

Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2013– Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

VOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS

X	Ingrid Bachmann	X	Farah Jeevanjee-Boyes (SEC)	X	Pamela Mulloy
	Dove Clarke	X	Nancy Lua Poulsen	X	Adam Purkiss
X	Rebecca Guzar (CHAIR)		Fiona Lusby	X	Jacob Shelley
X	Sairin Hayes	X	Cher Mamuza	X	Carrie Stevenson
	Sheryl Henkel-Gerber	X	Donna Martin	X	Ingrid Wessel
X	Emily Jaarsma	X	Sean McQuillin	X	Jackie Witt

NON VOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS/GUESTS

X	Cheryl Bailey	X	Lynne Green (Principal)	X	Lori Peebles (Vice Principal)
X	Jen Feere (Kindi Teacher)	X	Julia Kezys (Kindi Teacher)	X	Lianguan Yin

1. WELCOME (Rebecca Guzar - Chair)

- Agenda distributed electronically
- Quorum of 8 met for meeting

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes distributed electronically
- **Motion #1** to approve October 24, 2013 EZ PS Council meeting minutes with required corrections. NOTE: Corrected minutes will be sent to Rebecca Guzar for redistribution.
Motion moved by: Adam Purkiss
Motion Seconded by: Sean McQuillin
Motion passed by all members of school council in attendance

3. VICE PRINCIPAL REPORT (Lori Peebles)

- Lots going on at the school – visit the [EZ website home page](#) for up-to-date information on current school events (EZ Administration works very hard to keep the website up to date ☺)
 - Union of Youth Halloween food drive collected 1,600 pounds of food!
 - Tuesday November 12 – *Kids on the Block* presentation to primary and Jr classes about people's differences
 - Tuesday November 19 – was Pink Shirt day to support standing up to bullying
 - Thursday November 21 – Info evening at Forest Heights for Full Day Kindergarten program
 - Thursday November 21 – Nan Forler author visit
 - [Debora Ellis](#) author visit was well received
 - EZ has a new battery recycling program – Lori will check back to let council know what the remuneration, if any, is. Light bulbs are not being collected
 - EZ won a free concert on the Friday after Halloween by participating in the random act of kindness day across region – Kindergarten to Grade 2 students created and distributed cards to nursing homes in the area as a way to brighten their day
 - As always, up-to-date extracurricular information is available on the website
 - Friday November 22 – *4 seasons dance party* during recess which involves music and dancing
- December update – Council had previously asked about a *Holiday Open House event*. Staff is keen on doing some type of event on Tue December 17 between 6:00-7:30pm and will be asking parents to supervise their kids to help them, and others, have a good time. Still under review is whether there will be some type of food option offered (i.e. individual pizza orders, student café etc)

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4. PRINCIPAL REPORT (Lynne Green)

• EQAO information

- Each school receives a report showing the school vs. board vs. provincial results for Gr 3 and Gr 6 students
- Results for 2012/2013 school year are in the table and attachments below. General observation is that Math scores across the board have fallen reflecting the shift in focus to other areas of learning

GRADE 3	EZ	Board	Province	GRADE 6	EZ	Board	Province
Reading	62	61	68	Reading	82	75	77
Writing	62	68	77	Writing	78	72	76
Math	49	59	67	Math	63	53	57

- Results over time for EZ are in the attachments below. Results show the following observation for Gr 6 (2012/2013 scores) compared to Gr 3 (2009/2010 scores) for the same group
 1. Improvement in reading scores from 69 to 82
 2. Improvement in writing scores from 65 to 78
 3. Decline in Math scores from 65 to 63 which is a smaller drop compared to board and province scores



