



1. WELCOME

- Thank you to the organisers of the movie night; it was a great success.
- The School's Carnival was a highlight of the year!

2. SCHOOL UPDATE

a) Principal report (presented by Vice-Principal Louise Hutchinson)

- **Continued Focus on Math:**
 - **PD Day:** The School has progressed with our support of staff capacity with Number Talks. PD day on February 15 focused on manipulatives and resources and math as part of all subjects.
 - **MathUp Program:** School is also using this program by Marian Small to help build a successful math culture and promote consistency with expectations. (See www.mathup.ca for more details.)
- **School's Well-being Plan:**

***2018-2019 Vision:** If we build new relationships with our students and consistently engage student voice to guide well-being initiatives that focus on resilience and community building experience then we will increase connections and continuity and will establish common understanding. This will encourage the development of a safe, healthy, student empowered environment resulting in increased social-emotional well-being and student learning.*

- Character education is embedded in all subject areas. Some of the initiatives under this place include:
 - Community circle, 'read alouds', class discussion;
 - HERD meetings: Monthly student inter-school groupings delve into character education lessons;
 - Weekly staff communication: Always includes character education updates;
 - Four square problem solving: Poster found in all common areas to provide a consistent reference;
 - WITS (see text box): Add-on to our four square problem solving;
 - Recess consistency: teacher communication to provide consistent expectations;
 - 2x10 connections with our students (see [January record of discussion](#) for more details); and
 - VoiceSquad: New initiatives to establish student presence and objectives
- **Staffing Update:** Ms. Meaghan Iwanowski (Bumble Bees kindergarten) will be going on maternity leaves. She will be replaced by Sarah Fedoruk, who was teaching Grade 1 EFI. Caroline

WITS stands for **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out, and **S**eek help

Teaches children in Kindergarten to Grade 3 to make safe and positive choices when faced with peer conflict. See witsprogram.ca.



Pennefather will be return to her role teaching Grade 1 EFI. Emily McMenemy will be replacing Natalie Wood (Grade 3/4) when she goes on maternity leave.

b) Teacher update

- **Arts:** On March 18-19, the junior classes will take part in a Brazilian percussion workshop given by artist Luciano Porto. (Last year, our primary classes received a workshop from a group called the Junkyard Symphony.)
- **Carnaval:** Many thanks for your support during Carnaval! Nothing but positive comments from all involved.
- **Yoga:** The nine week yoga program has now come to an end; 100-150 students participated each week.
- **Arts:**
 - The whole school will enjoy a performance on **March 7** by a group of fiddlers called the Celtic Rathskallions.
 - Junior classes will take part in a Brazilian percussion workshop given by artist Luciano Porto on **March 18-19**.
- **Basketball:** Grades 4 and 5 students have been participating in basketball intramurals since early February, gearing up for a tournament which takes place on **March 20**.
- **Choir:** New students are welcome to join the grade 3, 4, 5 choir, as a new session has just begun. The choir meets once a week, and they are working on learning four new songs to participate in **Choralfest** at Canterbury High School on **April 17**. At Choralfest, school choirs come together for a day of workshops, rehearsals and team-building, and all of the choirs joining together to perform as one for family and friends.

3. SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: SANDRA SCHWARTZ, OCDSB TRUSTEE

- Very enlightening and candid discussion with Sandra Schwartz. Sandra explained why she first ran for School Board Trustee, and the insights she has learned from her first term in office, and her approach to her second term.
- Sandra discussed the breadth of the zone she represents and some of the challenges and opportunities facing different schools in the area.
- She discussed how well-being for students and educators will be at the centre of the Board's next Strategic Plan, which they are currently developing. Current Strategic Plan (2015-2019) is available at https://www.ocdsb.ca/about_us/strategic_plan. Sandra was open to holding a meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan in more detail once it was finalised.
- Sandra answered several questions. Council participants raised concerns with provincial changes to autism funding. Sandra shared ongoing OCDBS discussions. Discussion also touched on temporary assistance that are currently available and related challenges. (Following in the meeting the OCDSB voted on March 6 to communicate concerns with provincial ministers.)



- Council participants asked for feedback about the OCDSB Thought Exchange initiative, noting that comments received suggested that there was a lack of clarity regarding what falls within provincial and what falls within OCDB responsibility.
- Council participants also raised question regarding expected change to provincial funding and noted the importance of good data to support decision-making. Sandra spoke about the role that the superintendent in supporting schools and students.
- Council participants also raised concerns regarding the Extended Day Program and discussed possible ways to advocate for improvements.
- Sandra urged those interested to attend [Parent Involvement Committee](#) meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2019 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Administration Building at 133 Greenbank Road.

4. COMMITTEE UPDATES

a) Communications Committee (Update in [Annex 1](#))

b) Fundraising Committee (Update in [Annex 2](#))

c) Greening Committee

- No update provided in March.

5. BUDGET (Report in [Annex 3](#))

- School to provide updated financial information, reflecting funds raised through School Cash Online.

6. ROUNDTABLE

- **Reminder – Next School Council dates:** April 11 (2nd Thursday), May 9 (2nd Thursday), June 13 (2nd Thursday). [Calendar](#) with these dates is available to print.
- Seeking interested volunteers to lead on grant writing to apply for funding for an outdoor classroom.

Meeting adjourned

REMINDER:

- **Materials for Council babysitters:** School Council welcomes any donation of games or crafts supplies for the School Council babysitters to use; supplies will be kept at the school.

