



# École Robert H. Smith School

## Curriculum Committee Minutes

### May 29, 2013

### 7:00pm-8:45pm

**Present:** PAG Members: Michael Gies, Candace Partyka  
School Trustee: Mark Wasyliw  
Parents:  
 Anna Stokke, Susan Goldie, William Skubovius, Damir Stipanouk, Ross Stokke, Cathy Macey, Jim Cresswell, Claudia Davies, Andrea Robertson, Brad Regehr, Laurence Broadhurst, Nalini Reddy (Chair), Dana Thiessen (Secretary)

**Regrets:** Kali Li, Laurence Broadhurst, Dawn McCartney, Ritchie Strachan, Joseph Partyka

**Theme:** Terms of Reference

ITEM	ACTION/DECISION REQUIRED
<b>Call to order</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Meeting called to order and minutes accepted from last meeting April 24, 2013</li> <li>▪ The agenda was reviewed and one addition was made under Other Business: possible name change</li> </ul>
<b>PAG</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The last PAG meeting was discussed. The directorship reserved for Block Parent rep. was converted to Curriculum Committee rep. and Nalini was voted into that directorship.</li> <li>▪ A recap of the meeting was provided including an announcement that a new Physical Education teacher will be hired as a half position.</li> </ul>
<b>Terms of Reference</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A document was circulated with a Mission statement and policies for review.</li> </ul>
<b>Parent Feedback-Terms of Reference</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All comments on the document were very positive</li> <li>▪ A discussion on lack of involvement in hiring of staff and the school's plan.</li> <li>▪ It was noted that PAG executive can authorize fund expenditures up to \$300 without a vote.</li> <li>▪ It was suggested that a budget be prepared for the committee to approach the PAG</li> <li>▪ Mark discussed that the PAG can decide what services they would like available at the school.</li> <li>▪ It was noted that the committee has the freedom to ask for information affecting its decisions</li> <li>▪ One of the responsibilities should be to keep abreast of what is happening in this school and other schools to gather information</li> <li>▪ Appears to be a culture problem in the school</li> <li>▪ Voting should be allowed if an attendee has been at two of the previous 3 meetings</li> <li>▪ Subcommittee to update/revise &amp; report for next meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Parent Feedback-Days of Learning</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A meeting with administration took place to discuss days of learning</li> <li>▪ A balance of days is a goal to reduce the number of assemblies</li> <li>▪ For future field trips, administration will enclose a home note for parent which outlines a curriculum relationship</li> <li>▪ The school plan did not have committee involvement, but perhaps the committee could be involved in future plans.</li> <li>▪ For CAP assessment will be less cross-over and therefore fewer teachers out of class.</li> <li>▪ The community breakfast included a day away from classes and some parents are concerned</li> <li>▪ Table the discussion for the community breakfast for now</li> </ul>

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<b>Parent Feedback-Science Fair</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parents will organize and conduct the science fair without using teacher resources</li> <li>▪ The purpose of the science fair is to expand minds and to include all grades</li> <li>▪ Science fair workshops could be run on a weekly basis by the PAG</li> <li>▪ In the academic plan the science fair was discussed and teachers were not in favour of it.</li> <li>▪ The administration advises that parent-run clubs may require staff presence. This will be further investigated by the administration.</li> <li>▪ A school club cannot teach curriculum due to union rules</li> <li>▪ There are already learning fairs going on in some classes</li> <li>▪ We will follow up on this topic in future.</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation Jump Math</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Jump Math is a charity</li> <li>▪ Student work booklets cost between \$12 and \$14 per student per year</li> <li>▪ The program is currently used by St. Johns Ravenscourt and Balmoral Hall schools.</li> <li>▪ The program currently meets or exceeds outcomes for W.N.C.P.</li> <li>▪ One grade 5 classroom at Robert H. Smith is currently using the booklets</li> <li>▪ The committee will recommend that the PAG purchase the JUMP Math booklets for Robert H. Smith teachers who wish to use them.</li> <li>▪ The link to Jump Math is <a href="http://jumpmath.org/cms/">http://jumpmath.org/cms/</a></li> </ul>
<b>Parent Feedback: Field Trips</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussed above, tie into curriculum</li> </ul>
<b>Parent Feedback: Survey</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Survey results should be communicated back to parents</li> </ul>
<b>Other Business</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discussion of possible name change and of legislation (Advisory Act – a regulation) were tabled for a future meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>Summary</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Issue Summary: Terms of Reference, Days of Learning, Science Fair, Jump Math</li> </ul>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	
DATE/TIME	June 18, 2013 7pm
LOCATION	École Robert H Smith School Library

**For parents: (link to Jump Math)**  
<http://jumpmath.org/cms/>  
**(Link to Curriculum Development in Manitoba)**  
<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/process.html>

“The more that you read,  
 the more things you will know.

The more that you learn,  
 the more places you’ll go.”

**Dr. Seuss**