

Elizabeth Ziegler Public School Council Meeting

Monday May 28th, 2018 Meeting Minutes 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

VOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS

x	Heather Sequeira		Joanna Thiessen		Melissa Arcand
	Camelia Nunez	x	Rebecca Calma		Anneliese Schwartz
x	Erin Heimpel		Emily Jaarsma		Marcel Pinheiro
x	Ingrid Bachmann		Meghan Bennett		Jola Gurska
	Carrie Stevenson		Skye Norris	x	Pui Ming Leung
	Rebecca Guzar		Jon Spee		Simonne Marchesseau
	Melissa Cowburn		Brenda Prins		

NONVOTING COUNCIL MEMBERS/GUESTS

x	Susan Marchiori (Principal)	x	Sue Tomchick
x	Sara MacNeill (VP)		Brendan Payne

1. WELCOME and introductions. Member sign in (Heather Sequeira)

We do not have sufficient #ers for quorum, six council members are needed. Therefore we will develop a list of items for consideration and attempt an online motion process. Items are in blue font.

As our April Council Meeting was cancelled, March Minutes were approved via an online motion so they could be posted in a timely manner by Sara MacNeill.

From Previous minutes:

Update on Buddy Bench (Susan): We need a shop drawing from Kody Yoshly to be submitted to the school board who will need to approve design and decide on installation. Teachers were invited to express their ideas about location. The rock area, near the little library was recommended. In the event Greening develops a plan for an outdoor Zen-like space, we may want to consider whether the buddy bench would be best suited there.

Heather will email Kody to seek a shop drawing.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Greening (Pui Ming):

We sought donations of gardening supplies so our students can participate in planting. We've had limited success.

Pui met with Mr. Payne to determine gardening needs. They have developed a Google group to share information. Previously Council dedicated \$200.00 for seedlings and soil. There is a desire

<http://elz.wrdsb.on.ca/1>

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to link curriculum with the garden by bringing in a speaker, possibly a dietician. We still have \$550.00 in the account for Words out, and we could consider this next year.

Pui learned the history of the yard and greening via Becky. 3 newer trees need watering and mulching over the summer. Bags and nets need to be replaced. Hilary is working on the mulch. We need a volunteer to coordinate the watering. Previously we had many volunteers and a schedule was developed.

Heather will ask for a volunteer to coordinate summer watering via our FB group.

\$470.49 is available in the greening account to be used for mulch, tools as the Greening committee sees fit.

Pui is looking for more parent support around for future greening plans. We'll send this invitation out in September. Greening may want to put together a table and a sign-up during the September Meet the Teacher to invite attendance.

There is a work order in with the school board on the Sandbox and the baseball diamond. Susan is following up on this.

b) Fundraising (Heather for Carrie) winter fundraising projects

\$1000.00 from general account was allocated for bus trips and an additional \$1500 from fall fresh from the farms. We are short \$317.80 that will need to come from the general account. **We need to dedicate \$317.80 to cover shortfall for school bus trips.**

Fresh from the Farm, raised \$588. \$200 was already allotted to gardening, \$ 300 to outdoor play, leaving \$ 88.00 unspent.

Email motion was approved by council for \$712 for bus trips for kids.

c) Outreach: no update

3. FINANCIAL SUMMARY (Heather Sequeira)

As per previous minutes, we needed clarification on the 1000.00 transferred over from the general account. Heather met with Joan and learned that this \$ was unspent from the Words Out Account last year, and so was transferred back into Words out. This leaves \$1355.00 in Words Out.

Discussion occurred re: dedicated \$ for Words out. We haven't had a parent leading this particular initiative for at least 3 years. Words out was intended to fund literacy initiatives. We may want to revisit the Words Out budget line in the Fall to decide whether we continue to need to dedicate funds to this area. We could consider changing the name of this group if what we are really doing is paying for speakers. Or we could dissolve Words out and then approve Speakers through the general account. This is to be an agenda item for Fall.

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Available General acct. \$429.34
Pizza \$5218.14
Cooke dough \$1838.00
\$88.00 left over fresh from the farm
Mabel's \$163.72
Magazines \$ 487.26

Items to consider Spending \$ on:

- We have 22 classrooms; 3 of these have their own funding, classrooms will need to replenish supplies + Spec Ed.
We could allocate \$100.00 to each classroom to replenish supplies/board games. 20 rooms plus the extra 3 if they need it.
- **\$ could be dedicated to home reading—\$1500 English, \$1500 French**
- **\$653.91 would purchase each grade six graduate a lock for next year.**

Heather learned via Joan that in several budget lines the \$ being spent each year is actually \$ fundraised during the previous school year. This was particularly evident under school trips. We might prefer to be fundraising and spending our \$ within the same calendar year.

As Carrie previously recommended, we might want to consider making a budget at the outset of next year for each fundraiser and then allocate the dollars using estimations so the \$ can be spent within the year, rather than carrying over. Sara and Susan may want to ask teachers now what gaps they see and how we could consider filling those gaps via money raised from council. This would speed up our process and avoid it taking a few months in the Fall for council to hear from teachers what their needs are.

