

CPF *Canadian Parents for French*
Ardrossan Chapter



Minutes for meeting dated
April 14, 2015

Attendees: Judy Whetstone (Elementary Principal), Helene Hewitt (Vice-Principal), Jennifer Mailer (President CPF, Ardrossan Chapter), Janice Brownlee (Treasurer), Terri-Ann Trohubiak (Secretary), Alicia Ponciano,

1. Meeting called to Order at 5:33 p.m.
2. Motion to approve Agenda, made by Jennifer, seconded by Terri-Ann.
3. Motion to approve Minutes, as circulated, dated January 13, 2015, made by Terri-Ann, seconded by Alicia.
4. Chair report: Will have something set up for the open house at the Jr/Sr High. Also set up on May 21, the Kindergarten FI parent orientation.

Paul Smith, council person, is holding a volunteer function in Josephburg, on April 18, 2015, all volunteers welcome to attend.

Have sent an email copy of the newsletter to members of the local CPF branch.

Received Minutes from the 36 Annual General Meeting and noticed we are not mentioned. Something will be done regarding same.

There are summer camp ideas on the CPF/AB website.

Received updated membership list.

5. Treasurer Report: Janice moves that the Report be accepted as presented, Jen seconded.
6. Administration Report, from Judy: For the grade 5 and 6 FI, they will share with Campbelltown school, the talent show 'Gala la' aimed at kids from elementary, early jr high. Students enjoyed it.

From Helene: ATA Council of School Leadership has reported that the recent research of Dr. Genes, of McGill University, shows that over the past 50 years of the immersion program shows definite benefits in the brain regarding Alzheimer's and executive control section of the brain. Also, the global advantages. English is the second language in most places.

Brings up three questions. What happens to English? The students do just as well will no negative effects How does it affect other subjects? Same, no lack of learning. How competent are they in their French? FI is equal to Francophones in regards to listening and reading. Speaking and writing FI lack a bit.

As to when to introduce English, findings show that usually the earlier the better, but not always the case. It does impact the French, but time wise the English is not as important as that catches up easily in the later grades. The optimal age to learn French is in Kindergarten or pre-school. Late is beneficial, but the earlier the better. Regarding at risk learners, (autistic, learning challenged, ethnic minorities etc), it doesn't hurt and research shows no difference.

What is the plan? Screening early for at risk students, using English tools, in the Fall and Spring to get accurate predictors. 80% of students do better with interpreters. If you support the one language, the other will also do well.

Projected numbers for 2015/16 FI: Grade 1-25, 2-22, 3-26, 4-16, 5-15, 6-23.

7. Old Business:

-Carnival was successful and enjoyed by both students and teachers. Perhaps we could try to get more French spoken during Carnival and opening event. Huge thank you to Jen, parent volunteers, grade 9 FI students, and all who helped make this year's Carnival a success.

-Huge thank you to Jen for doing Kindergarten and Jr/Sr High Open Houses.

8. New Business:

-Jen made a Motion to support grade 4 camp next year with extra funding to families that hold a current membership. Currently looks like 16 students @ \$35/student plus \$89 for bussing. Janice seconded.

-Jen made a Motion to support grade 9 FI field trip because they will help with sundae selling and with Carnival in February, Janice seconded.

9. BBQ set for Thursday, June 26, 2015.

-Order forms – online ordering (labels printed)

-Volunteer times

- Set up 8:30
- Cooking 9 – 1:00
- Distribution 11 – 12:30
- Clean up 12:30- 1:30

Pre order: burgers (1/4 lb), hot dogs, buns and cheese

Pick up: Freezies, pop, chips, make up candy bags.

BBQ rental – Denise

From Lunchbox – Day use, foils, napkins, condiments, health and safety volunteer.

Food cost increase, cash box, day of sales.

New Horizons – communicate that there will be a bbq and there may be smoke.

10. Adjourned at 6:30 pm. Thank you for attending. Your input is appreciated and valued. **MERCI !**

Next CPF Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 9:30 am, Ardrossan Elementary School

EVERYONE Welcome and Encouraged to Attend