

**Monday November 19, 2018 - 6:30pm – 8:00pm**

**EZ Parent Council Meeting Minutes**

**Attendance**

**Voting Council Members**

1. Rebecca Calma
2. Joanna Thiessen
3. Jen Topham
4. Pui Ming Leung
5. Corrie Ballantyne
6. Heather Sequeira
7. Ryan Gulka
8. Brooke Spearn
9. Davis Neable
10. Sarah Beth Blanchi
11. Anneliese Schwartz
12. Ingrid Bachmann
13. Emily Jaarsma

**Non-voting Council Members and Guests**

1. Susan Marchiori (Principal)
2. Krissy Walker
3. Meagan Gibbons

**1. Welcome**

-Outdoor learning and play space survey – paper copy distributed for anyone who missed the School Day survey

**2. Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

-motion to approve the minutes from last meeting (October 2018) and approve agenda for tonight's meeting – Rebecca Calma, seconded by Davis Neable, all voting members in favour.

**3. School Report**

-EQAO Results for EZ from 2017 – 2018

-in general, grade 3 results went up slightly and grade 6 results went down slightly

-Susan showed the numbers both including and excluding students with no data/exempt

-we know our kids are capable but trying to understand why math marks are so much lower vs. reading and writing marks

-key points –

-performing above School Board and Province in grade 3 in writing and reading, performing above the School Board in grade 3 math but below the Province

-comparable results to School Board and Province in grade 6 but slightly better in math

-School Improvement Plan for the Year – focus on Problem Solving and especially consolidation

-EZ purchased program called Math Up for all teachers of Math – really a focus for this year

-Oct 26<sup>th</sup> and Nov 16<sup>th</sup> PD day – focus on Mathematics

-grade 3 and grade 6 teachers are attending sessions at the Board office on EQAO friendly classrooms

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1m87W0VtEqO4HbNaowyuCz70uxZZAKF-Myrk40bB817k/edit?ts=5c045501#slide=id.p>

-parent asking if there is a program like “Strong Smart” but for math. Susan describing a program called “Jump Math”. Also “Leaps and Bounds” is a program that EZ has bought that can be used if a child is struggling in math. Helps to identify and address gaps.

-with the Math Up program and all the PD we are doing, we are making progress, but it is slow.

-lots of resources including many math games so maybe we look at having parents come in and do something like a “Math Club”. Anyone interested can talk to Susan.

Other School Report Topics:

-200 minutes every morning 40 minutes per day – Classroom Supervision position. Board position. Anyone interested please call Susan.

-Seasonal Celebration Wednesday Dec 12, 6pm-7pm. Open House. Choirs performing in the gym and various activities running in different classrooms.

#### **4. Committee Updates**

##### **Outreach Committee**

-The following are ideas of Outreach activities for this year:

- A discussion for parents with the school constable, Andre, about Internet Safety (or other safety-related topics of interest). Cost - Free

- A seminar for parents by KW Counselling eg. "Children and Anxiety", "Children and Stress", "Positive Parenting - Argument to Agreement". Cost - \$435 for 1 topic (2 hour seminar) or \$535 for 2 topics at the same seminar

- ESQ STEM night. Availability Jan 10, 17, 24. Cost - \$200 – Jan 17 works well for school calendar

- Potential for hosting Home Alone Course (St. John's Ambulance) on PD day in May but we won't know until March if this is possible.

-look at maybe having teenagers come and look after kids during the KW Counselling

-if we do both KW Counselling and ESQ it will be around \$800 for Outreach

##### **Fundraising Committee**

-concern raised by a parent about Palm Oil being an ingredient in the Terra Cotta cookie dough

-parents asking about the possibility of just donating money to council without having to participate in the actual fundraisers – also then parents could get donation receipts

##### **School fund raising priorities - Susan**

-water refill station on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor – probably around \$2000 – Jen Topham said she would look into grants for this

-"Scientist in the School" program - \$6 per student

-French performer for the entire school – probably around \$1000 – question about whether this is for French immersion students only – Susan says this is for everyone.

-French and English home reading books – in the past \$3000

-large laminator for the work room

-colour printer

-field trips

### **Greening Committee**

-2 trees are dying or dead – suggestion to call John's nursery and see if there is any warranty still on the trees – these trees were planted in the 2015-2016 school year

-suggestion to call the KW Forestry or GRCA to come and do a consultation about the trees in general

-since Outdoor Learning project is about re-vitalizing the outdoor space, maybe this becomes part of this bigger project

### **Outdoor Learning**

-survey on School Day but not a lot of replies so there are also paper copies

-UW involvement – as part of a course at UW, university students will come and help with the design and planning

-this will save us a lot of time in the planning and will engage all the students at the school because everyone will be able to vote on the designs that they like best.

-UW students will come in May for 1 hour and work in the classrooms to come up with approx. 30 designs, and then EZ students and parents will get to vote

-Junior structure is the main “need” when teachers and parents are surveyed.

-May will be a good time to do fundraising for this project since everyone will be involved in the planning

-applied for 2 grants – “School Life Fund” for GaGa Ball pit and “Go Wild Grant” (WWF) for \$500 towards “adventure packs”. Adventure packs have things such as magnifying glasses, binoculars, science tools, wind meters, pH paper, tweezers, bug jars. There would be 15 kits and then the classes would sign them out.

-looking for other fundraising ideas - ?commercial business sponsors. This is a big sum of money for this project – Keat’s Way and Vista Hills spent around \$75,000 on their enhancements.

-committee is working on looking at grants and also at creative partnerships to help make this happen

-\$100,000 project would cost \$230 per child at EZ

-plan is to have this project occur over the next 2-3 years – looking at initial installment date of 2020

-Jen Topham – suggestion before the end of this tax year to call out for donations from parents that is earmarked for this Outdoor Learning project (specifically for GaGa Ball pit) – suggestion by Davis Neable to have a well laid out vision of this project before we approach parents for donations

-Meaghan Gibbons – suggestion to kick off the fundraising by earmarking the dance-a-thon money to this Outdoor Learning Project

-Ingrid Bachmann suggesting sending a link to WEFE page where you can donate to the school and get a tax receipt

-Meaghan Gibbons suggesting at Seasonal Celebration we could have the drawings that Joan found of the plans for the forest and gardens from 1990’s for parents to see

-3 stages of the project – 1. GaGa Ball pit 2. Forest and front garden revitalization 3. Junior climber

-Sarah-Beth Bianchi suggesting that we need to have the consultation with the kids before we move forward. Consultation with the kids happens with UW students in May 2019

-Ryan suggesting that direct donations to the school may be a better way to go as opposed to the fundraisers where we only keep 30-40% of the money raised

-Emily Jaarsma proposing to allocate up to \$1000 for French Performer – suggestion for a teacher to start working on this

-Davis Neable moves to allocate the PIC grant of \$500 and an additional \$300 for the Outreach sessions discussed – second by Pui Ming, all in favour.

-Next meeting Jan 21, 2019

-motion to close by Brooke Spearn, second by Joanna Thiessen, all in favour.

## 5. Post Meeting Notes

Please be informed that a motion was approved on Dec 14th, 2018, to allocate up to \$4600 from the Dance-A-Thon fundraiser to the gaga ball project.

Approval was received by the following voting members:

Corrie Ballantyne  
Anneliese Schwartz  
Jen Topham  
Krista Hunter  
Joanna Thiessen  
Sarah-Beth Bianche  
Pui Ming Leung  
Carrie Stevenson  
Jola Gurska