

**Minutes of CSS Parent Council
October 2, 2005**

AGM

Fifteen people were needed to make a forum. At 7:10 pm we had 14 people and decided to go ahead, so the call to order was made by Deb P.

Agenda was changed to say AGM and School Council Meeting, not Town Hall Meeting.

Call was made for nominations. Jackie Benoit said she would be willing to be president and Sherry Badior said she would continue as treasurer. Margaret Mills said she would stand for Vice President.

Three more people walked in at 7:15 pm so we have a forum.

Carol Berlin Miller and Laurie Hirsch are willing to share the position of secretary.

Board Reps attend the school board meetings. As a board member you are expected to sit on a board committee, for example Communications Committee. Deb explained what kinds of things parents would be involved in. Board members do not have children attending our school so it is good to have parent representation. The board is always dealing with what will happen in the future. Ron Sweet mentioned that we have a wonderful school board. Jackie Stewart agreed to add her name to the list of Board Reps.

Members at Large are ambassadors for the school council and are expected to attend most council meetings. Typically we have 9 to 12 people.

This is the slate for the executive of the school council for CSS. Everyone voted to accept the council as it stands.

President Jackie Benoit

Vice President Margaret Mills

Secretary Carol Berlin Miller and Laurie Hirsch

Treasurer Sherry Badior

Board Rep Debra Pylypiw, Latrice Lehman, Dave Robinson, Jackie Stewart, and James Cameron

Members at Large Anne Marie Fryer, April Toyota, Karen Barlow, Anna Hearn, Karen Miller, Laurie Hirsch, Tammy Willerth, Jim Kellner

Margaret Mills moved to accept the minutes of the last AGM. Latrice moved to close the AGM. Karen Barlow seconded the motion and it was accepted.

Jackie Benoit took the floor as the new president of the school council.
The minutes from the AGM Oct 6, 2004 were approved after changing the name to AGM not Town Hall Meeting.

The minutes from Sept 7, 2005 were accepted and moved by Latrice and seconded by Karen Barlow.

Wed. June 1, 2005 minutes were also accepted and moved by Latrice and seconded by Anne Marie Fryer.

Treasurer's report: Balance \$3854,71. Nine cheques were written last year.

Board Meeting report from Deb P: Succession was discussed because several board members will be leaving and Ron Sweet will be retiring soon, so the board is looking proactively at this problem. Louise Partridge will come to a council meeting to discuss how CSS students did on the achievement tests last year.

Transportation report: Deb P again. Routes are pretty much set as far as the major dynamics of the routes. Karen and Deb felt that things went quite smoothly this year. They are working on a way to let parents know when buses are going to be late. The contract is between CSS and Southland. It doesn't work for parents to call and complain. Talk to Deb or Karen and they will talk to them. Some miscommunication seems to be happening. Route 6 is having lots of problems. They are looking into other ways to let parents know when the bus is late, other than using the website.

Principal's report: Ron Sweet. CSS is fully funded again this year, with a full count of students, with 24 students in Gr. 4, 5, and 6 and 25 students in Gr. 7, 8, and 9. So we are getting all the money we should get for all of our students. Professional Development for the staff is being provided by AISI money. Our project was earmarked as one of the best in the province. We have been moving towards a very collaborative way of working on our staff PD. Teachers present sessions each meeting that they then work on together. The Charter School Conference will be attended by all teachers on Friday, Oct. 7, with 6 groups presenting. With technology, all teachers now have projectors in our rooms. Doors have new doorknobs so teachers can quickly shut the doors and they will be locked in case of a lock down. New floors are being done in the library and new tiles around the school where they are lifting.

Committee requirements: Playground and Student Assessment. Anna Hearn and Laurie Hirsch want to be put on the Playground committee. Committee will need to survey the students. Playground needs to be stronger for the older students. Will meet right after the

fall break on a Wed. Communications committee meets on Thursdays at 6 pm so Vern Begg can be there-he is the editor of the newsletter. James Cameron agreed to join that committee.

Student assessment committee volunteers: Anne Marie Fryer, Debra P and Tammy Willerth. Will meet just before the end of October on a Tuesday.

Teacher's report: Cathy Kurio talked about how important outdoor experiences are for our students because children can't love and care for something they have no experience with, another words, nature and the environment. Camp Sweet and similar trips allow our students the chance to interact with nature and come to care for it. Teachers are busy discussing how we want to assess students this year. Very soon we will be ready to share with parents changes we are making to the numbering system and critical thinking (problem solving) category. Parents were invited to Cathy's room to watch slides taken at Camp Sweet on her new projector.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.