EQAO Gr 3 results.pdf



EQAO Gr 6 results.pdf

- Based on results there is now more of a focus on Math. In the past, the focus was on improving reading and writing which is reflective in the improvements in the “over time” scores
 - Each year, schools use the EQAO data to help them understand where to focus. School Improvement Plans (SIP)/success plans are created and used to focus professional development and resources in a more narrow way.
 - The focus for 2013/2014 at EZ will be to provide timely, ongoing, descriptive feedback to students on their progress, based on their action and co-constructed success criteria. The feedback will be more focused on development and coaching vs. validation of just good performance. The learning goal will narrow and specific on the goals students need to achieve in order to be successful on assignments.
 - Other areas of focus will be on defining student indicators, education indications and administrator indicators
- **Wish list** – In consultation with the staff, their wish list has been condensed to a few categories for Council’s consideration. Most of these items are already considered through the school budget but with working together allows the school to accomplish things more quickly for the children’s benefit:

Tech	a. Mounted speakers & wireless microphone for the gym b. iPad and tech cart combo (data projector + document camera for gym) c. Classroom speakers d. Desktop computers for portables and Kindi rooms
Phys Ed	a. Gym mats and wall safety mats b. Outdoor classroom equipment for recess c. Gym equipment – floor hockey sticks, goggles, etc
Kindergarten	a. Literacy & Math games and learning materials b. Outdoor activity equipment (different sized balls, ball/scoops, snow molds, snow shovels, bean bags)
Kindergarten/Primary	a. Grade 3 literacy kits b. Leveled classroom reading books c. English home reading books
Junior	a. Class Daily Physical Activity (DPA) equipment b. Listening centres c. Science resources
French (all levels)	a. Home reading books (last year’s funds will be spent shortly) b. Library resources
Miscellaneous	a. Student presentations on topics such as bullying, art etc

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- **School allergy policy** – communication of new food allergies (e.g. sesame seeds) is prompting this information sharing.
 - There are different levels of allergies that the school board/schools must address.
 - The most severe is Anaphylaxis (life threatening) where schools are required by law ([Sabrina's law](#)) to do everything in their power to reduce risk and exposure. Foods allergies that typically fall into this category are peanuts, nuts, tree nuts and now sesame seeds. The focus is on avoiding the risk/exposure in the classroom where the child has the severe allergy and reducing the risk in other parts of the school where the child would have minimal exposure.
 - Council members provided feedback that the next Council newsletter/communication speaks to legal requirements along with a reminder to parents on what products to avoid sending to school (e.g. left over stir fry cooked using peanut oil)

5. CHAIR REPORT (Rebecca Guzar)

- **EZ Parent Council Communication** – 1st newsletter went home and general feedback has been positive. This is a good start to furthering communication to parents from Council. Publication frequency yet to be decided but next newsletter will most likely go out in early January. Feedback from council members indicated there were a number of errors in information related to funds raised from various initiatives and that voting members should receive an FYI/heads up before these Newsletters are published so they are not caught off guard.



Fall 2013 Council Newsletter.pdf

- **Speaker series** – Ideally, Council should aim to have 2 speakers this school year
 - *Internet Safety* - finding someone to present to parents on this topic is proving to be challenging and Becki is still looking for references. Lori will call Our Lady of Lourdes to get information on recent speakers on this topic. Fee will most likely be \$300-450 and Council will need to make this funding decision once a speaker is lined up
 - Becki will look at the *Healthy Bodies* speaker again.
 - New speaker topic suggested for mental health in kids
- **WRAPSC meeting** – November update (see Appendix A for details). Becki will continue to share electronic meeting meetings with the council
- **Math** – Suderby PS did a math night; Lori & Pamela have ideas around Math Activities nights. Further discussions will be deterred to the next meeting.

