

Hespeler P.S. School Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, February 12, 2018

7:00 pm

Present: Sharon McKeown, Michelle Bush Broga, Afrim Ficic, Tina Castelli, Kyly Miller, Sabina Voisin, Jacky Shoebridge, Greg Schmid, Abbey Smith, Sarah MacAllister, Susan Ford, Rebecca Birtch, Rebecca Jutzi, Kala Adams, Jen Clarke

Regrets: Monica Laliberté, Elke Lupinsky, Kara Hall

1. Welcome

- Welcome Rebecca, to your first official meeting with us. We are looking forward to finishing the year as school council with you!

2. Approval of Minutes from January 15, 2017

- January 15, 2017 Minutes: Tina motioned to approve, Kyly seconded, approved as read.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Balance of \$14,735.95
- Pending expenses (allocations/cheques written):
Fun Fair prepayments, Nutrition for Learning contributions, parent workshop, Danceathon deposit, Christmas social, vendor sale advertising, 30 Chromebooks, Kindy equipment.
- Available balance of \$910.44

4. Principal/Vice-Principal Update

Principal's Update – Rebecca Jutzi

- Rebecca is thrilled to be here. Has had HPS on her radar for a while, has heard nothing but positive things about this school. Happy to follow Julie and to be here, HPS has lived up to its reputation! Kids have been very polite and welcoming, along with staff and the parent community. She is looking forward to working with us for many years. Came from Meadow Lane, a small school, and principals tend to move on quicker from small schools over larger schools. Rebecca was raised in Waterloo, and has been with the WRDSB since 2004. This is her first time at a composite school, and she is excited for it. Rebecca is focused on building relationships and collaboration; looking to continue using technology to build on communication with students. She lives in Guelph with her 6-year-old son who is in grade 1 French there. Rebecca values a life of balance as well, along with being committed to the school.
- Looking forward to winter field trip on Friday at Chicopee!
- Brought flyers for tarmac painting from Pat Doyle, about \$800 for four large games on tarmac. He is happy to come and look at it whenever we want to get a more specific quote.

Vice-Principal's Update – Afrim Ficic

- Oxford Learning is now open at plaza at Townline & 401, willing to come to council and present the services they offer if we'd like.
- Had a successful Olympic Parade last Friday: students wore red & white, classroom doors were decorated with the Olympic theme, lots of energy. Great to see all students excited about it together.
- The halls are now decorated with hearts through a student council initiative. Thanks to Mrs. Lowden our librarian & Mrs. Leslie our CYW for running student council.
- 30 more Chromebooks are in, thank you to school council – this brings us to 285, close to a 2:1 ratio of students to Chromebooks (gr. 1-8).
- Senior basketball finished their regular season and playoffs begin next week.
- Surprise assembly for Julie was great! Thank you to Council for the thoughtful gift, she appreciated the kind words. It was a great way to send her off.
- Rebecca's transition has gone very well – she seems to like it here! She has remarked on what a wonderful community, great students and excellent staff we have here at HPS. Afrim agrees – this is a wonderful work and learning environment – we have the pleasure to observe this every day.
- Thank you to Mrs brown for organizing winter trip.
- Mrs. Garbutt's last day is Friday (long-term LTO), Mrs. Rosehart will return after Family Day weekend.
- Afrim will get Twitter password from Julie.
- School day is working well now, most parents signed up now because of winter trip.
- Sharon and Sabina will work together to manage the sign, will meet to organize this.

School information/Upcoming events:

- Feb. 15 – Report cards go home (one day early due to winter field trip day)
- Feb. 16 – Winter field trip: skiing and tubing at Chicopee – thank you Mrs. Brown for organizing this!
- Feb. 23 – Crazy Hat day
- Feb. 26 – Kodaly Choir visits Tait St.
- Feb. 27 – Dental screening for JK/SK/gr. 2
- Feb. 28 – Science fair – all day with open house from 5:30-7:30pm in the gym
- Feb. 28 – Kindy field trip to Mountsberg Conservation Area
- Mar. 5 – Danceathon kickoff assembly
- Mar. 5 – Junior girls basketball tournament
- Mar. 6 – Junior boys basketball tournament

5. New Business/Fundraising

Dance-a-thon – March 29 with Beach Day

- Pledgeloop wording – what are we fundraising for?
- Tech and outdoor initiatives? Shade, tarmac games, etc.
- Encourage kids to raise \$20 each. We usually raise about \$10,000 once expenses are paid. Biggest criticism has been when we fundraise without a clear path.
- Runoff gullies are a facilities issue - safety issue. Gravel still comes down from ball diamond too. Rebecca will investigate this.

- Also need to replace stage wraparound curtain. Don't use yellow back curtain anyway, it could just be removed. Looking to see if curtain rail is salvageable.
- Decided on: "Including outdoor initiatives"
- If council members get questions, we're looking into how to better engage the kids outdoors, we don't need to get into specifics yet as we'll be looking into our options.
- Susan can look into outdoor initiatives, Sharon & Susan will discuss.

Fun Fair

- Erick Traplin is booked.
- Kiddie Fun Trax is confirmed.
- Afrim to order tables please, we always get shorted, let's order extra (40 tables).
- Silent auction was a big success, please start thinking about who you know that might donate something to auction.
- Vendors from sale donated at event already if they wanted to.

6. Other business:

Growth Mindset Workshop: feedback

- Went over very well, wasn't all Council members attending which was great.
- Tina really sees this happening in the classroom when in volunteering, so it was great to get the connection to home. Very much about changing your language when speaking to your children.
- Could we post the PowerPoint presentation to reach the parents that couldn't come? Tina will ask.
- Mme. Arbour suggested doing a survey to find out the preferred time for people to attend workshops, was done at another school she was at and it was enlightening.
- Going forward: don't put location on flyer because it might intimidate people in a really small venue like the library. If we get more RSVP's we could move into the cafeteria.
- School-Day could be used to send a link to a survey on a Google form, could include time options and topic options to vote on.
- Send Rebecca the information and she'll send it out on School-Day. Tina will draft.

Spring cleanup

- Usually Mother's Day weekend. Saturday morning 9-12. Julie used to move the mulch around. Mark and Janice are very committed to this too & spearhead this, Sharon will talk to them about the date.
- Can go on sign, make graphic. Fine balance between having enough and too many people.

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:52pm

Next meeting: March 19, 2018