ANNEX 1

Communications Committee update February 8-March 7, 2019

1. Update to Council logo to reflect new name:

- As the last step in our transition to our new, more inclusive name, Robert Hopkins School Council, we have updated our full logo to reflect this change. Many thanks to our talented logo designer and parent volunteer, Gerry van Blokland, for creating the original logo for us a few years ago, and for updating it for us now.



2. School Council web pages:

- Nothing to report

3. School Council Bulletin Board:

- Anyone who wishes to post something on the Council Bulletin Board (items related to School Council or relevant to our school community in general) are welcome to do so, and have two options for getting it done:
 - They may post an item on the board themselves. There will soon be a "Miscellaneous" section of the bulletin board for this purpose.
 - They may provide the item to Council Communications Committee members Leslie Gregory or Donna Kind for posting on the board.



ANNEX 2

Fundraising Committee Update – February 7, 2019

Members: Margaret Rose, Stephanie Reid, Jamie McCallum, Leslie Gregory, Jancey Wallace, Tamara Taub, Sarah MacGregor, Danielle Armengaud, Jen Lowe

Email Contact: rhopcfundraising@gmail.com

Popcorn Day

Next popcorn dates are confirmed as follows:

March 22nd

May 17th

April 26th

June 21st

Ottawa 67's Fundraising

The 67's Game was a huge success!!! We filled almost 2 entire sections with Rhop families and the more than 60 choir members rocked their performance of Oh Canada. A night of Rhop pride for sure. Students and families had fun sitting with their friends and cheering on the 67's as they won the game against the Hamilton Bulldogs. Special thanks to Jennifer Grimsey who volunteered her time to teach and lead the 60 child strong Rhop choir to sing Oh Canada with such precision and passion. We will make sure we do it all again in the 2019/2020 school year.

Winter Movie Night

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make movie run so smoothly. The movie choice was a hit this time around for both young and old. Once receipts have been submitted we will report on total profits earned.

Spring Dance

The spring dance will be held on **Friday April 5, from 6:30-8:00pm**. Joyce and Daniel Coldrey will be hosting and organizing the spring dance once again this year. The theme will be Under the Sea and families are encouraged to dress up. Prizes will be awarded for best costumes. Council will be looking to the Extended Day Program for help with decorations.

Last year tickets were sold for \$2 and we sold smoothies and baked goods. We made \$920 (\$454 tickets, \$466 on smoothies and bake sale) with expenses of around \$100.

Traditionally ticket prices have been free or kept low in order to allow all families to participate. Council discussed whether to raise ticket prices to keep them in line with Le Phare's school dance ticket price of \$4 per person or \$12 per family. Members agreed to keep tickets at \$2 but also invite donations to the Food Bank.

We will need volunteers to help. Please contact rhopcfundraising@gmail.com if you can help out.



Fun Fair Meeting (March 6, 2019):

Fun Fair plans are well under way.

- **OCDSB Restrictions:** We have just been informed that we are no longer able to provide a petting zoo. We have already booked and paid for the Petting Zoo with Big Sky Ranch to a cost of \$825.00. We are looking into options for refunds / reimbursement etc.
- **Volunteers:** As always we require many volunteers to make Fun Fair a successful event. Each year we need more help as our numbers grow. Last year we estimated more than 1000 people attended Fun Fair. Additionally this year some of our usual Fun Fair volunteers are unable to help. Please encourage all parents to offer a small amount of their time to help out with Fun Fair this year so that it can continue to be the wonderful school event it has been in the past. 1 hour of time will make a huge difference and will not prohibit families from enjoying the rest of the day together.
- **Vendors:** Each year we get more and more requests from businesses to set up tables to hand out advertising material, or to do a demonstration of their services, etc. at Fun Fair. As a committee, we are trying to manage who we let come and who we don't. We are taking into consideration how the business supports our school, whether they are offering something of value to our families and if they have our families' best interests at heart before we allow them to market their business to our kids. Ideally we would not allow any businesses to run activities and have everything done by parent, teacher and high school volunteers but because we are always short-handed we are finding that allowing a business to come in and run an activity can help to add value to our ever growing Fun Fair. Please feel free to reach out to the Fun Fair committee with questions, concerns, suggestions via email.
- **Set-up:** We will be making changes once again this year to the set-up of Fun Fair activities to take into consideration weather and changes to activities offered. We will provide printed maps at the ticket table and with the walking tickets sales people so that people know where to find everything as well as additional signage.
- **Healthy Food Options:** There have been a few requests for healthier food options. At the moment we have decided to keep status quo. Anything additional will cost more than the price of a hamburger or hotdog, which will be prohibitive for many families and/or require additional volunteers to organize. We will look into the cost of chicken burgers and we will provide fresh fruit at the bake sale or BBQ, funded by Parent Council.

We need lots of help with fun fair this year. Please contact rhopcfundraising@gmail.com if you can help out!

Silent Auction

Silent auction donations are coming in. Approximately 60 donations have been received. If you are spring cleaning and find treasures you want to be rid of, please think about donating them to the silent auction.



ANNEX 3

Treasurer's Report

Reporting Period: February 1-27, 2019

Report created by Rich Tremblay (Treasurer) on behalf of the Robert Hopkins School Council

Financial Update

1. Opening Balance: **\$17,630.00**
2. Income: **\$356**
 - a. February Ottawa 67's (SCO):¹ **\$225.00**
 - b. Movie Night (SCO):¹ **\$131.00**
3. Expenses Paid: **-\$7,436.00**
 - a. Scholastic Book Fair: **-\$4,356.00**
 - b. 67's Game Night: **-\$3,080.00**
4. Closing Balance: **\$10,174.00**

Note:

¹ School account records only provided until February 11, so SCO beyond this date are not included.