

RAPT Meeting 2018

Minutes Subject to Approval at Next RAPT Meeting

January 16th, 2018

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

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

Call to Order at 6:07 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 November 29th, 2017 Meeting Minutes.
Approved by Krista & Georgia

- 2) **Principal's Report** - Mrs. Chadder
 - a. Welcomes everyone

 - b. Parking Lot & Kiss n' Ride Safety
 - latest newsletter/email was sent to parents regarding parking safety and kiss n' ride etiquette
 - will continue send reminder emails and be more visible in the kiss n ride area until parents/guardians are using the system properly
 - stay in the right lane, let cars clear, don't drive around other cars
 - stay in your car, let children exit the passenger side on their own
 - the parking lot is for staff only

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- the wheelchair spots are reserved for persons with wheelchair permits.
 - students should walk along front path/sidewalk into kindergarten area
 - don't walk through driveway/parking lot
- possibly we increase signage around school area in the spring when ground thaws.

c. Recent & Upcoming School Happenings

- a list of winter clubs being offered by teachers was sent in latest email to parents
- Robotics, Choir (Primary and Junior) and Hip-Hop club required permission forms due to the nature of the activity or commitment needed by students.
- other clubs are drop-in with limits on number of students
- Boys Grade 5/6 basketball & Girls Grade 5/6 volleyball tryouts and practices are ongoing in the mornings before school on alternate days
- graduation trip to Camp Muskoka is January 23rd to 26th
- report cards will come home on Wed. Feb 14th -interviews will be held by teacher or parent request only

d. Kindergarten Registration

- the registration form is to be completed online this year after February 1st
- all the other forms must be done in person at the school office
- families are asked to make an appointment for February 21st to register in person
- at this time families can meet the kindergarten team and other staff

e. Rippleton's Optional Attendance Policy

- Rippleton is of CLOSED status to optional attendance for the upcoming school year (2018-2019)
- it has been closed status for 2 prior school years, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018
- the only children admitted to Rippleton when it is CLOSED optional attendance are children who attend the preschool Roadsters program and continue to attend Roadsters for the school-age program through JK to Grade 5
- if optional attendance families leave the childcare and the school is CLOSED to optional attendance then those students will have to return to their home school

- students admitted to Rippleton prior to the 2016-2017 school year will be grandfathered and can continue as a student at Rippleton until graduation, as the school was of OPEN status to optional attendance at the date of entry
- families with siblings in Grade 1 to 5 this current school year who are enrolling in JK or SK will be considered on an individual basis dependent upon age of sibling and year of entry to school
- Rippleton teaching staff and support staff with school-age children will only be permitted to attend Rippleton as students if they live in the school's catchment area

f. Middle School Optional Attendance Transition Meeting Update

- Students living within Rippleton's boundaries have traditionally had the choice to go to either St. Andrews JHS and Windfields JHS as of SEPT. 2018 this has changed. Now children living in this school area will be directed upon graduating to Windfields
- Students can apply on Optional Attendance to as many schools as they wish.
- for this graduating year only Rippleton will send a bulk of optional attendance forms to both St. Andrews and Windfields. To be included in this Bulk delivery the form needs to be returned to our school office before February 9th.
- optional attendance is a lottery system if there are limited spots
- if you are submitting applications for siblings please keep them together and write clearly on the application that you are submitting sibling forms
- students will hear by March 9th if they are accepted, they need to let the school know if they are accepting by March 23rd

g. Middle School Transition Meeting Update

- in December Lynn, Tania, Vanessa, and Krista attended the transition meeting at York Mills with other parent council members and principals from impacted schools, as well as TDSB board employees, Trustees and Superintendent
- this meeting was to provide information regarding process of transitioning of grade changes in these schools as well as what these schools are doing to get ready and what they have planned to date (schedule/model, staffing, resources, breaks & supervision, student orientation and communication, optional attendance, TTC and safe travels, daycare and after school programs)
- for grade 6's there will be a core class component
- both schools are hosting open houses for graduating students this month

- students will also visit these schools again in the spring
- MS staff will meet with our staff once attendance is assigned to help with the transition
- we will be sending our Grade 6 resources to Windfields
- sports will be re-aligned next year. Our school will have grade 4/5 teams and we will compete with other schools in that division
- MS will have grade 6 sports teams
- childcare for Grade 6's at MS will be determined by the survey's grade 5 parents were asked to fill out in early December. If there is demand they will offer something.

3) RAPT Treasurer's Report –Christine & Krista

a. RAPT Budget & Spend Update

- No budget or spend update available at this time. It will be presented at Feb. meeting
- last meeting, we approved to spend approximately \$500.00 on digital cameras. The spend went over by \$45.00
- Mrs. Chadder and Mrs. Aitken spoke to the primary classroom teachers about the dash and dots purchase. It was decided not to purchase additional robots right now.
- instead the school would like to purchase some accessories to use with them for the club and classes
 - a green mat for approximately \$200.00
 - a curtain for approximately \$100.00
 - an app for all ipads (1.99 per ipad) that will further the exploration and use of these robots

*motion to approve the purchase this equipment was unanimously approved

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

*Thank you to Rippleton and Roadsters Staff for craft night the feedback from parents was wonderful. Thank you also to the many teachers that are using part of their lunchtime or their time before school to offer our students some extra-curricular clubs and sports.

a. Giving Tree & Kindness Cookie-recap

- Many lovely donations were taken to New Circles Community services. They were extra appreciative due to the extreme cold this winter.