6. FINANCIAL UPDATES (Adam Purkiss – Treasurer)

Balances

General Account = \$2,825.81	No change from October 24 meeting	
Greening= \$4,477.29	No change from October 24 meeting	
Words Out = \$ 130.16	Funds IN	Funds OUT
	\$27.10 – GST Rebate	\$282.50 – Deborah Ellis author visit
Fundraising (as per Adam's email dated November 22, 2013)		
<p>"...Fundraising accounts are currently separate line items which is good until we know figures but I have penned down:</p> <p>Pizza: 2379.11 however that covers Oct and Nov as well as some orders for Dec/Jan. October we are square with Panago but expect a few hundred to go out for November. As Panago counts the cash orders it would seem that the cash orders cover most of our costs. What we see in the accounts is School Day money only.</p> <p>Cookies: 5883.00 - I believe we keep 30% - which I worked out to be 1764.90 but Carrie sounded like she had worked</p>		

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out the exact figure. **UPDATE FROM CARRIE:** Extra cookie money came in, so the final was \$5988 where we keep 30% (\$1796.40).

We still have 1717.80 from magazines I mentioned last month but again I don't know how much of that will go to the company. I think in the past its only been a small amount due to online orders covering their costs.

I can cover the other changes next month as we have \$250 about to go out to Nan Forler and I am guessing a small GST rebate and we obviously have the 1700 to words out, 500 for kindies and upto 500 for a speaker (that hopefully we get a grant to cover)

I think based on these numbers we are sitting with about \$5000 of usable income but thats a rough guess based on assumptions about pizza orders and magaizines

This is obviously up for debate at PC but I still think we should divert 2500 towards home reading (1000/1500 split). 2000 out door equipment (500 already for kindies, maybe 750 for grades 1-3 and 750 for 4-6) and the rest to IT. The Dance a thon for the gym upgrades would cover both the IT upgrades and hopefully some of the other needs of the gym. If after all this we still have money left over after finishing off the IT updates then we could consider other things. I believe this would still leave us with a little bit left over to cover the odds and ends that we tend to cover to some degree. If we have to drop anything this year I would put on hold the other equipment purchases as we are working on gym updates that grades 1-6 will benefit from in preference for finishing IT updates so we can scratch that off the list this year.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

(1). Words Out Committee Update (Pamela Mulloy)

- 2 authors visits have happened since the last meeting
 - [Debora Ellis](#) visited the Jr. classes 2 weeks ago and delivered a powerful presentation
 - [Nan Forler](#) visited today to discuss bullying. She also provided teacher resources to encourage continue discussion on this topic
- *One book One Community* book selection in underway and has been narrowed down to 2 choices
- Family literacy night is being planned for January 2014 with a Native story telling theme
- Spring author visits are being investigated
- Committee ask continues to be \$1,700 to fund *One Book One Community*, Family Literacy night, and the remaining spring author visits

(2) Greening Committee Update (Adam Purkiss)

- Adam met with parents who have expressed a desire to continue with a Greening committee.
- Committee would like input from the EZ Administration on the desired plans that include:
 - Making another outdoor classroom in the wooded area – cleaning up and using part of the wooded area, adding seating, and creating barrier to prevent access to the hill side part of this area
 - Addition of more trees to the school grounds
- Funds are available in the Greening account and Council would not have to provide any additional funding as this work would be eligible for grant money.
- Committed is working on the actual plan which will be shared in the New Year.

(3) Fundraising Committee Updates (Carrie Stevenson)

- Cookie fundraiser was a big success. \$1,800 profit generated with distribution being and pick up communication to parents planned for December.
- Upcoming fundraising events include:
 - EZ at movies – tentatively January 18 or 19
 - Dance-A-Thon

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- Friday November 29 Pizza distribution – Jackie needs help to distribute pizza between 10:30am – 12:00pm. Ingrid W has offered to help and Jacob can be contacted if Jackie is really stuck
- **Links of interest:**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/208192182896/>
<http://www.ezps.mabelslabels.com/>

