

**Southridge Public School**  
**School Council – Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday January 16, 2018**

In Attendance - Erica SW, Kelly R, Ruth, Pamela, Erica B, Ashley, Cindy, Alicia, Melissa, Kelly F, Tracy H, Leah , Geoff.

**1. Welcome – Erica SW**

A decision was made to have a March meeting, which will be held on the Tuesday after March break (March 20<sup>th</sup>).

**2. N4L - Melissa**

Melissa provided an update regarding nutrition for learning. Melissa has now stepped down from her position, and Brenda has taken this position over. Melissa updated that Brenda is feeling very overwhelmed with the ordering process and there has been no food in the nutrition bins for the past 2 weeks. This week there will be food in the bins. Melissa is asking for more support from the school community to assist Brenda. Ashley is committed to helping through until April, specifically with ordering and reporting. Ruth advised that she will also be able to help out. Melissa is committed to continuing to assist with some of the tasks as she knows the program best.

**3. From the Office – Geoff and Leah**

Geoff advised that two new staff have been hired to cover maternity leaves.

January 25th is 'Future Me day (career day). Students can dress up as their future selves

January 26th is a PD Day.

Report cards will be sent home on February 16th 2018.

Pizza forms have now been sent home and are due back on January 31st the last day of the current Pizza term is Thursday February 1st and the new term will begin February 8th.

**4. Food sales moving forward – Leah**

Discussion about pizza sales moving forward. Leah is advising that there will need to be changes for next year. Pizza for everyone on School Day has become too much work / too time-consuming and is not sustainable going forward. 30- 40% of our Southridge families are still not using school day. She advised that the dollar amounts have gone down as far as donations are concerned which is okay but means we are making less on the pizza.

Discussions about other options - we need to decide on something that is more sustainable. Using Mary Johnson School as an example of another school providing pizza for everyone, we know that they have

gone back to using paper ordering for the reasons as above. At this point Leah is seeing that there are two concrete options.

1. Go back to using paper orders and cash however if we move to this, we will need volunteers for sure to assist.
2. Come up with a different online ordering system. Leah shared with us 'Elementary School Nutrition Services' website. This would provide an alternative ordering system. Other schools have used this successfully and the site does provide some financial kickback. It also would provide us options of adding other foods such as subs, milk, pasta, Boston Pizza Etc and it could be something that we start slowly with and experiment with adding other options over time. We would need to eliminate the anonymity portion of pizza for everyone if we were to go to this ordering system.

We also discussed asking teachers to increase the numbers on school day by sending out reminders on classroom calendars and in day planner messages.

## **5. Around the School update - Tracey H**

Initiative is the topic of this month's spirit assembly. The school has set up a graffiti wall regarding initiative. Tracey updated that Kodaly has begun practicing and Ukulele Club has started again this year. She advised that another parent group was held in early December at Queensmount which was successful. She stated that parents showed an interest in having the next session in February focus on Kitchener City bylaws and the phys-ed curriculum.

## **6. Action plans for 2018**

**a. Fundraising drive** - Brainstorming around the no sales fundraiser. Should we wait until next year to have more of a concrete goal? This form of a fundraiser can be tax deductible. Discussion around how we advertise for it. Pam brought forward ideas about writing a letter which would provide actual amounts of things like trips and N4L costs and ideas for each grade level that typically get paid for through fundraising dollars. We discussed that we would need to word this type of letter carefully so that it is clear that this would be a donation only to offset the cost and there would still be an expectation by parents to pay small amounts for things like school trips as it is now. Kelly Roberts advised that she can start helping with poster ideas.

**b. Dance-a-Thon.** We discussed that Professor Jamz is available on March the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Erica will look into whether we can just ask for his flat rate rather than try to deal with him handling any of the donations through his website. There was possibly some confusion about how this worked last year and whether or not donations were received in the way that we thought we would receive them.

**c. Family math night** - Tracey advised that there was further discussion among staff and the majority of staff said that they would be interested in holding another night this year. Tracey will follow up about how staff would like to see Parent Council support helping this year so that it is a bit more clear who is doing what and how we are working together.

**d. Spring picnic** - We will defer this to our next meeting.

**7. Other issues / concerns/ ideas** - discussion about the pals program currently running at the school and whether this could be made available for older kids as well on the junior side.

A fundraising idea was brought up about a Bingemans Fun Works night. WT Townsend is currently running one at their school.

Discussion was also had around whether or not the creative playground requires some updated painting, and Geoff agreed to look into this through the Board.

Meeting adjourned and new meeting date set for March 20th, 2018