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- the snowman kindness cookie sale went over well. Not everyone donated, however we gave one to everyone to express our kindness to all our students.
- we took a \$200.00 cheque from our caring and compassionate fund as a gesture of goodwill to New Circles as there was not a large profit from the snowman cookie sales.
- New Circles sent us a kind thank you letter and certificate. It will be posted.

➔ Georgia is going to investigate another charity fundraiser for the spring. Capes 4 Kids through Holland Bloorview

- b. Holiday Potluck Luncheon-recap
 - we had over 100 parents and staff attend
 - lots of wonderful food was donated by parents
 - the leftovers were taken by Georgia to St. John the Compassionate Mission
- c. Multicultural Holiday Show- recap
 - Storyteller Cheryl Thornton came before the winter break to present Holiday's Around the World to our students
 - everyone felt it was educational but lacked some pizzazz and ran long especially for the younger students
- d. Bully Awareness Magic Show
 - Cody Elimelech (magiciantoronto.com) will be coming on Tuesday Jan 23rd 10:00am to present the Anti-Bully Magic Show "Bully Me No More" to Jk-Grade 4 students
 - the show helps students and teachers identify signs of bullying. It also helps students to build self-confidence, coping strategies (what to do), and 3 important messages cooperation, tolerance, and inclusion
- e. Movie Night(s)
 - after much thought and consideration, we have decided to go ahead with Movie Nights
 - the first movie night will be on Thursday Feb. 1st, 2018 6pm for Grade 3 and Grade 4 students
 - grade 3 and 4 classes will vote on a movie choice and let RAPT know by this Thursday
 - children must have an adult to supervise them
 - bring something comfortable to sit on

- pizza, popcorn, and a drink will be served.
- Jo- will do a flyer
- we need someone to pick-up popcorn the day of. Mrs. Chadder has a letter
- we need parents to set-up, serve, and clean-up
- the Grade 1 and 2's and Kindergarten will have a movie night in the spring date TBD

f. Valentine's Dance-a-thon

- will be held on Thursday February 14th, 2018
- Similar arrangement to last year. We have booked 2 dancers for \$475 and Sergio Graterol has volunteered to DJ for us. (new rule- no smoke machine)
- Even though we met our goal last year only 39% of students participated.
- how can we increase participation?
 - prize for class with most participating students
 - teachers to help motivate students
 - student announcements
 - chart in front hall, mark down as pledge forms arrive (similar to bottle bonanza)
- we will have the Raffle draw for gift cards again this year
- NEW this year, those families that donate gift cards will receive 3 tickets per card for the raffle
- it was decided that we will have one prize for TOP fundraising student (cineplex movie family pack)
- there will be an ice cream party for the class in each division that has highest rate of participation
- Vanessa and Tania will re-do the forms
- RAPT Exec will discuss how to cover the "to do list" of jobs
- need to set-up a volunteer spot for parents

5) Quick Bits...

- a. Mental Health and Wellness Week Update
 - Mrs. Aitken- instead of one day of activities, we will have activities throughout the week.
 - week of May 7th
 - last year the spend went over \$3000. we are trying not to go that high again

- the prologue performance TORQUE is booked for that week
- possibly; yoga, planting, sports, art activity, mindfulness
- will discuss with staff at next meeting for ideas

b. Food Drive

- this was moved to February from the fall this year
- the North York Food Bank expressed there is need in winter months
- Ms. Meijer and Mrs. Ryckewaert are working with a group of students to organize and promote
- Students will be asked to bring a canned good or a non-perishable food item to the DANCE-a-Thon

6) Grade 5/6 Grad Fundraising Committee –Krista

a. Fundraising Update

- Bake Sale was successful - \$1300
- Coffee Sales – 773.50
- around \$4500 raised to date
- with 78 students graduating we do need more \$ than previous years
- possibly doing some treat days in the spring

b. Next Grad Committee Meeting is Wed. Mar. 7th 6:30pm – all are welcome

7) Other Business, Comments & Questions

a. Sub Lunch

- Krista is would like to offer a sub lunch (3 days) in the late winter and spring
- possibly a Monday
- many parents would like more days when they don't need to make lunches
- there is some concern regarding parent volunteers, however it could be similar to a burrito lunch. students can help serve because food is wrapped and labeled unlike pizza which requires handling of food (with gloves)
 - suggestion was made that next year to lessen the confusion on when the lunch days occur we only host them on Fridays (skip the weeks that have PAdays and Holidays), have a more consistent calendar

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b. Home Alone Safety Course

-a few Grade 5 and 6 parents have asked about hosting a Home Alone Course for our graduating students.

-Mrs. Chadder and Vanessa will investigate the possibility of this or find some information for courses being offered near by.

-some vendors offer these on P.A. Days

c. Mrs. Leslie McCormick's and Miss Erin McCormick's mother/grandmother passed away over the holidays. RAPT decided to use money from the established Caring and Compassionate Fund to donate to Alzheimer Society of behalf of Rippleton's parent and student community

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm

Next RAPT meeting is scheduled for **February 22nd at 6pm**, in the staffroom.