1. Review of Minutes – entered with no objections

2. School Council Update (Wendy and Jennifer)

   i) School Council’s Recap of IBPYP
      - Wendy reviewed that School Council has always been very involved with the teachers, superintendent and trustees in supporting the IBPYP
      - School Council has contributed $10,000.00 annually to support the IBPYP because the YRDSB could not cover the full cost of the annual fees
      - A School Council Sub-committee was involved in trying to introduce the Middle Years Program to the Superintendent – it was during this time that the program was reviewed (2-3 years ago)
      - 2 X /year at the School Council Forums this Sub-committee pushed for the continuation of the IB Program, it pushed for the trustees and the Superintendents to continue with the IBPYP Program, but with no success
      - In conclusion; we cannot impact on the YRDSB decision to no longer support the IBPYP program, and recommended that we focus on addressing other issues of significance (i.e. overcrowding).

   ii) Sub-Committee – Infrastructure and Safety Committee = Letter from Council to the School Board
      - Jennifer Ip reviewed that the Overcrowding Issue is a concern that needs to be addressed
      - Norm recommending expansion of the school too costly, and that we should focus on portables (suits intermediate needs)
      - Diane discussed intent of letter to the Board (written in the summer by herself, Sandra and Parm) was to “create a forum with the YRDSB to be heard by the Parent Council”
      - Mr. Woods recommended that the School Council should move quickly with the letter, as the Board had welcomed us to discuss our issues (by compiling a list that night), and are ready to hear from the Council
      - It was recommended that an External Audit of Current Registrations be conducted to provide statistics of the following information:
• Trends demographically – multiple families dwellings in a single home
• Our population is increasing with ELL – these stats should be taken to Board to request more teachers of this need (there is an urgent need to address with the Board, as they are in their planning phases and need to let staff know their assignments by March 2012)
• It was recommended that the Infrastructure and Safety Committee Sub-Committee meet as soon as possible to review/edit and send off letter to the Board, which would recommend a meeting with them by the end of the year (2011)
• It was recommended that the deadline to have the School Council review and vote for the letter to be sent off would be October 26, 2011

iii) Lack of Musical Instruments

• To Date:
  ▪ School Council contribution = $ 10 000
  ▪ School Contribution = $ 22 000
  ▪ Sax Rentals = $ 2 200
  ▪ Sax Repairs = $ 1 500

• At the Beginning of the Year: Students were informed that they could rent instruments from Cosmo, because tracking was an issue as students were leaving the instruments at home/in hallways
• Presently: Students are demonstrating more responsibility and accountability
• Paul is also collecting any instruments that are being left in the halls, and the onus is on the students to go to his or Carol’s office to retrieve their instruments
• Melanie Steenburgh has set up contracts with the students
• Currently: YRDSB is formulating a policy “indicating that every student at school should have access to an instrument”

iv) Mr. Sub as a Lunch Alternative

• School Council received a lunch time brochure from Mr. Sub that was offering a 6” sub sandwich with a drink and dessert for $4.00
• It was recommended that School Council could increase price by $1.00 for profit
• This program requires minimal parental involvement and no contract required
• It was recommended that the Internal/External Participation Committee look into this and contact the School Council regarding this via email as needed
v) Volunteer Co-ordinators – with Carol

- Carol reports that we have a number of parents who want to volunteer on a regular basis
- To be a volunteer, one has to complete the following:
  - Vulnerable Sector Screening
  - Confidentiality Agreement
  - Info Sheet
- Carol indicated that collecting all of this information requires a lot of manpower, and was seeking a parent volunteer to assist as well as participate in the Volunteer Orientation
- Wendy Tan volunteered to assist

vi) Dates of Council Events:

- BBQ-Carnival: June 6, 2011
- Staff Appreciation Lunch: June 22, 2011

vii) Parent Community Involvement

- Karen was trying to establish date of BBQ-Carnival as per availability of the vendor (M&M), who recommended end of May for BBQ
- BBQ-Carnival set for June 6, 2011

viii) Townhouse Development by Reggio

- An application for townhouses to be built on Bayview – just north of Weldrick and south of Palmer
- Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday October 19, 2011
- It was recommended that School Council members encourage everyone to attend or send letters

ix) Teachers – use Council as a resource to the greater team

- It was stated that the School Council acts as resource as needed

x) Pro-Grant Money – check with Sandra

- Sandra reminded everyone who had requested resources last year, to contact her with their receipts from the last budget
2. BHES Admin Update (Paul Woods and Carol Takagi)

xi) Kindergarten Playscape/Video Camera Update

- Playscape:
  - Paul announced that the Playscape had been approved
  - Challenge that lies ahead: will be to move primary kids out of the primary play space
  - Playscape should be ready within 2-3 weeks
  - YRDSB will come in after it is complete to fence in part of the Playscape, and the remainder of fencing will be completed in the Spring

- Video Camera: all cameras but 3 are wired, the white boxes that drop down (are in multiple pieces) – still need to be completed, has been a lot of work, and will be digital

xii) School Council Letter to the Board

- See above Sub-Committee – Infrastructure and Safety Committee = Letter from Council to the School Board

xiii) Staffing Issues

- We have 2 teachers leaving
- Paul acknowledges that it is difficult for kids when teachers leave, but they are doing their best
- As well, it was acknowledged that several teachers are expecting, and this again will require changes in staffing as needed

xiv) Musical Instruments

- See above section “Lack of musical instruments”

xv) Eco Schools

- Last year, BHES Eco Team received the Silver Status
- This week = “Waste Free Lunch Week” ; all students and staff encouraged to bring a litterless lunch
- Eco Team members are auditing the waste – by weighing and sorting through it, trying to get a clearer idea of the waste (i.e.cartons, sandwiches)
- Results of Audit will be forwarded to the School Council
- Kindergarten classes have harvested the garden – used the carrots and beans to make soup
- Earth Rangers (Early Nov.) – “Bring Back the Wild”
  - bring animals to school for Kindergarten – Grade 8
will involve a fundraising component – every student to make a pledge to make money to go to the “Habitat”

Actions to raise money examples include taking out the compost, shut off water while brushing teeth

• In January – to begin green bins;
• 6 students attended Eco-Camp with Ms. M. Wong – received a vermin-composter

xvi) Progress Reports

• Progress Reports to be sent out on November 23, 2011
• Focus of Reports is to focus in the learning skills – “learning how to learn” and not the actual achievement
• This is a very difficult shift for parents and staff
• Staff do not discuss grades – only progress on how they are learning to encourage self-regulation
• The IBL (Inquiry Based Learning) which promotes critical thinking requires self regulation; students need to be able to:
  ▪ Ask questions
  ▪ Be responsible for the questions
  ▪ Use appropriate technology
  ▪ Be able to self regulate

3. Review of Budget (Sandra P.)

• See Budget Sept. 2010 - Aug 31, 2011
• Sandra reviewed expenditures
• Expense for “Park” is committed – all ready to be accessed.

4. Other

xvii) Future Parent Council Meeting Dates set:

▪ November 21, 2011
▪ No December Meeting
▪ January 30, 2012
▪ February 27, 2012
▪ No March Meeting
▪ April 16, 2012
▪ May 28, 2012
▪ June 18, 2012

xvii) Sub-Committee Reports – All sub-committees encouraged to meet and report to School Council by next meeting

** Next Meeting has been scheduled for November 21, 2011

Meeting Adjourned