

Hespeler P.S. School Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, September 18, 2017

7:00 pm

Present: Susan Ford, Michelle Bush Broga, Olga Vigil-Letang, Monica Laliberté, Erin Neath, Afrim Ficic, Sharon McKeown, Elke Lupinsky, Kala Adams, Jill Strome, Tina Castelli, Kyly Miller, Julie Lobsinger, Sabina Voisin, Jen Clarke, Jacky Shoebridge, Kara Hall, Greg Schmid, Janice Koiter, Mark Koiter, Dawn LeDrew, Jessica Buttars, Abbey Smith, Sarah MacAllister

Regrets: None

1. Welcome:

- Julie welcomed all returning members, thank you for all your work last year! Welcome to new members.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 15, 2017

- May 15, 2017 Minutes: approved as read – Kara motioned to approve, Kyly seconded.

3. Elections:

- Chair: Sharon McKeown
- Secretary: Sabina Voisin (+ council events flyers), Olga Vigil-Letang will help
- Treasurer: Greg Schmid
- Parent partners: council members
- Teacher rep: Jacky Shoebridge & Monica Laliberté
- Event Coordinator: Tina Castelli

4. School Council Annual Report (2016-2017)

- Annual report provided at meeting
- For the last 4 years we've increased our involvement & numbers, Sharon offers a big thank you to everyone for the great things we've accomplished with fundraising, and with community events!
- Report has been sent to the school board.
- Last year Sharon sent a letter home to all families communicating what council does.
- Please remember, we are a group to support parents as well as support the school. We're ambassadors to our school, please be mindful of not posting council issues on social media.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Opening balance \$25,986.39 from August 11 bank statement.
- Most of our funds are allocated to the new school sign, some Home Reading funds are carried forward from last year as well.
- Approximately \$4000 available to start.

6. Principal/Vice-Principal Update

Principal's Update – Julie Lobsinger

- Great start to the year, kids are excited and teachers are excited to be back!
- Thank you to council, in partnership with the school for the new sign. Electrician is coming to finish hookup.
- Remember, council represents all the kids as a whole, if there is ever an issue about what is happening in your child's classroom, please approach the teacher directly, do not bring up at council.
- Armourstone has been installed around the back to try and alleviate some of the runoff problems.
- 1 new portable was added over the summer for 5 total. We are getting a new class: 4th Kindy class. There will be a reorganization happening, letter will be going home tomorrow (Sept. 19) to affected families. Timeline uncertain as it relies on a Kindy teacher & DECE being hired. There will be 3 classes of 24, 1 class of 25. Grade 3 French Immersion Room 9 will be moving to the portable.
- Julie tried very hard to reorganize before the school year started, but the board has a policy to wait and see so she had to wait.

Vice-Principal's Update – Afrim Ficic

- Intramurals are up and running, Mr. G's music groups/choir have started.
- Spirit days are run by student council.
- Julie updates Twitter, Afrim updates sign, Jacky updates website.
- Sept. 19: Gr. 7's to camp Ki-Wa-Y to welcome students from Centennial
- Sept. 19: Constable Mike (school liaison police officer) is continuing school visits
- Sept. 20: Terry Fox Run last block
- Sept. 21: Say "Hi" Day
- Sept. 22: PD Day
- Sept. 27: Mad Science assembly (Gr. 1-6)
- Sept. 29: Crazy hair day
- Oct. 9: Thanksgiving Monday – no school
- Oct. 16: School Council Meeting 7pm
- Oct. 24: Constable Mike's visit
- Oct. 25: Gr. 7 HPV immunizations
- Oct. 25: Math Night
- Oct. 27: Picture Day

7. New Business/Fundraising

School Council Goals

- School Council Goals provided at meeting
- Some updates made based on suggestions from last year.
- Sharon encourages everyone to individually reach out to more parents to come to workshops/events. We'd like to reach more of our parent community.

- Social activities: suggest Christmas concert social stays the same, discuss what the other event will be.
- Sharon encourages one or more of us to join her at school activities for council presence.
- Maybe council shirts would be a good way to add visibility to our presence? New business.
- Update point 4 to include maintaining an up to date school sign.
- Sharon proposed this continues to be our roadmap of our goals for the year, if changes are needed they can be voted on.
- Request made to have minutes out earlier as drafts to all of council, understand they are not approved until next meeting.

Parent workshops

- Fall timeline: mid-November.
- Ideas of what might reach our community: mental health night with different speakers or a different format; bullying: what to do to help our kids (developing skills in kids around relationships, and resilience); managing kids' relationship with school; growth mindset (positive topic, ties parents to school); anxiety (but have covered twice already).
- We have an approved PRO grant of \$1000 for math & mental well-being events. We could use this for a higher profile speaker.
- Look further into a growth mindset speaker. May need to book someone prior to next meeting, decision can be made between Tina, Sharon & Julie.
- Janice, Greg & Erin will help research.

