

Hespeler P.S. School Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, May 14, 2018

7:00 pm

Present: Sharon McKeown, Sabina Voisin, Susan Ford, Greg Schmid, Tina Castelli, Kara Hall, Jill Strome, Rebecca Jutzi, Afrim Ficic, Sarah MacAllister, Mark Koiter, Janice Koiter, Michelle Bush Broga, Jacky Shoebridge, Kyly Miller, Kala Adams

Regrets: Elke Lupinsky, Abbey Smith

1. Welcome

- Last month's meeting was cancelled.

2. Approval of Minutes from March 19, 2018

- March 19, 2018 Minutes: Mark motioned to approve, Kyly seconded, approved as read.

3. Treasurer's Report

- About \$8800 raised from Dance-A-Thon after expenses.
- After allocations, we have about \$10,000 in the bank.
- Will also have fun fair money coming in.
- Dance-A-Thon funds are for outdoor improvements: Already talking about pavement markings, bike racks. \$1000 is already committed for pavement markings/games.
- Rebecca brought a flyer for a GaGa ball pit, appeals to all age groups and abilities, fully accessible. Someone would need to come and tell us where we could put that on our grounds. How much is a GaGa ball pit? We'd need time to get approved for the appropriate space to install it.
- What about fencing an area at the front of the school for a kindy zone? Good shade & natural berms there already.
- Bike racks should be at the top of our list, this has been on our radar for a while. Rebecca will continue working on the contact with the city.
- Jill motioned to allocate up to \$8000 for bike racks, for however many we can accommodate in the space. Kara seconded, unanimously approved.
- Greg & Sharon will talk to Rebecca regarding submitting expenses for the PRO Grant for the speakers/workshops we had this year.

4. Principal/Vice-Principal Update

Principal's Update – Rebecca Jutzi

- Tentative staffing allocations for the 2018-2019 school year are in, there is some wiggle room to add new children into classes if needed.
- English stream: 4 x Kindergarten; 1 class each grades: 1, 1/2, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, 6; 2 classes each grades: 7, 8.
- French stream: 2 x grade 1; 3 x grade 2; 1 class each grades: 3, 3/4, 4, 4/5, 5/6, 6, 7, 8.

- Afrim been working really hard with our school climate committee, the new trees in the entrance is evidence of that, brightens the school.
- They're also talking about a character development program: the umbrella effect. Showed video. All about emotional and cognitive skills. Students focus on one trait per month out of the 18 skills. This is training kids to look for positive examples, instead of people's natural tendency to focus on the negative. Ranges from K-8, evolves as kids get older but the language is consistent. Thinking about doing this at HPS. Is there a way to use the PRO GRANT for this? It has been done in the past for other schools, there is a Parent component with this. Admin for this program is local.
- Rebecca will fill out PRO Grant application.
- Ordered 15 more chrome books for intermediate students. Intermediate policy is changing in regards to personal devices: personal devices will be off and in your locker. This way kids can access what they need on the chrome book since we'll have enough for all at the intermediate level. Parents should be better informed about the school policy, would be good to educate all age level parents about the school policies.

Vice-Principal's Update – Afrim Ficic

- School Climate Committee has been meeting this year to look at ways to improve the climate of our school to be more positive and inviting: front entrance trees, class photos, teacher photos, community board. Claire Chambers & Lee-Anne Wilson headed up this committee.
- Thanks to Claire Chambers and her husband for installing the entrance trees!
- New benches have been purchased that will be arriving in June.
- Dance-A-Thon was a hit! Thanks to school council for making this day happen for our students.
- Regional Science Fair was on April 3 – many students were awarded medals for their wonderful projects – thank you to Mrs. Turnbull.
- We had local MPP's come to our school to that to the intermediates about provincial issues – Conservative, NDP, and Liberal candidates for this region were here for a presentation and Q&A period – thank you to Mrs. Turnbull for organizing this.
- Wrestling County Finals were on April 21 at Cameron Heights for intermediate students – HPS had many medalists – thank you to Mr. Chiasson, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Bastin and Mike Delve (a community volunteer with a wealth of knowledge on the sport).
- Gr. 7 & 8 students participated in DanceFest at Sir John A. MacDonald – impressed with the dances the students choreographed and performed by themselves.
- Spring Performance was on April 25 – great to see such amazing musical performances – thank you to Mr. G along with Mrs. Martin & Ms. Halter for performing.
- Earth Day initiative of Boomerang Lunches is up and running with generally positive feedback.
- Earth Day Clean-up – as a school we went outside to clean the school grounds – students participated – strong symbolically for the school to go out together.

