# Vimy Ridge Public School Parent Council Meeting Minutes October 3, 2017

1. **Update from Principal McCormack**

* PD Day coming up will focus on school learning plan (with EQAO results in mind), well-being plan (bullying), making exit outcomes come alive in classrooms, and examining Equity Continuum.
  + Mrs. McCormack to bring activity on Equity Continuum to next meeting.
* There will be a new format for IEPs later this year.
* Number Talks: A shift in the way we teach math. Students learn by reasoning, making sense and constructing strategies built on numerical relationships.
* Staffing update: school continues to receive more teaching staff and reorganize classes as we adjust to student enrollment.
* Official school opening event: Nov 10.
* Parent suggestion: Can we put together a session for parents on dealing with bullying?
  + OCDSB Speaker Series: Oct. 5, Nov. 30
* First fire drill went well. Lock down coming up.
  + Mrs. McCormack to bring messaging to next council meeting for parents to use to address safety lockdowns, bullying with students.
* Kitchen now available for classes to use, for milk program.
  + Parent idea: incorporate kitchen/cooking activities to teach math. Start a cooking club? Parent volunteers interested in that?
  + Robotics club? Any funding in budget for that? Also needs parent volunteers.
  + Maker-Space: will be used by classes. Once it’s up and running, will have 5 stations, one for each circuit (virtual reality, coding, etc). Students will be given a challenge to build something and encouraged to interact and problem-solve.
  + There will also be a green room in the library that students can use to make movies.

1. **Update from Ms. Hutchinson (student council)**

* Student council meeting weekly
* Soccer, touch football and other clubs coming together.
  + Parents welcome to run some clubs over recess. (January- March break?)
* Library update: looking for a new library technician. Books have arrived.

1. **General Discussion**

* Need to determine Chair, Treasurer, Secretary for Council. Interested members raised their hands. Three were interested in Chair position; they met and decided that two of them would co-chair. (See names below)
* Grounds and Safety: crossing guards coming soon. New signs coming soon for 40km/hr speed limit on Kelly Farm and 5-minute limit to stopping on Findlay Creek drive side of school.
  + Look into Kiss and Ride idea
  + Shepody and Bradwell need a crosswalk.
  + Walking school bus? OSTA has a program where bus drivers walk with students to school.
  + Idea: provide a do’s and don’ts handout for parents who drop off by car.
  + Action: Sub-committee on Grounds and Safety created
* Play structure for older kids
  + Board does not provide funding, it is up to Council to fund. Potential collaboration with the FCCA? Fundraising? Grants?
  + Look into bins of outdoor play equipment for classes (toys, balls, snowshoes, etc.)
  + Action: Playground sub-committee created
* Movie night soon? Can sell pizza popcorn, to raise funds. Lunches- milk program, pita pit, pizza, booster juice?
  + Action: social sub-committee created.

**Administrative Members:**

Fatima Baalbaki- Secretary

Emily Rideout - Alternate Secretary

Laura Dingle Robertson - Treasurer

Greg Rallo - Co-Chair

Ahmed Fawal - Co-Chair

**Playground Committee:**

Keara Dean

Carly Arkell

**Grounds & Safety Committee:**

Karen Michaud

Debasish Chakravarty

Tyler Peitzche

**Social / Events Committee:**

Tracy Waxman

Shae Lynch

Emily Rideout

Diana Walker

Megan Dorman

**Next meeting November 7, 2017 6:30 pm**