

# Elizabeth Ziegler (EZ) Public School Council Meeting

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## Thursday, September 25, 2014 – Meeting Minutes

### ATTENDANCE

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Ingrid Bachmann	Nancy Lua Poulsen
Karen Cunningham	Cher Mamuza
Mike Delisle	Donna Martin
Nenone Donaldson	Sean McQuillin
Jola Gurska	Adam Purkiss
Rebecca Guzar	Carrie Stevenson
Sairin Hayes	Charlotte Woodley
Emily Jaarsma	Lynne Green (Principal)

#### 1. WELCOME (Rebecca Guzar – Past Chair)

- Attendance sheet passed around and introductions made

#### 2. LYNNE

- Explained that Lori Peebles (Vice Principal) is not attending because she is splitting her time between Country Hills School and EZ. Although she does not work Thursdays at EZ, she will occasionally attend council meetings
- Handed out sheet describing the role of School Council
- Key phrase is “working together”
- Note that school council is an Advisory Body
- Council must operate within Board Policy (last updated in May, Lynne checked it)
- The bottom line is “what’s best for our students”
- Not a place to pursue your own agenda or advocate for your child

#### 3. REBECCA

- We will need to consider the size of the council, and determine voting/non-voting members (Board recommends 8-15 voting members)
- Council will meet once per month, except December, March & June
- Council Positions are:
  - Chair – runs meetings, sets the agenda in conjunction with the principal, and is a liaison between parents and council
  - Secretary – takes notes and emails them out
  - Treasurer – makes sure the funds go where they’re supposed to (there is no physical bank account, the school secretary - Joan Cochrane - does the banking)
  - WRAPSC Rep – attends WRAPSC meetings and reports back to council
- Council Committees are:
  - Greening – maintenance and yard clean-up
  - Fundraising
  - Words Out – advocate for literacy
  - Communications – newsletter and Facebook page
- What does Council do?
  - Hosts the Meet The Teacher BBQ (last week)
  - Fundraises for items needed at EZ such as trees, rocks, computer equip., gym equip., etc.
  - Holds parent education events such as Internet Safety Seminar last year
  - Holds student events such as ESQ night
  - Cleans up schoolyard, treed area, etc.
- Question asked whether there is a “wishlist” yet for this year?  
Lynne replied that last May/June a list was started, and will be added to over the next month, in time for the next Council meeting
- Question asked whether the gym sound system was purchased with money raised for it last year?  
Lynne replied that they have new mats on all the walls, and the sound system is arranged

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- Council will meet at 6:30 pm on the last Thursday of the month:
  - Oct. 23, Nov. 27, Jan. 29, Feb. 26, Apr. 23, May 28
- There will be no election this year as Carrie Stevenson and Jacob Shelley have volunteered to co-chair, Adam will remain Treasurer and Donna will remain Secretary
- Rebecca volunteered to be the WRAPSC representative, as well as Past Chair
- Question asked whether our Council has any by-laws?  
The only one is the question of numbers for Quorum, when voting  
Lynne suggested we implement other simple by-laws for the good of future councils... to be discussed over the next few meetings
  - **Motion #1** that a Quorum of 8 be required for voting  
*Motion moved by: Carrie*  
*Motion Seconded by: Nancy*  
**Motion passed** by members in attendance

## 4. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT (Lynne Green)

- The year is off to a good start, and there are 470 students (450 last year)  
Question asked why there are more students, but one portable is empty?  
Lynne explained that last year there were 3.5 kindergarten classes, but this year there are 3 very full ones. In fact all the primary classes are at their cap... only the 5/6 English is a bit lower. There are many new area enrichment students as well, especially grade 3
- The parking lot has 8 additional spots, to accommodate all the staff. Parents are still using the parking lot, and will need to be reminded not to enter it from 8:45 am in the morning, and after 4 pm at school end
- Many staff members have volunteered for sports and clubs. Running Club had an event tonight, and the school held its Terry Fox run this afternoon
- Last Friday was a PD Day, that staff used for:
  - Setting goals for the year (to be finalized mid-Oct.)
  - Health & Safety training (many will do this on evenings or weekends)
  - Collaboration
  - ECE's and Ad. Assistants attended in the morning

## 5. Q&A

- Q: How are the tarmac stencils working?  
A: Lynne explained that new stencils were used on the tarmac last July by Pat Doyle, a retired teacher who now does this as a business. (Council paid for this.) He supplied a spiral-bound book with game suggestions. Lynne noted that many children need to be taught some basic outdoor games that parents enjoyed as children. Suggestion made to obtain another spiral-bound book in case our copy gets misplaced
- Q: A kindergarten teacher suggested last year that they would really enjoy a "natural" outdoor play area, and could Council support this?  
Lynne said she would look into this and get back to us
- Q: Are there "toys" for older students (balls, skipping ropes, etc.) since last year Council purchased outdoor items for the Kindergarten classes.  
Lynne to look into this as well
- Q: Does the wooded area need any cleaning up or maintenance this fall?  
A: Yes, but it won't be as extensive as last year's work. Adam to email with details
- Q: Do Kindergarten classes not get a second nutrition break?  
Lynne said that Kindergarten classes aren't required to follow the rest of the school's schedule. They've experimented with holding their second break at the end of the day, but have had some issues with parents arriving on the school yard early, to pick up their children. This play-based time can be spent in the wooded area or even the front yard
- Q: Would the children benefit with having sitting rocks in the wooded area?  
Lynne to ask teachers
- Carrie said that last year she and Jacob did Communications, but will be busy as co-Chairs this year, so they're looking for new people to fill those roles (provide newsletter content and watch Facebook page)
- Q: Are we doing magazine sales this year?  
A: Yes, we'll be using QSP, for only online renewals and subscriptions
- Note – the Mabel's Labels campaign, where we get 20% of sales, will be ending this week. Then there will be a 3-month period where we only get 5% of sales, until we renew our contract and get 20% again

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- Note – by giving your email to School Council you agree to receive emails from Council about future meetings, Meeting Minutes, etc.

## **6. ADJOURNMENT (Rebecca Guzar – Past Chair)**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting is on Thursday October 23, 2014, 6:30 pm