- Gr. 7 & 8 had a very successful track & field meet last week – great day for participating – thanks again to Mr. Chiasson & Mrs. Brown for all their hard work – we truly have a remarkable physical education program at Hespeler.
- Green bins are coming. Recycling bins are needed too. Recycling does not fall under custodial duties, but they will take it out to the curb if brought to custodial room. We need a green team that can manage this, also need a teacher to lead it.

School information/Upcoming events:

- May 16 – New Dundee Dragon Race run 4-5:30pm for running club members
- May 16 – Le Voyageur visits – all day program in the gym for FI students
- May 22-24 – Gr. 3 EQAO
- May 29-31 – Gr. 6 EQAO
- May 24 – Blue Jays game trip
- May 25 – Superhero Day
- May 29 – Gr. 6 to 7 Information Night
- May 31 – Track & Field Divisional meet
- June 1 – PD Day
- June 6 – Highland Hustle run for running club
- June 7 – County Track & Field
- June 8 – Junior Track & Field @ JHSS
- June 8 – Fun Fair 5-8pm

5. New Business/Fundraising

Dance-a-thon Feedback

- Kids loved it as usual, since it was on beach day we added some beach balls, this was a great addition. A lot of the work is done for us, which has good value. Still makes financial sense to do it this way. We raise a good amount of money for a fairly small time investment.
- Kara motioned to have Dance-A-Thon this way again next year. Kala seconded, unanimously approved.

Fun Fair

- Jacky has been helping coordinate teachers for baskets. We get a lot of support from the teachers here to help us, we need to make sure we express our appreciation to the staff.
- First round of flyers went home, another coming next week.
- Motorized bikes are changing to carnival games instead because of battery issues. Games will all be in a central location so they're easier to manage.
- Likely no sponsorship for superheroes this year, Tina has another contact for characters too.
- Increased prices of burgers and hot dogs by 50 cents each, from subcommittee.
- We need coolers & tents, please email Tina what you have and what your availability that night is.
- Kyly will be the volunteer coordinator that night.

- Staff parking spot for silent auction for drop off and pickup: we can't justify this anymore since we have significant shortage of staff parking, particularly in the winter when snow piles onto a number of spaces.
- We may need a sign at the parking lot to say staff only at all times, as many parents aren't aware that they shouldn't park in the lot even for quick stops during the day (including some council parents).

6. Other business:

Garden cleanup

- Rescheduled due to mix up with mulch delivery because of the storm the previous week. Weathers also looked poor for the morning.
- Rebecca and Sharon talked about options for the future. Some of us have flexibility to be here during the day and we could then involve the older kids to come out and help. Try it this way this year to see how it goes.
- Mark & Janice will do weeding this week. Susan will arrange to have mulch delivered in time to do gardening on Friday. Sharon will coordinate with them and final details will go out by email.

Yellow Curtain

- Have some info but it likely won't be up before grad. Not a problem, white plastic curtain can be decorated.

No Stopping Zones

- No Stopping zones in front of the school are a problem: No Stopping signs are there for a reason, especially the driveway on the kindy side for emergency services access.
- As Council, please follow these rules, and politely encourage and educate people if you are able. There is also lots of parking on side streets. It's about kids' safety.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:30pm

Stay tuned for final meeting/social details.