

# Alpine School Council Minutes



Wednesday, January 23, 2019

6:30 p.m. Library

Present: Rita Givlin, April Cousineau, Jennifer Smerek, Mya W-G, Lea Becker

Regrets: Heike Koester, Amanda Galway, Mandy Clark, Jessica Beaucage, Jennifer Waters, Dawn Koehler

## 2017-2018 School Council Report

The report is available on our [School Council Page](#) on our website.

## Financial Update

Date	Event	Revenue	Expenses (less rebates)	Difference	Running Balance
end 2018					22091.39
Nov 9, 2018	Movie Night	286.25	157.54	128.71	128.71
	SD Fee		4.63		-4.63
	interentity reimburse less rebate		134.76		-134.76
Dec 2018	MacMillans	5216	3059.89	2156.13	2156.13
Dec 2018	Rheo Thompson	2013	1080	933	933
	interentity - playground		19760.88		-19760.88
January 2019	transfer Macmillans to school				-2516.13
Jan 25, 2019				Total	2892.83

***Council has approved transferring MacMillan's proceeds to the school to support HERO Generation, DreamBox, Lexia***

## Principal's Update

### Grade 6 Camp

Staff and students are getting very excited about going to camp February 14-16, 2019 as this is a beloved Alpine tradition! Hopefully parents are excited too as this is a wonderful learning opportunity for our Alligators. We are very grateful to Mr Ottogalli, Mrs Ramdeholl and Mrs Hardman for the extra energy and time they give to make this a possibility. Staff who stay at school do a lot of covering as well.

The actual cost per student is approximately \$200 and parents are asked to pay \$50. We are grateful to WEFI and the Rotary Club of Kitchener for their financial support. Thanks also to all who support pizza days as this is another source of revenue to support camp.

### Safety

A small handful of parents are driving into the parking lot to drop students off. We are making every effort to speak to these parents/caregivers directly and will continue to address this issue. We have made an announcement asking our students to speak to their parents if they are getting dropped off in the parking lot. We greatly appreciate the majority of parents who abide by the rules to keep our children safe. A Bylaw officer was ticketing vehicles ignoring the No Stopping signs today.

### Hero Generation

We are continuing our focus on mindfulness and are breathing together as a school each morning and finding a very positive impact. We all look forward to this time and staff report taking extra times as a class to get centered after other breaks or during transitions during the day. Students are using the language from the affirmation and taking time to breathe on their own.

Our next focus will be on efficacy. We are delaying the start of this until after the staff meeting in February - our staff is going to collaborate to write our efficacy affirmation statement. Parents can expect an efficacy calendar mid-February.

Jim Moss, co-founder of Plasticity, will be speaking to staff and students on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

We are grateful to school council for their financial support and interest. We are very fortunate to have had a few private donations to WEFI to support our work in this area.

## Lexia

We have 20 students using Lexia, a program designed to help students with learning disabilities with reading. Our goal is for each of those students to spend 30 minutes per day on Lexia and we hope they will be able to close some gaps in their learning. It has been an adjustment to get each of those 20 students using Lexia each day but we continue to monitor this closely. In almost all cases we are seeing positive gains and we are hoping with continued time and effort the trajectory of success will go even higher. We are grateful to school council for their financial support and interest.

## DreamBox

Alpine staff is doing a fantastic job ensuring that our students get 60 minutes each week. Our goal is to get students working within their grade level or beyond on DreamBox - many of our students are working below what DreamBox shows as grade level. (Cool Math Games, which the children love, does not teach the conceptual understanding that DreamBox does and is not appropriate for use during school time.)

Good news - more students are accessing DreamBox at home and making very positive gains with the time they are investing. Our Alligators need parental support in closing learning gaps so ideally students would also work for 30 minutes at home each week.

We are continuing to offer a voluntary DreamBox club to support students who do not have access at home or who are interested in working on DreamBox during one break per week. Thanks to Miss Pepperdine, Mrs. Becker, Mrs. Givlin and Mrs Ramdeholl this will continue each day 4 during the second nutrition break until March Break.

