



Conestogo Public School – Council Minutes: Thursday, Nov 8, 2018

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UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

2018-19 Event Dates:

- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, December 13, 2018
- PRO Grant event: Family Math Night – Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 11
- ArtShine: TBD
- Mad Science: TBD
- Holiday Fundraiser: TBD
- Council Meetings (the third Thursday of each month with some dates adjusted for events and holidays):
 - December 13, 2018
 - January 17, 2019
 - February 21, 2019
 - March 21, 2019
 - April 18, 2019
 - May 16, 2019
 - June 13, 2019



ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

Initiative/Project	Action Item	Member Responsible
Classroom Temperature Concerns	Complete edits to letter for the school board and send.	Erin
Magazine Fundraiser	Put on agenda for next meeting to determine if we want to sign up for two-year contract	Gena
	Investigate WEFI donation link to confirm that it is working.	Cathy
Fun Fair	Send out a School Day message inviting members of the school community to participate on the planning committee or as volunteers at the event in 2019.	Deb
PRO Grant Event	Create a communication plan to invite other schools and determine the capacity for this event.	Deb
Holiday Fundraiser	Reminder to be sent on School Day	Deb
Speaker from Teachers College	Follow up to determine details for booking a speaker.	Jenny
Club Board	Create a schedule for the shared council bulletin board outside the Learning Commons.	Jenny



WELCOME & GENERAL BUSINESS

Attendance

(P present, N absent/regrets. Parent Members must attend 7/10 – 70% of meetings to maintain voting privileges.)

Role	2015-16	Sep 13	Oct 18	Nov 8	Dec 13	Jan 17	Feb 21	March 21	Apr 18	May 16	June 13
Co-Chair	Jenny Benham	P	P	P							
Co-Chair	Rebecca Hallman	P	N	N							
Treasurer	Karen Hofbauer	P	N	P							
Communications	Deb Jones	P	P	P							
Secretary	Gena Braun	P	P	P							
Principal	Cathy Baer	P	P	P							
Teacher Reps	Carolee Fox	P	Karen Larke	Angela Bauman	Sherry Morland	Rachel Quickfall	Dougall Newport	Carolee Fox	Carolee Fox	Shannon Brown	Lori
Community	Stephanie Forte	P	P	N							
	Chris Sabean	N	N	P							
WRAPSC	(currently vacant)	n/a	n/a	N							
	Colleen Heinrichs	P	P	N							
	Jessica Gordon	P	P	N							
	Gloria Ramage	P	N	N							
Parent Members & Volunteers	Marsha Ferguson	N	N	N							
	Agnes Lehtonen	P	N	P							
	Katherine Sunday	N	N	N							
	Shawna Gingrich	P	P	P							
	Karen Forsyth	N	P	P							
	Erin Schmidt	P	P	P							
	Mel Thompson	P	N	N							
	Laura Bredahl	N	N	N							



Agenda – Review & Approval

Adjustments to Agenda:

- None

Agenda Approval with changes Motioned by:

1st: Agnes
2nd: Karen

Minutes, October – Review & Approval

Adjustments to Minutes:

- None

Minutes Approval with changes Motioned by:

1st: Agnes
2nd: Shawna



PRESENTATIONS

Teacher's Report – Angela Bauman

- Umbrella Project – Gratitude, and she expressed gratitude to Council for Fun Fair, fundraising, etc.
- Started by reading stories with grateful characters.
- Door decoration shows skill they are working on and encourages them to think of things they are grateful for.
- Why is it an "umbrella skill"? Similar to how an umbrella can protect you from storms, gratitude can protect you from or help you deal with challenging situations, with jealousy given as an example.
- Also talked about being grateful for the custodian and the amazing work and long hours they put in.
- Gratitude chair: Take turns sitting in the chair and telling the student sitting in the chair things they are grateful for (with specific examples when possible).
- November is "grit". Introduced this topic with a video of a girl that lost a parent to cancer, and the girl set a goal to run marathons around the world. She succeeded with this goal partially due to her determination/perseverance/grit. (Door decoration for this topic is "reach for the stars").

Principal's Report – Cathy Baer

- Umbrella Project – October was "Gratitude" and November is "Grit":
 - Cathy very thoughtfully expressed gratitude for the contributions of each Council member.
 - November is "grit" and an example of this is the process of learning to walk (starting point for conversation with students in the "Principle Advisory Council" made up of one student from each grade.
- Thank you for the Portable Sound System and thank you to Deb for putting in the application for our indoor sound system request.
- Random "Card" of Kindness: Friday, November 2: Students created anonymous cards that were passed out to students randomly.
- Alternate Hallowe'en Activity: Knew in advance which students would be participating and was organized and run by Mrs. Morland. Very well received and allowed students to feel included and comfortable at school on that day, and feedback from parents after the fact was very positive as well.
- Cycling into the Future: Grade 5 students (\$65 per students, but mostly covered by Woolwich township). Included bike turn up and biking safety under various conditions, including biking on gravel. Provided bikes for students to use if they didn't have one and even helped a student learn to bike. They biked most of the way to RIM part and back. The staff/person running the program was excellent, and the teachers put in large amounts of their own time to work out logistics.
- Artshine – starts Wednesday November 28, 11:20 – 12:00 pm: School Day announcement to accompany paper notice.
- Remembrance Day – Friday November 9, 10:30 am: Focusing on encouraging a student voice in the event and including sharing family connections and authentic stories.
 - Council member noted that it is important to remember all veterans and not just those with Canadian background and requested the future communications include all cultural backgrounds.
- Parent Teacher Interviews: Teachers work to be available to connect with parents throughout the year, but this time is set aside to try to facilitate this connection. The teachers are using various methods to schedule these interviews. Many parents have already met with teachers earlier in the year as well.
- Grade 8 Graduation – Location and date TBA: Survey concluded that the Conestogo Golf Course will not meet capacity required and accessibility is a factor. Students typically wanted to invite between 2 and 8 guests to



