

## UGDSB Parent Involvement Committee

### Meeting Minutes September 25, 2017

**Chair:** Rabia Khan

**Secretary:** Debbie Bush

**Guest Speakers:** Anita McFarlane (Food and Friends)

**Present:** Rabia Khan, Martha MacNeil, Debbie Bush, Vikki Brown, Lorrie Wren, Heather Janes, Brent McDonald, Mahrukh Syed, Kumudinie Kariyapperuma, Latoya Hillsan, Anita McFarlane, Kevin Turner, Jane Bibby, Robin Ross, Krista McGregor, Jen Edwards, Deb Drake, Nicole Clark, George Fletcher, Paul Smith, Barb White

- 1) Welcome & Introductions- went around the room and everyone introduced themselves and said which school or position at the board they had.
- 2) Approval of Agenda-
- 3) Approval of May 2017 Minutes- No minutes to approve
- 4) Presentation by Food and Friends Anita McFarlane (Program director)
  - <http://www.childrensfoundation.org/what-we-do/food-friends>
  - Programs: Scholarship program; Food & Friends; Free to play; adopt a family
  - Events: Trees for tots; Live free; Fore our kids; Gala
  - A fundraising campaign for YOUR school/organization:
    - Every dollar raised stays in YOUR school to support YOUR Food & Friends Program!
  - Live Free: Share the message; Call the need to mind; Help communities get involved; Help your school/organization strengthen its sustainability.
  - The model is flexible, moldable, universal.
  - There are 4 different awards: Most Improved School; Most Raised; Most Online Donations ; Spirit Award
  - Kits Include: Promise cards (for kids to write what they will live free of); Tweekie post cards (information about the campaign where families can attach a tweekie); A set of 5 posters for elementary and 1-3 sets for secondary; A donation box; Instructions for teachers, announcement scripts and info sheet about Food & Friends
    - Delivery at Principal / Vice Principal meeting: January 2018
    - Pick Up at Principal / Vice Principal meeting: March 2018
- 5) a) Board Report- Brent McDonald
  - **By-Laws shared** (please find attached)
  - **Parent Engagement Websites:**
    - <http://www.parentsengagedineducation.ca/> geared for School Councils
    - <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/events-workshops/come-to-our-conference/> Annual Conference Nov 11<sup>th</sup>: Making Connections 2017; registration is now open; We are pleased to welcome [Dr. Jean Clinton](#) as our keynote speaker, and look forward to her always-engaging presentation. The theme for this year's conference is "I want *that* in my school". Throughout the day, we will be exploring research, programs, and real-life examples of things that people are doing to help students develop the broader skills they need to succeed, and to move the needle on the idea of broader goals for education.

- **PRO Grants:** No information yet, and hope to hear soon. Last year UGDSB received \$48 Thousand. We applied for Regional Grant this year. See Dr. Laura Markham flyer for our November event. Spring event more information to come.
- **PIC yearly funding:**
  - We have about \$10 000 to work with over the year after giving \$500 to each school council. **See attached "10 ideas" form from Thames Valley DSB**
  - Plan to get a PIC M&T sign for various events. The cost is \$229.00 (George shared that it is worth paying the extra \$120 to get the case – many agreed)
  - Some money will go to travelling cost of our November speaker
- **Volunteer Policy Reps:** Jen Edwards & Heather Janes names will be forwarded to Carlos (some would like to review and give feedback over email)
- **PIC Website updates:** <http://www.ugdsb.ca/pic/> Have a look: any suggestions & comments please pass along to Brent, Kumudinie, Rabia or Debbie
- **School Council Memos:** School Council Insurance Memo; Babysitting for School Council Events Memo; Risk Management 101 Newsletter
- **Family & Children's Services:** Dress Purple Day for Child Abuse Awareness: October is Child Abuse Prevention Month in Canada. On **Oct 24, 2017** many boards of education and schools across Ontario will participate in Dress Purple Day as a way of speaking up. <https://www.fcsgw.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/131001-Purple-Ribbon-Media-Release.pdf> for more details.
- **School Messenger Parent App** is live!! Info to come in October and training session on accessing tool. You can find a link on your school website. The board hoped to roll it out in a few schools and when announced to principals in August there was an overwhelming response of schools wanting to start participating. <http://www.ugdsb.ca/blog/upper-grand-launches-new-website-communication-tools/>
- **School Council Email address** -info: all school council's have an email account that chair's can access and use if they prefer. If advertised please ensure you check the account regularly.
- **Digital Citizenship:** <http://www.ugdsb.ca/students/technology/digital-citizenship-in-the-ugdsb/>
- **Enrollment:** is up approx 300 students

#### 6) Martha MacNeil- Trustee Report

- What and who are the Trustees <http://www.ugdsb.ca/board/board-trustees/>
- Policy information: <http://www.ugdsb.ca/board/policy/> you can review any policy and you can provide feedback on the policies that are being reviewed. See **Policy 209 Distribution of Materials in Schools from External Organizations** Feedback deadline is October 12, 2017, at 4 p.m. EST **Policy 307 Outdoor Play Spaces** Feedback deadline is October 12, 2017, at 4 p.m. EST

#### 7) Chair Report- Rabia & Debbie

- Discussed who is willing to be PIC members. **See attached list for names and available spots.**
- Thank you to Mahrukh for agreeing to do the minutes on occasion, thank you Kumudinie for agreeing to be our communications lead and thank you Vikki for continuing in the role of treasurer. Thank you all for coming, asking questions, providing information!

#### 8) Fall Event- Debbie Bush

- Current Planning Needs: Booths for parents (if any ideas please share); Refreshment orders; Question box x2 (Elementary & High School)
- Speaker is Dr Laura Markham from NY speaking <http://www.ahaparenting.com/speaking>
- To access tickets and the flyer visit <http://www.ugdsb.ca/pic/>

- **See attached power point** to understand decision around choosing this speaker and proposed Spring event ideas
- She will be inspiring parents with **kids/teens of all ages**. She helps parents/adults transform the way we speak to our kids by turning our punitive and reactive language into compassionate communication which builds skills, relieves stress, and strengthens our relationships. The hardest thing to do when we're facing a challenge is to stay calm and respectful.

9) Treasurer Report- Vikki Brown

- From Ministry: \$5000 for the Board; \$5711 for enrollment; \$38000 for \$500 for each school
- Currently Running Balance 10436.55

10) Questions: About Equity & Inclusion committees in schools; Future High School in UGDSB Guelph area; Balancing feelings of being welcomed in school environments as parents and safety for children;

11) Next meeting reminders: Decide on dates in other areas of UGDSB

Meeting ended at approx. 8:30 PM

**Next Meeting at the Upper Grand District School Board Office**  
**500 Victoria Street North, Guelph**  
**Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:45PM Mingle 7pm start time**

Chair: Rabia Khan & Debbie Bush

Secretary: Mahrukh Syed