

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

Thursday, February 20, 2014 – Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

VOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS

X	Ingrid Bachmann		Nancy Lua Poulsen	X	Adam Purkiss
	Nenone Donaldson	X	Cher Mamuza	X	Jacob Shelley
X	Rebecca Guzar (CHAIR)	X	Donna Martin	X	Carrie Stevenson
	Sairin Hayes	X	Sean McQuillin	X	Ingrid Wessel
	Emily Jaarsma		Pamela Mulloy	X	Jackie Witt

NON VOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS/GUESTS

X	Lynne Green (Principal)	X	Amy Humphrys (teacher)		
	Lori Peebles (Vice Principal)	X	Tigger McCullough		

1. WELCOME (Rebecca Guzar - Chair)

- Agenda distributed electronically
- Quorum of 8 met for meeting
- Welcome to teacher in attendance: Amy Humphrys

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes distributed electronically
- One change – value of Dance-a-thon prizes is \$200, not \$300
- **Motion #1** to approve Jan. 23, 2014 EZ PS Council meeting minutes.
Motion Moved by: Sean
Motion Seconded by: Jackie
Motion passed by all members of school council in attendance

3. FINANCIAL UPDATES (Adam Purkiss – Treasurer)

Balances

Fundraising = \$4000.00
General Account = \$1000.00
Dance-a-thon = (\$200)
Greening= \$4477.29
Words Out = \$1480.16
Pizza = \$1774.40
Total approx. \$6170.00 available to spend
Note – Kindergarten classes have spent all of \$500 given

4. COMMITTEE UPDATES

(1) Words Out Committee Update (Rebecca speaking for Pamela Mulloy)

- **One Book One School** program in progress
- Students are keen – approx. 150 participating
- Last week Guide Dogs visited
- Next week is an orienteering presentation
- More authors will be invited later this year
- No more funds will be requested

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

(2) Greening Committee Update (Adam Purkiss)

- No changes
- Lynne mentioned that a kindergarten teacher would like to develop a “kinder garden”, which he did at his previous school
 - Adam noted that there were problems with the Board and our front flowerbed that they removed
 - Suggestion that it could be tied in with the Mary-Allen Neighbourhood Association
 - Adam said that was tried in the past but was stopped by the Board
 - Rebecca mentioned that the Board was concerned with the types of plants planned
- Jackie enquired about the status of the slide repair
 - Lynne said she would find out

(3) Fundraising Committee Updates (Jackie Witt)

- Vesey’s Bulbs and Seeds
 - Forms will go home before the Easter weekend
- Dance-a-thon is tomorrow, Friday February 21
 - Money counted last night: \$3166.00 collected so far
 - \$200 for prizes
 - \$850 for Professor Jamz
 - = \$2160
 - Huge difference from our goal of \$4500 or the \$5100 raised last year
 - Suggested reasons for drop in donations: prizes, goals for money raised, people may have forgotten – we need a reminder on the website, people may have contributed to other fundraisers
 - Lynne will put it on the website tonight
 - The next money raised will be from bulbs, then a few dollars from Mabel’s Labels until end of year
- Magazines
 - Money has come in, along with news that CCRP (our current magazine fundraiser company) has closed down
 - QSP, the American company for magazine fundraisers, has sent a letter inviting us to use them
 - Jackie feels it’s probably time to stop the magazine fundraiser
 - General agreement around the table
 - Lynne noted she worked with the QSP rep in the past and there were no problems, and the prices were comparable to CCRP
 - Jackie offers the job of running magazines to anyone else interested, if council wants to continue it next year
- Pita Program
 - Basically runs itself
 - Gentleman in charge is excellent
- Pizzas
 - Program running more smoothly
 - Could use a parent to help hand out pizzas tomorrow
 - Numbers have dropped a bit, but better than last year
 - Since Kindies eat earlier, pizzas come earlier, and they’re slightly cool for rest of school – kids don’t seem to mind
- ‘School Day’ online software
 - It’s a bit of work for Joan
 - It’s not used for anything else except pizza program
 - Request made that it be used for paying for field trips – Lynne to look into this

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

- Joan did use it once to send out a message about the school movie day, but there were problems and multiple copies of the same message were sent