4. Fundraising Update---First Nations Speaker? Grade 6 Locks?

Sue is looking into an Indigenous performance about turtle island and the origin of the earth. It will include teacher resources, totalling \$ 915.00 + HST= \$ 1040. This money will come from our Words Out Budget line and thus no motion is needed. We are aware that with inflation this cost could increase up to \$1200.

School board re-vamped social studies curriculum in response to the truth and reconciliation process. PD education has been made available to teachers.

We'd like to consider buying each graduating student a lock, at the cost of about \$653.91.

5. SCHOOL REPORT (Sara MacNeill, Susan Marchiori)

- a) Nutrition for learning (Susan and Erin Bechtel)

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Teacher Erin Bechtell provides food for students who don't have enough to eat. Erin and Susan met with the "nutrition for learning" program a few months ago and learned this program has simplified its process. In the past, it was volunteer based, required shopping, and distribution of snacks. Now, they offer an online ordering process, food is delivered and put into fridges for use. They purchase healthy snacks in mass quantities. They require the school do 1 fundraiser per year, and it could be as simple as asking students to bring in a toonie. It's a universal program, no one is turned away and everyone is invited to participate, including teachers. It is meant to be inclusive. Snacks would be available during both nutrition breaks. Parents would be asked to encourage their children to make use of the program to avoid a culture that isolates or singles out students who need the program. It is funded by the school board + the nutrition for learning program. Erin and her classroom are prepared to run the program. Council supports this program and will need to remember to ensure 1 fundraiser is dedicated to it next year. We could use Fresh from the Farm \$, or seek donations during our Fall Meet the Teacher event.

b) School Council Report due End of June

Yearly, School Councils complete a report on their activities from that school year. In the past Joan has put this together as she is aware of our spending decisions. She is prepared to do so this year and we are in support of her doing so.

c) Principal Profile

School Council is asked to create Principal profile. This is sometimes done in advance of hiring a new principal. The last one was developed in 2015. It's time for us to approve a new one. Given Susan is already hired and as we are at the end of May, this is to be carried over to next year, when we have more time to work on this. Susan will send us an electronic copy of the profile for review.

d) Grade 6 Lunch

Grade six celebratory lunch will be about \$1100-1200 dollars. School has some funds they can use to pay for this and historically the school has covered this expense. Should it be important for council to contribute, we are welcome to do so. The lunch has been a special event for our students and has included a dance.

Discussion: Some schools do a school trip for the grade sixes. Some do an all-day event that isn't a sleep over. Some do their all-day event at the beginning of the year to help build relationships. We wonder if there is an appetite for something different, like an overnight at a camp or a trip. We may also want to keep in mind that this isn't grade 8, it is a transition, and keeping things simple is sometimes more valuable. Any trip or camp would require adult support. Susan will ask around to find out the history on our grade six celebrations.

e) Update on Technology from WRDSB

School board is moving ahead in their decision to financially support technology including a policy that each school will have 1 chrome book for every 2 students. The school board will then take on replenishing the chrome books. The equipment purchased will have a warranty and be

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on a replacement cycle. Any technology purchased by council will not have a warranty nor be replaced by the school board thus it is best the school's computers are provided via the Board. Council dedicated \$ for technology this year. School will use this \$ to purchase document cameras, headphones, splitters, tech charging container to charge and store up to 10 chrome books, new mic for the gym.

6. June Council Meeting date and June Social

Joanna will book thru Berlin Bicycle Café, on June 12th or June 18th should this work for the café. We will need some gluten free options. Heather to email Joanna this info. Council will need to consider dedicating 500.00 to cover the cost of snacks and alcohol free beverages. We will need to advertise the event via School Day, Twitter, FB Group.

7. Dates for next school year, Back to School Barbeque/Pizza Date

Joanna volunteered to take on organizing food through Panago (who we buy pizza from) should we wish to proceed. Tentatively we'll schedule September 12th and Susan will attempt to confirm with McGregor that their event won't be on the same night. We did try to do this same thing last year, and unfortunately McGregor changed their meet the teacher and it conflicted with ours. Event will be from 5:30 to 7:30, first hour for food, second hour to meet the teacher. We could consider a donation box to collect \$ for a specific fundraiser. Some schools have experienced raising more \$ via donations at these kinds of events than by asking each family to pay for their food items. Money raised would cover the cost of the event and any leftover could be dedicated to something like: nutrition for learning, or enhancing our outdoor space. We'll need to seek volunteers for this event via our FB group.

8. Buddy Bench Update---Susan to report on WRDSB guidelines: covered under Agenda Item #1

9. Adjournment

Erin will develop a list of our Items asking Council to vote via 1 motion sent via email. Our total spending appears to be \$6454 leaving \$1500 in the general account so we have money to purchase pizza etc. at the outset of the year.

Heather moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rebecca, all in favour.

See addendum #1 attached to the May minutes for details of the Motion processed via Email

Motion #1 to approve Items #1-4 as per Email sent by E.Schreiter

- **Motion moved by: Marcel Pinheiro**
- **Motion Seconded by: Pui Ming**
- **Motion passed by members of school council via Email.**

See addendum #2 attached to the May minutes for May Financial Statement.