by the cup
 - b. Selling baked goods (need donations)
 - c. Need Graduation Parents to help at this event
- e) Grad Committee Meeting on December 7th at 6:30pm

7) Other Business, Comments & Questions

- a) Family Literacy Day is January 27th. Parents are wondering if the school can do something to recognize this day maybe on the Friday or following Monday. Example; Author Visits, “Guest” readers in the classrooms (a parent read-a-loud to the class), dress as book character, Reading buddies with another class, Library project. etc. Many schools recognize this day.

- b) Sub Lunch Day- Krista found a sub company. She suggested adding an additional meal day for the remaining school year. Possibly a different day than Friday’s.
The Group discussed the challenge of finding volunteers to serve meals.
Mrs. Chadder- suggested that if we want to try it we do it on a special day, like Valentine’s Day, Earth Day, etc. Only a couple times this year and then look further into for next year.

Meeting Adjourned at 8.34pm

Next RAPT meeting is scheduled for **January 16th, 2017 at 6pm**, in the staffroom.