Vendor sale: Sunday, November 26 10am-3pm

- Council members in at 8am for setup
- Will get vendor call flyer out this week.
- We will have a donation box for Nutrition For Learning (Breakfast Club), \$1 donation as admission to get in.
- Abbey will join subcommittee.
- All old vendors have been contacted, some bookings are already coming in.
- In a couple of weeks we'll send out the event flyer at school - needs editing re: Nutrition For Learning donation comes to this school directly.
- Subcommittee: Kara - social media advertising; Kala - sourcing vendors; Kyly & Abbey will get jobs from Tina; Sabina – flyers.
- Do we put in an advertising budget? Jason Godbout could put out targeted ads again, he spent \$100 personally last year, but we should pay this year.
- Invest in or make some signs that we can use year to year?
- Update to table fees from last year: \$45 each, +\$5 each for premium wall/electrical spot.
- Afrim to order 100 6' tables
- Add a used book sale to vendor sale? This does very well for a school in Kitchener, they do it as a stand alone fundraiser. Council sorts & stores books for a week. School day prior, kids get a chance to visit the used book fair. Then put out at a book sale in

- evening/weekend. Will need support from school/staff because of collecting books each morning. Sort books by table for price.
- Would be in the hall outside of vendor sale. Would we have to clean up for Saturday language school between Friday & Sunday? Yes. Could carry over to Monday instead, it could stay out that way. Julie agreed this would be a better arrangement.
 - Talk to teachers first to see if they're on board? Can't be hard for teachers, can't be a dumping ground for books. Limit to kids/youth books. Do we have enough manpower to prep for this? Yes.
 - Book collection boxes need to be outside of classrooms to allow council to collect books without disrupting class time. We will need a space to sort & store the books daily.
 - Have a box at the office for book donations that come in directly from parents.
 - Add book sale to vendor flyer, and make a separate flyer about how to donate books.
 - Day of volunteers: need all hands on deck! Janice will be at the door/donation box. Need bake sale, book sale, floaters, etc.
 - Jen motioned to allocate \$300-500 as an advertising budget. Kala seconded, PASSED unanimously.

Fun Fair feedback

- Date: Friday, June 8, 2018
- **Greg:**
- Total revenue of \$12,277.60, minus expenses of \$6,392.01, left net profit of \$5,885.59
- Had a significant increase in ticket pre-orders
- Will double food, we now have a good sense of quantities needed.
- Record silent auction revenue of \$3516
- Revenue up 17%, expenses down 5%
- **Tina:**
- Amazing team effort, event has grown! Silent auction had a lot due to everyone working hard asking contacts. Classroom baskets were great this year, good quality, very full. Kiddie prize draw ran very smoothly. BBQ very well organized. Buns were not as fresh as we'd like, will solve for this year. Need additional ticket pages for display. Walking talkies were a great item. Pulling in community support to sponsor some items worked well (face paint, princesses). Erick Traplin wasn't super busy, but good feedback and people definitely stopped there, just not for the whole show. Move over to where people eat?
- Mini Ferris wheel was a great addition, helped spread kids out, great for small kids.
- A lot of volunteers didn't show up, so more volunteers are needed because it's getting so big. There needs to be a person dedicated to managing volunteers.
- We're not making enough profit on food, so leftovers really eat into profits, look at prices?
- Decide \$ value from fun fair to breakfast club: Tina motioned to allocate \$500 to Nutrition For Learning Breakfast Club. Olga seconded, PASSED unanimously.

Danceathon

- Thursday, March 29, 2018. This coincides with Beach Spirit Day.
- Continue, as it's an excellent fundraiser for us. Was a great environment with lights, video, etc.
- Kickoff assembly before March break.

8. Other business:

Council Funds: School Sign

- Sign is installed! Electrical and training pending, all events will be posted on sign. Julie & Greg will settle up payment to Florence Signs.

Hespeler Optimist Proposal

- They would like a proposal from us, they'd like to support us with a bike rack initiative (bike & scooter racks).
- Sharon will make a proposal to Hespeler Optimist, note that whatever the proposal is for, that's what the money needs to be used on. Likely will be about \$1000 from them.

Council t-shirts

- Suggestion is to look at something other than pinnies that we could all wear to school events – workshops, social events, Fun Fair, etc. (even if council is not specifically running that event – Kindy Night, Meet the Staff Night, Math Night, etc.)
- What about lanyards to wear? Think with HPS council on it. Maybe not visible enough from a distance.
- Money we raise as council is for the kids, we should pay for this ourselves.
- Kyly will get a quote on t-shirts (yellow with blue writing to match pinnies).
- Will be voluntary to buy, if you don't have a shirt you can use a pinny.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:56pm

Next meeting: October 16, 2017 (3rd Monday of the month)