



Mackenzie King School Council Meeting Minutes
Held in-person at MKPS on Wednesday, February 14, 2024
6:00 – 7:30 pm

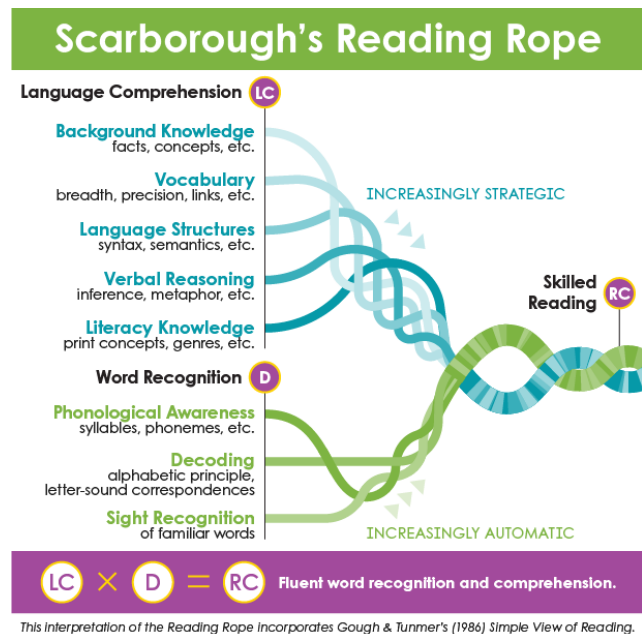
Attendees: Mary Litwiller, Erin McCabe, Alex Hebert, Alyssa Campbell, Rita Viblin, Kayla Tripp, Denise Wardle, Lara Hopcroft, Tracey Ebert, Heather White, Sara Pauls
Absent: Alison Bakelaar, Ashley Whittington, Fareen Sayani, Janine Brubacher

- 6:00 – Approval of the Meeting Minutes
 - Denise motioned, Alex second, all approved
- 6:05 – Principal’s Report
 - Will be here until March 22nd - able to stay till the end of March but currently confirmed until the 22nd.
 - Madam Dreise and Mrs Pottier have started a primary choir (gr 1-3). Attendance has exceeded expectations
 - Strong start is very strong here with mrs poitier
 - Kindie registrations are going strong with current numbers at 35. Rita asks that we let any JK parents know that the sooner the numbers go in, the better for planning purposes. More registrations are required to keep the classrooms that we currently have, which is 3.5 Kindie classrooms. Currently 46 JK and 40ish SK - it is a great number already but if we want to keep that half class, we need to get the word out to register.
 - Heather to create a Kindie registration post on Facebook
 - Denise asked if the new Breslau School is opening next year. Rita and Ms. Tripp had heard that it was in 2025. Denise suggested that we should confirm if it is 2024 or 2025 before making the post because it could be confusing for new registrants
 - Reports go home on Friday
 - Inquiring minds - scheduled for April 17th from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. A School Day message is posted, and teachers have received notes which will go home tomorrow. Tracey is shadowing Blair this year. Hoping to have responses back by the 20th to have an idea of the number of boards needed.
 - Liane is still sourcing out boards. The current ones we are able to find are half the height as previous years, but the same width. Erin suggested that we go with the smaller boards and all agreed
- 6:15 – Teacher’s Report
 - Ms. Tripp applied for a Morphology Grant and \$4,000 was awarded. All teachers received a kit as well as all of the wall cards required for each classroom. There are 2 levels of kits:

- Morphemes for Little Ones (K-3 classes):
 - The lessons are grouped into three levels and are intended to supplement current core reading programs.
 - Informal criterion assessments help teachers gain a basic understanding of students' knowledge of morphological elements included in the lessons.
 - Language Stimulation Cards are built into each lesson to enhance oral and receptive language experiences.
 - Colorful photos convey the meanings of target morphemes.
 - Language Stimulation Cards can be used to create morpheme walls in classrooms.

- Morpheme Magic (grades 4-12) - similar to above but more advanced words studies.

- Ms. Tripp explained that Morphology is the top of Scarborough's Reading Rope and focuses on language comprehension (see picture below). UFLI, Heggerty, and Decodable Books focus on the lower half of the Reading Rope and align with WRDSB curriculum.