## Attendance and Late Arrivals

One challenge we face is late arrivals and absences which greatly impact learning. Parents are asked to make every effort to have students at school each day and on time. ***Beginning in February, we will not answer the door during the land acknowledgement, O Canada, announcements and our mindful moment (approximately 9:16-9:20 a.m.) - thanks for understanding our desire to be respectful to our country and to be able to focus as we practice mindfulness together.***

## SHYFT

SHYFT is rooted in our confidence in youth's abilities to change the world around them. This program provides opportunity for discussion and action, by allowing participants to make sense of what they are experiencing externally and feeling internally. This program covers topics like body image, self-esteem, media literacy & pop culture, gossip, social justice & action.

The goal of SHYFT is to foster critical thinking skills and provide outlets for participants to create their own social-justice based media-arts projects. The program has proven not only to affect those who participate, but their amazing projects have had positive effects on the entire community! In the past, participants have collaborated to make social change through graffiti art, self-love space take-overs, post card campaigns and video projects.

This program is beginning at Alpine next week for a group of 5 male and 5 female grade 5 and 6 students.

### Facility

- The gym has now been painted - the next steps are to replace the cork strips and trim along the floor.
- We are grateful to have access to the main entry although there is still some work to be completed.

## Parent Involvement Grants

## **Parent Involvement Funding Grants**

FROM: Matthew Gerard, Coordinating Superintendent, Business Services and Treasurer of the Board

Again, for the 2018-19 school year, the Ministry of Education will be providing funds to schools to support communication with parents and to ensure greater involvement of parents in education.

Each school will receive \$500 for projects that demonstrate inclusion/outreach to school communities. Examples of expenditures that demonstrate parent engagement, inclusion, equity and/or outreach to school communities may include:

- support of the School Improvement Plan;
- costs related to parent engagement activities in your school;
- translation of posters/literature;
- purchase of parenting books or videos to loan to parents;
- engagement initiatives that support optimizing student learning and achievement;
- meeting costs including honoraria for guest presenters;
- costs related to parent information/orientation sessions;
- costs incurred for workshops supporting student learning and achievement;
- costs related to the development and maintenance of the school websites;
- initiatives that assist special community populations facing access/involvement barriers.

Council ideas include helping families learn about:

- Healthy food
- Importance of sleep
- HERO Generation
- Mental health

## **Community Building: Movie Night #2**

Council Leads: Jen S, April

Date: **Thursday, February 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.; show starts at 6:00 p.m.**

Movie Pick Up: **Small Foot**

Volunteers: Jen, April, Rita, Jessica

Greet/Ticket table: April, Rita

Bakers: life skills group will make Rice Krispie squares, Baking with Becker and

Cooking with Krall, Ms W-G, **volunteers needed**

Popcorn: life skills group

Drink Sales:

Set Up: Jen, April, Rita, Jessica

Clean Up: Jen, April, Rita, Jessica

Pizza Orders: Lori/Sherry

Cash Float: Lori/Sherry

## Dance-a-thon February 12, 2019

Council Leads: April, Jen S

Date: February 12, 2018

Music: Miss Whistance will set up; **need council member playlist from last year if possible**

SetUp: April, **volunteers needed**

CleanUp: April, **volunteers needed**

Glow-In-the Dark Store (purchasing items and selling day of): Jen, April

Donations for Raffle: staff

Schedule: Rita

Pledge Forms: Rita

Cash Float: Sherry/Lori

Counting Donations: **volunteer needed**

Disco Ball and Black Light: Mrs Becker

Black Light: Jen S.

Poster advertisements: Miss Koester and 4/5A

Glow in dark art : all classes

Prizes:

Top Pledges - \$50 Toys R Us gift certificate

Second Highest - \$25 Toys R Us gift certificate

Draw from all pledges returned - movie passes

Class Prize - ice cream party

## Fun Fair & Playground Grand Opening Planning

Do we have enough volunteers to go ahead with the fun fair?