the ceremony (smaller number for the dinner). They are investigating other options and including students in that discussion and using additional feedback from the survey (which had great participation and feedback). Survey also asked which parents would like to participate in the planning and they have been contacted.

- Upcoming Field Trips and Special Events: Please check the Calendar on our website, <https://con.wrdsb.ca/calendar-events/>.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Treasurer's Report – Karen

- Spreadsheet to be sent.
- Fantastic Friday and Sound System, PRO Grant deposit have been spent.
- Gaga Ball Pit: the brackets were paid last year and wood paid this year. (Karen to send details, approx.)
- Author visit paid.
- Holiday fundraiser revenue starting to appear on School Day.

WRAPC Minutes Summary – Gena

- Meeting was on Nov 6 and the agenda included encouraging youth to volunteer and a discussion on fundraising. Minutes are not yet available, and a summary will be provided at the next meeting.

COMMITTEES & EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS

Fun Fair Committee, 2019 – Jenny

- Had a very successful “lessons learned” meeting.
- Several people agreed to participate in the planning committee, but we should also **do a School Day message with an explanation of the difference between being on the committee and volunteering on the day (September 19): ACTION ITEM, Deb.**

Magazine Fundraising Update – Shawna, Karen F

- Ice Cream Party: November 19, second break.
- Final prizes to be distributed based on sales.
- Cash deposit for \$600 + online sales.

Holiday/Poinsettia Fundraiser – Erin

- **ACTION ITEM, Deb: Reminder to be sent out this evening and the deadline is Thursday, Nov 15.**
- December 5: Deliveries, and volunteers required (Agnes and Shawna to help, Karen to bring small wagon).
- Deb noted that using School Day this year for sales has gone very well with lots of improvements over last



year. A few suggestions were made for viewing the report data.

Pro Grant – Laura/Deb

- 2017-18 PRO Grant: We have confirmed that we have received the funds for last year's event. \$931.66.
- We are now officially booked with Jump2Math for April 11, 2019.
- Jump2Math Payment Details:
 - \$339.00 (paid by Laura on Oct 23 to secure booking)
 - \$620.37 (due on day of event)
 - Total: \$959.37
- Laura has submitted the deposit and Karen is processing the reimbursement.
- The PRO Grant website still states that the status of this year's submission is "Submitted" (but not "Approved"). It does not provide any updates about status of the PRO Grant program.
- Please see the [document from the Ontario Legislative Assembly from Oct 17th 2018](#). According to this commentary, the Ford government has suspended the PRO Grant program pending results from community consultations regarding broader education issues within Ontario.
- We believe that we need to move forward with Jump2Math under the assumption that we will not receive PRO Grant funding for it.
- We find room in this year's budget to fund this program.
- **ACTION ITEM, Deb: Create communication plan to invite other schools and determine the capacity for the event and space** (there are also several teachers that would like to attend).
 - Will use a google form to invite families.
 - Determine volunteers required as well.

Staff Appreciation – Shawna

- November 14: Several committee members indicated they would bring food and take into account allergies/sensitives (as listed in School Day message).



OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

Club Board – Jenny

- Fun Fair information/thank you was posted on the board.
- No longer needed for magazines.
- Will need for the PRO Grant event in April.
- **ACTION ITEM: Jenny to create schedule.**

Speaker from Teachers College – Jenny

- Teachers College licenses teachers, prepares them to teach, and offers speakers.
- Jenny provided a list of topics (also available [here](#)).
- Need a minimum of 15 in attendance and would be good to run in collaboration with other councils and as a networking event.
 - Ethical Decision Making and Resources for Parents were highlighted as interesting topics.
 - Could have one event with speaker and follow up roundtable discussion on another evening.
- **ACTION ITEM, Jenny: will follow up with details regarding booking one of these speakers.**

Classroom Temperatures – Erin

- Erin spoke to Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Carrere regarding data they had collected on classroom temperatures in September and drafted a letter. Council discussed and made some editing suggestions. Requested a response from the board by January.
- Letter should be addressed to Peter Rubenschuh.
- Note: To add air conditioning we would need to upgrade the electrical. Cathy put in an application approximately one year ago to have this done in conjunction with an office renovation. The application has been accepted but will not be done this year.
- **ACTION ITEM, Erin: Will complete edits and send letter.**

Parent/Teacher Interviews

- Already discussed as part of Principle's Report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by:

1st: Deb

2nd: Karen