8. REQUEST FOR FUNDS

- **Motion #2** to approve \$500 spend for Kindergarten outdoor play equipment
Motion moved by: Carrie Stevenson
Motion Seconded by: Sean McQuillin
Motion passed by all members of school council in attendance
- **Motion #3** to approve \$ 1,700 to support Words Out activities for the year
Motion moved by: Sairin Hayes
Motion Seconded by: Cher Mamuza
Motion passed by all members of school council in attendance
- **Motion #4** to approve up to \$500 spend for a speaker (assuming we receive the PIC reimbursement)
Motion moved by: Jacob Shelley
Motion Seconded by: Nancy Lua Poulsen
Motion passed by all members of school council in attendance
- *In principle, Council agrees that Dance-a-thon funds will be applied to Physical Activities and Gym improvement (including speakers, MIC, tech carts, gym mats, hockey equipment etc)*

9. ADJOURNMENT (Rebecca Guzar – Chair)

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm
Next meeting is on Thursday January 23, 2014
Happy Holidays everyone!

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APPENDIX A – NOVEMBER WRAPSC Meeting Minutes and other updates

hello all

here is an email from the wraps committee (waterloo region assembly of school councils) with some announcements i thought you may be interested in.

rebecca guzar



WRAPSC

Minutes-November 5-

1. Project Pulse

The Pulse Project is a one-day conference for high-school students and their families to explore the field of health sciences as a career choice. It will take place on **November 23, 2013** at the **Mike & Ophelia Lazaridis Quantum-Nano Centre Room 1502, University of Waterloo**. There is a \$15 admission charge. You can find more information at www.project-pulse.org.

2. From Bullying to Tolerance

The second in a two-part series organized by Eastwood Collegiate and Bluevale Collegiate will take place on **Wednesday, November 20 at 7pm** at **Bluevale Collegiate Library**. This session, entitled Strategies for Today is presented by the John Howard Society and will help families learn how to identify and help stop bullying in all its forms.

3. Bell Times

Our presenters from November 5 have graciously provided us with electronic copies of their **PowerPoint presentations**. If you would like us to send you one or both of the PowerPoints, please let us know. Last night, the Board of Trustees passed the recommended bell times shift of up to 20 minutes.

4. EQAO Math Results

Angela Mercier also provided us with the following links to the Board reports on EQAO results:

Grade 3 and 6., Sept. 23 2013

http://www.wrdsb.ca/board-meetings/files/2013/09/2013-EQAO-Gr-3_6_appendicesSept23-13.pdf

Gr. 9 Math, Sept. 30, 2013

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/board-meetings/files/2013/09/EQAOG9Math-Sept30-13.pdf>

Gr. 10 OSSLT, Sept. 30, 2013

<http://www.wrdsb.ca/board-meetings/files/2013/09/OSSLT-Sept30-13.pdf>

4. Safe School Teams

The board recently held sessions for all WRDSB Safe School Teams. If you attended one of the session as a member of your school's Safe School Team we'd love to get feedback from you. Did you find the event helpful?

Also, the annual Safe Schools Conference is being held at the International Centre in Mississauga on Tuesday, February 25. You can get more information and register online at

<http://canadiansafeschools.com/2013/11/the-17th-annual-safe-schools-conference-register-now/>

5. "Strategies for Children with Challenging Behaviour"

On January 16, 2014, the WRDSB will be presenting speaker Dr. Ross Green, author of the book *The Explosive Child*. More information will be coming shortly, including where and when. This will be a free event open to all parents in the WRDSB. Stay tuned!

6. Upcoming WRAPSC Meeting

Our next meeting, to be held on January 7, 2014 will be on the topic of **parent/school communication**. If you have questions or concerns about this topic, please forward them to us via the WRAPSC gmail so we can ensure our presenters come prepared. Please note that our focus is on parent/teacher and parent/school communication, *not* parent/board communication. We understand that the latter is a topic many of you would like to discuss, and we do plan to address it later this year when the board has hired a new Communications Manager.

7. Minutes of November 5

The draft minutes of November 5 are attached. Please take a look at them and let us know of any corrections prior to the January meeting.

Thanks as always for being involved parents in our community!

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Christine Gillis Bilton & Laurie Tremble

Co-Chairs for PIC & WRAPSC

2013-2014