Date - Tuesday, June 11, 2019; raindate June 13, 2019

Council Co-Leads: Jessica, April

Volunteer Coordinator: Mrs W-G

Raffle Coordinator:

Silent Auction Coordinator:

Entertainment: investigate having balloon artist again

Map:

Promotions:

BBQ: Rita following up with Pillers as part of our 91.5 the beat breakfast win - donation of 300 precooked sausages

Drinks:

Bake Sale:

Games:

ArtShine: Rita has booked artist from Artshine for Make and Take (ArtShine offers this for free as thanks for allowing their program to run in our school)

Face Painting: Rita, Lea

Police: Rita

Fire:

Ambulance:

CleanUp crew:

SetUp crew:

Radio Station: April

Nike volunteers: Rita

Bingemans: April

## Boundary Review

***Please note - no boundary changes for elementary school are being considered at this time.***

A boundary study is a public process to change school attendance areas. The Board considers boundary changes when new schools open and also to balance enrolments among schools. A boundary study is undertaken with the support of a Working Group. This Working Group includes parents/guardians from each of the 3 secondary schools in the study as well as school administrators and board staff. Parent representatives act as liaisons between their school communities and the working group.

The primary purpose of the Southwest Kitchener Secondary Boundary Study is to reduce enrolment pressure at Huron Heights Secondary School.

Parents/guardians are invited to review the initial Boundary Study report for more information about the status quo (no change) scenario and the two proposed alternative scenarios that have been developed for public consultation.

The study area includes Forest Heights Collegiate Institute, Huron Heights Secondary School and Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute boundaries, including Development Areas assigned to Forest Heights Collegiate Institute. Only these three secondary school boundaries are subject to change as a result of this Boundary Study. The Boundary Study cannot contemplate assigning students to a school not included in the Study Area.

Please note that the two proposed alternative scenarios described in the November 19th Report were developed to form the basis for public consultation and engagement and may not necessarily reflect the recommended scenario.

The final decision on a recommended scenario will be made by the Board of Trustees at the conclusion of the study, which is expected to be late spring 2019 for implementation in September 2020.

While no boundary changes are being considered for elementary feeder schools at this time, parents and guardians in the elementary school communities are invited to stay informed about the study as the final decision may impact their Secondary School assignment.

Ways to stay informed include: attending the public meetings (first one is planned for early February), subscribing to the Planning Website, visiting our school's own webpage and reading the final recommendation report to the Board of Trustees when it becomes available. If you have any

questions or concerns you are invited to email [boundaryfeedback@wrdsb.ca](mailto:boundaryfeedback@wrdsb.ca) causing the subject line 'Southwest Kitchener Secondary Boundary Study'.

I am Sherianna Book 1: We are Beautiful by Sherylee Honeyghan - author visit for K-2 classes

Council will pay the cost; Rita will book

Discussion Items

Setting money aside for the next playground?

Agenda for February 27, 2019 Council Meeting

1. Principal's Update
2. Financial Update
3. Fundraising
4. Use of Parent Involvement Funding
5. Setting council goals for this year
6. Increasing size of council - Would providing babysitting help?

## Alpine's 2018-2019 School Council

**Co-Chairs:** April Cousineau, Jessica Beaucage

**Secretary:** Rita Givlin

**Parent Representatives:** Amanda Galway, Judy Oke, Jennifer Smerek, Donald Mann, Ryan Galway, Jennifer McCuaig, Mandy Clark, Dawn Koehler

**Communications:** Jennifer Smerek

- **Bulletin Board:**
- **Facebook Page/Twitter/Instagram**

**Principal:** Rita Givlin

**Teaching Staff:** Lea Becker, Heike Koester

**Non-Teaching Staff:** Marjolein Wijbenga-Groot

**Treasurer:** Sherry Mahone, Lori Crewe

*New members always welcome!*