5. Principal & VP Report (Lynne Green)

- WRDSB Parent Committee is holding a day-long conference at Bluevale Collegiate
 - Saturday, April 12 – called Rise to Success: Supporting Your Child in School
 - Keynote speaker is Michael Reist
 - \$2 lunches available – please register if you plan to attend
- Upcoming EZ Events:
 - Dance-a-thon tomorrow, Friday February 21
 - Field trips to Toyota next week
 - After March Break – Geography Challenge for Junior students, run by Tamara Lobe
 - Events in May: Music Monday, Science Fair, Track & Field, Jump Rope for Heart, EQAO
 - Spirit Club is planning many Spirit Days
 - Possible upcoming order of Spirit Wear, positive feedback from last order
 - Open Gym events continue
- Lynne stressed that the foundation of everything EZ does is the value of active play
 - This is a focus at EZ
 - The weather can make it difficult – snow is better than rain, but then ice becomes a problem
 - Both Lori (VP) and Lynne walk the school property to best judge the conditions
 - If possible they cordon off an area for students, but it needs to be large enough for 350 kids
 - Safety is always a priority
 - If there is extreme cold, children are kept in – Board rule is to keep kids in if it's -20 degrees or colder
 - Important to preserve class time – kids can't sit in soaking wet clothing all day
- There was an issue with children bringing full-size shovels to school
 - Can't be allowed because of safety issues
 - Children are welcome to bring small shovels
- Sleds and Crazy Carpets
 - Too difficult to supervise on Nutrition Breaks, there are too many children for the staff (whose number outside is regulated by the Board)
 - Teachers can take their classes outside and teach them the rules and supervise them
 - Also a danger with children bringing the sleds/crazy carpets into the school, dragging them up the stairs, etc.
- Cancelling the Skating was a "horrendous decision"
 - The memo from the Board was very sudden, and there wasn't time to come up with other solutions
 - Board was directed by the Ministry of Labour
 - Hockey may continue because it is a voluntary activity, and participants are required to have the proper equipment
 - There are too many children at EZ without the proper helmets, or means to get them
 - There would be too many children sitting out if the classes continued to go skating – and nowhere for them to stay at school
 - Lynne is waiting for the Board memo with directions on how to proceed
 - Goal is to solve this, perhaps with help of community or council
 - Bottom line is liability
 - Jacob noted there is so much ice on EZ property, Board is more likely to be sued for an accident there
 - Carrie asked why skiing trip could proceed and skating couldn't
 - Answer: ski trip was one-time event, there were teachers/classrooms available for students not going, although most went, and proper ski equipment was available to rent at Chicopee
 - Jackie said some other schools have a community that is more involved in hockey, and those kids have equipment
 - Lynne noted that skating is not mandatory, although we want to expose our students to as many different things as possible

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

- Jackie commented that our morning hockey program is excellent and not offered in all schools
- Lynne said kids have other options such as Olympics Day, Jump for Heart, Terry Fox Run, etc.
- Lynne communicates with other administrators to monitor what they're doing about it
- Decisions have to be made based on total school population, safety, and what works for the staff
- Carrie asked what will happen to money donated from school council for buses to skating, but it was pointed out that we didn't give any money for that this year

6. CHAIR REPORT (Rebecca Guzar)

- Social Network presentation was held Thursday February 6
 - Good information, well received
 - Small turnout – approx. 20 people
 - This is paid, and we should submit the receipt to the P.I.C. Grant (\$500 for events that get parents into the school)
- Public Health Rep. has been contacted about a presentation, but no answer yet
 - Possible to have her at end of March – no cost
- ESQ is Thursday April 24, 6-8 pm
 - They run 6 different sessions at various timeslots, plus three “big” events in the gym
 - Little to no work for us, maybe some “Greeters” at the door to direct people
 - They clean up
- Science Fair is Thursday May 15
 - Conflict with School Council meeting – may have to change meeting date

7. NEWSLETTER

- Next one to come after Dance-a-thon and before Vesey's Bulbs
- Possible Content:
 - Science night
 - Dance-a-thon report
 - Social Network report & website
 - Kind. reminder
 - New gmail address
 - April 12 Rise to Success event
- Last newsletter end of June – content:
 - Encourage volunteers for next year
 - Give date of fall BBQ

8. DIRECTING MONIES

- Mr. Voss met with audio tech. but has not received a quote yet
 - Would like to mount four speakers in the gym with iPod station connected to them
 - Mr. Day would like iPad attachment as well
- Cher asked whether document cameras are still needed for two classes, as they were left unfinished from last year
- Lynne replied that staff requests are now for iPads, those document cameras aren't needed
- All classrooms have desktop computers except some portables and Kindies
- It's a work in progress as teachers learn how to incorporate the new technology in their teaching
- Sean noted that the school received iPads (from Board) last year
- Lynne said every school got 20 last year
- Gym also needs mats, floor hockey sticks and goggles
 - Approx. estimate for floor hockey sticks (for one class) is \$150-\$200
 - Approx. estimate for goggles is \$12-\$15 each
- Lynne indicated the priority is on the audio equipment
- Adam asked about the school's cost for iPads – Lynne will find out

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

- Lynne to email more info. about costs of these items when she gets them
- Adam noted we'd really like to get them in place this year

- **Motion #2** Move to spend up to \$5000 for gym upgrades including, but not limited to, audio equipment, floor hockey sticks, goggles, and other gym equipment
 - Motion moved by: Carrie*
 - Motion Seconded by Cher*
 - Motion passed** by all members of school council in attendance

- Future Spending
 - Carrie asked for an adding machine with roll of tape

- **Motion #3** Move for fundraising committee to buy adding machine
 - Motion moved by: Ingrid Bachmann*
 - Motion Seconded by Ingrid Wessel*
 - Motion passed** by all members of school council in attendance

- Future Spending continued
 - Home Reading
 - Rebecca asked about a teachers' lunch
 - Lynne said it won't work this year, as everyone won't be there at the same time
 - Rebecca suggested an Earth Day movie or celebration
 - Adam asked for a list for future I.T. requests
- Adam asked about free pizzas available
- Jackie said free pizza coupons are given at the end of the year, which can be distributed to volunteers

6. ADJOURNMENT (Rebecca Guzar – Chair)

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Next meeting is on Thursday April 17, 2014