

# Alpine School Council Minutes

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

6:30 p.m. in the library



**Present:** Rita Givlin, Lea Becker, April Cousineau, Mandy Clarke, Jessica Beaucage, Judy Oke, Rebecca Harris, Christine Catcher, Jennifer McCuaig

**Regrets:** Nancy Williamson, Dawn Koehler, Donald Mann, Melissa Coles, Sasha Cvetkovic, Jen Smerek, Nicole Johnson,

## Principal Update

### SIPSA - Math

- We continue to work on conceptual fluency with frequent number strings and math talks. As we learn more, we are working to be more purposeful - why this lesson with these kids now? Overall, there has been a very positive impact on student learning.
- Mrs. Fraser and Mrs. Williamson are our math leads and Ms Givlin also attends the junior sessions. The primary focus has been on addition and subtraction and the junior on fractions. Ms Givlin also attends sessions for administrators.
- Our primary students continue to work on DreamBox for at least an hour each week. Kudos to parents who are supporting further practice at home.

### SIPSA - Wellbeing

- In our first year we have focused on the data from SCIS survey to improve student feelings of safety in the washrooms with success. We find we need to maintain focus with announcements and teacher reminders so we don't slip back into old patterns. We love that more students are speaking up and helping out when others forget.
- We are focussing on meeting sensory needs. We have a calming room and many bins with calming tools. We have purchased 2 exercise bike/desks for older students and have placed them in 2 classes. The bikes are for all students to use and after an initial adjustment time for the class have been very successful and well used.
- Our goal is to purchase light covers, 2 primary bikes and a small trampoline next.
- As staff we are currently working to clarify our well-being focus in the same way we narrowed our math focus. We feel strongly about honouring student voice and empowering students to speak up in situations where they feel less safe (i.e., on the playground, in the lunchroom and in the washrooms)

### Technology

- Mrs. Lawson and Ms Givlin attended the GAFE Summit. Two jam packed days of learning about all things tech. Google classroom, how to share our school's story, effective Google searches, use of Google forms, different apps ... the list goes on.

- Mrs. Fraser attended a session on coding. Mrs. Marschall, Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. Hachey and Mrs. Fraser started a grade 4 coding club last Friday with almost all students attending. Kids are learning alongside teachers and helping one another and embracing the challenge. We currently have 3 Spheros and plan to purchase more.
- We have invited experts to support our learning - Heidi Mannhardt and Elke Baumgartner from WRDSB are helping us to learn about coding and Google forms.
- Miss Kittel, Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. Fraser and Ms Givlin attended the WRDSB Digital Literacy Symposium this week.

### **EQAO**

- Grades 3 and 6 teachers have been working hard to prepare students for the upcoming Primary and Junior Assessments. Students are familiar with the question types and are learning to really read questions. They are learning to complete their own calculations and then check the answers provided in the multiple choice questions.
- We have purchased 20 scientific calculators as calculator use is permitted on all of the junior assessment and most of the primary.

### **Parent Engagement**

- Kudos to parent council for an awesome movie night. The gym was full once again and many positive comments were offered.
- Kudos to Miss Hughes and Ms Whistance, our Earth Week team, for organizing a fantastic week of activities ending with the family picnic on Friday. The weather kept us inside but staff loved the feeling of togetherness in the gym.
- We have 98% of our students linked to parent email on **SchoolDay**.
- Our **Twitter** followers have almost doubled from the beginning of the year. We began with 106 and are currently at 209.
- Our new **Instagram** account has 83 followers.
- Parent council chairs have reached out to parents via a Google form survey. As of this morning we had 25 responses.
- All parents have been asked to complete the SCIS survey on line.

### **Grants**

- We have been successful in our applications for Rotary and WEFI grants to support off-campus learning experiences.
- Our application for greening was not successful this time but we have been invited to resubmit the application.

## **Financial Update**

Thanks to Mrs. Crewe for keeping the accounts up-to-date for us. Thanks to Mr. Williamson for picking up the Stemmler's product and thanks to all of the families who ordered.

### **March**

Balance Forward	7668.22
MacMillan's Late Order	-21.00
Balance last meeting	<b>7647.22</b>
Movie Night	468.85
Stemmler's Fundraiser	<u>1142.25</u>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>9258.32</b>

Commitments made - mini soccer posts, kindie learning fence, willows

NB 80% of proceeds will be allocated to playground enhancements

## SCIS Survey completion

- Please give us feedback. Encourage others to complete the surveys as well.

## Principal Profile

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScq5T-dU-q5HJx3gFq4xiOkJEPSY3-oPbVtiDG\\_5Pimt0GGuA/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScq5T-dU-q5HJx3gFq4xiOkJEPSY3-oPbVtiDG_5Pimt0GGuA/viewform?c=0&w=1)

Completed

## Playground Updates

- Friendship Bench - will use a bench we already have, school will promote

## Fun Fair Planning

- Ford test drive will not be a part of the fun fair; consider for next year
- Community associations should be invited next year

Leads this year:

- Games: Judy (Bean Bag XO, Jenga, Kerplunk, Fish Bowl, JP Magic? Face painting)
- Volunteer Coordinator:
- Donations/Silent Auction: April
- Food: Jessica

- Bake Sale: Jennifer
- Cash Counting: Sandie/Lori/Rita (next day)
- Thank Yous: Rita/staff/students
- Class Baskets: Rita/staff/students - kid friendly theme - June
- Bingemans' Funworx Booth - Jessica/April
- Passports/Draw need shape markers- April
- Map of Events:
- Used Book Sale:
- Promotions: Kitchener Citizen, Facebook,
- Police: Rita
- Fire/ Ambulance: Dawn
- School Social Media advertising: Rita
- Roller Derby Display: Jessica/Rebecca
- UofW Science: Judy
- Alpine Community Association - Jessica/April
- Country Hills Library -

## Any Other Business

Lea Becker enjoyed the PIC event and encourages all parents to attend next year. Free event, childcare included, local, engaging speakers and activities, focus on personal wellness and parental involvement (which promotes student success at school).

**Welcome to Kindergarten;** May 3; 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.; Lea requested parent council table; setup table in gym near activity table; great way to reach out and invite parents to help; Jessica and April will be at meeting and prepare small blurb to parents

**School Council T-Shirts:** we are getting t-shirts made for council members

**Stemmlers's Pick Up:** Nancy Williamson's husband is picking up: Rebecca, Jennifer and Jen Smerek are sorting; Rita will make sure gym is available; Rita will send reminder as product must be refrigerated; pick up from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**Fun Fair Meeting:** June 6, 2017 6:30 p.m. in the library

Judy Oke recommended Resiliency Workshop for Parents by Hope for Families Counselling Centre as a resource for a parent evening for next year.

Next Meeting: May 31, 2017