- Staff have registered for extra training starting in March that is paid for by the school board, and a WRDSB Committee is coming in March to study these new resources

- This program has buy-in from the whole staff, and they are excited to get started

- Field trips upcoming:
 - Ms. Tripp and Mr. Schnyder are doing a STEM trip to the University of Waterloo. It will focus on problem solving skills, teamwork and cooperation.
 - Kindie team is hosting families in their rooms this friday
- Staff and Principal are meeting with Pegasus tomorrow for staff and student swag.
- 6:30 – Treasurer's Report

- There is currently \$26k between both accounts (\$12-13k in regular account, and \$18k in the pizza account with \$4.5k expected in expenses for the remaining 5 pizza days)
- \$300 more to spend from Kindie supplies that were approved in the fall
- Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant - funding for school boards to work with their Parent Involvement Committee and/or school councils to support projects and initiatives which remove barriers at the local level that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning and educational progress
 - Rita to see when the application deadline is. This funding was used for Inquiring Minds in previous years
- 6:35 – FFFN Update
 - \$3,500 raised (Alex is to confirm exact amount at next meeting)
 - Learned lessons:
 - absolutely no peanuts allowed in future years
 - Lack of parent involvement this year made it difficult to manage
 - There needs to be a group that spearheads the event that can then give jobs to specific people. Not enough collaboration this year. Not enough support in general
 - Parents tend to think it is a free for all for their kids, and kids are running wild at the event. There needs to be more parental supervision.
 - No kids to be allowed without parents
 - Alex suggested that we have a committee that starts this year to document what went well and what didn't
 - Staff suggestions:
 - Rita suggests that we remove old traditions from the event, like Santa, and Christmas specific items. This way we don't exclude certain families that do not celebrate
 - Ms. Tripp/ other staff - hold event outside to help with controls, and not to schedule right before christmas break. It is a hectic time of year for staff and families
 - Proceeds to be donated to Liane's choice of charity
 - Denise motioned to donate \$500 to a charity of Liane's choice, Alex seconded, all approved
- 6:55 – Fundraising
 - No more big campaigns this year
 - Movie Night - discussion on possible nights to hold that align with PD Days, but that are not school board blackout days. Action items:
 - Rita to check with school board dates and provide a list
 - Mary to provide a list of producers that can be used

- 7:05 – Nutrition Update
 - There are a couple weeks that kids did not get their cookies. We had a problem with our distributor, but we now have cookies back in stock.
 - Chocolate milk used to be served in cartons. They were difficult to open, and were messy when sent back home. Sara started purchasing straws to deal with this issue. We have switched to bottles of chocolate milk which have a longer life, and can be taken home if kids don't finish them. We were spending \$0.90 and now we are spending \$1.30, but the benefits outweigh the cost
 - Liane wants to run a pita day for the school. She would set that up on school day and run it on her side. Ms. Tripp is running a trial run for pita day for the staff to see if everything works properly. If it does the schoolwide Pita Day will be in April
 - Sara would like to run another pretzel day - general board consensus
 - Erin mentioned that the owner of Sweet Carolines asked if we wanted to do an ice cream day this year in the Spring - general board consensus but need more information
 - May Court provides food for kids that don't have enough to eat at lunch. They are currently not able to provide food/ funding. Liane is asking for \$500 worth of funds to fill the snack bin for the remainder of the year. She estimates it will be \$100 a month.
 - Denise motioned, Alex second, all in favour
- 7:15 – Bike Rodeo
 - Lara Hopcroft presented this event idea which she saw at another school. This is a skills building event for kids, JK to 6. The one she went to had 4 stations: 1) decorating station, 2) skills building with courses and auxiliary officers running it, 3) obstacle course with ramps, 4) field games that are wheels or tires based. The event involved the whole school. Costs about \$500 to run for decorations, and pizza for the volunteers.
 - They go through recycled cycles, or other bike shops to do a safety check. Used to have brain injury people come out to check the helmets. There is a helmet giveaway organization that gives away helmets to parents that need them for their kids. Other options are Red Raccoon Cycles, and Black Arrow Cycles
 - Would the other school let us borrow their ramps?
 - Police service has a volunteer unit. Uniforms but no use of force options. Kids can come through without bikes, or borrow bikes
 - Mary suggested that this be the year end party
 - Rita to look up Risk Management pieces of this and present at the next meeting
 - Lara to ask additional questions about the event
- 7:25 – Additional Items

- Requests:
 - \$200 per teacher for classroom learning enhancement. The teachers would like to request the funds mid year so that they can use the enhancements in the current year
 - Tracey motioned, Denise second, all in favour
 - \$1,500 for year end party, \$1,500 for spiritwear (for kids that cannot otherwise participate), \$500 for graduation celebration
 - Erin motioned, mary second, all approved
- Additional meeting scheduled for March 6th to review movie night and year end party
- April meeting has been moved to April 3rd
- 7:30 – Adjournment

Next Meeting: March 6, 2024 - 6-730pm