

Monday October 15, 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. Jola Gurska
7. Heather Sequeira
8. Brenda Prins
9. Carrie Stevenson
10. Hilary Lehman
11. Ryan Gulka
12. Brooke Spearn
13. Davis Neable
14. Krista Hunter

Non-voting Council Members and Guests

1. Susan Marchiori (Principal)
2. Sara McNeil (Vice-Principal)
3. Tamara Awad-Lobe (Teacher)
4. Kayla Ginsier
5. Krissy Walker
6. Steph Forte
7. Meagan Gibbons

1. Welcome

2. Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting

-request to attach colour coded financials to these minutes to send out

-motion to approve meeting minutes – Jen Topham, second by Carrie Stevenson, unanimously approved by 10 voting members, no abstentions

3. Financial Summary – Heather Sequeira

- Fresh from the Farm - \$936 (\$300 less than last year)
- E-waste - \$249.74 – allocated to Buddy Bench
- Magazine sales - \$250.50
- \$1400 approx from fundraising so far this year
- \$1363 approx in general acct
- \$468 profit from meet the teacher night
- Still some \$ in Greening from last year - \$446.04
- \$550 in Word's Out account
- looks like we have about \$3000 total so far

-discussed desire for allocating fundraising money before each fundraiser

-each year Parent Council raises around \$10,000 to \$15,000

-Susan explained about money spent on technology not needed because board-supplied technology gets repaired/replaced but technology supplied by parent council fundraising does not

-discussion of programs such as “swim to survive” and “cycling into the future” – can parent council support these programs and programs such as this? Maybe we look at fundraising for this in the future – perhaps added as a line item in “healthy living” mandate area

-maybe wait for the evaluations to come in about the cycling program before we decide that this is something we want to fundraise for – **put this as an agenda item in January**

4. Fund Raising Priorities

-Susan explains school budget so that we understand where Parent Council fundraising money fits in

-Majority of school budget (“schedule A”) is spent on learning materials and educational resources, and then every year it gets replenished. This year and last year a lot of the resources went to “Math Up”

-EZ has not had our own school fundraiser eg. To fund the grade 6 graduation celebration, field trips for kids not able to pay, popsicles for play day - instead of spending Schedule A money. One idea is to run a popcorn day 1 X per month and use that for school fund account so that more money from schedule A can be allotted to the school resources. The staff would work the popcorn fundraiser - during nutrition break, 1 X per month, \$2 per bag

-motion to support the school doing a fundraiser that will be run by the staff and will go towards helping fund school activities such as grade 6 graduation celebration - moved by Jen Topham, seconded by Heather Sequeira, agreed by 13 members, no abstentions.

-Tamara (teacher rep) contributes that field trip funding is very helpful eg. Symphony field trip plus the bus cost, buses are very expensive!

-ECO club wants to do fund raiser (selling flowers in November) to buy recycle bins for each classroom. Heather Sequeira agrees to call waste management to find out if they can just be donated. Concern raised about cookie fundraiser and if this will interfere in terms of timing – too many fundraisers all around the same time.

-suggestion about doing the Vesey bulb fundraiser in the spring because so many fundraisers are in the Fall

-suggestion to do the clothing recycling as a fundraiser

5. Committee Updates

Fundraising – Carrie Stevenson is the lead

Greening – Jola Gurska is the lead

-responsibilities include: coordinating volunteers to water the garden, mulching, get soil to put in the garden beds, collecting equipment/tools

Outdoor Learning – Pui Ming is the lead

-see attached slide show presentation

-goal to enhance the school yard

-3 staff representatives on committee – Susan, Erin Reader-Norris, Joan Cochrane

-parents on committee – Krista Hunter, Meaghan Gibbons, Rebecca Calma, Melanie Kloet, Jola Gurska

-Gaga ball pit is first goal – Krista Hunter describes Gaga ball. Students and teachers have expressed in informal surveys a desire for a gaga ball pit. Meaghan Gibbons is applying for “S’cool” grant which covers up to \$3000. Keat’s Way installed one recently with help of local fence making company – cost \$1600 plus tax. Potential for the Board to cover the cost of the ground cover inside the pit or suggestion to get mulch for free from Waste Management facility. Potential location – beside the portable.

-committee wants to conduct a parent survey to find out what other parents want in terms of outdoor learning possibilities – Pui Ming showed us the potential survey for parents on the projector – 5 question survey to be sent out via School Day

- Keats Way had university students from engineering program help design their expanded outdoor space – Krista Hunter to meet with the prof who was in charge of the project for Keats Way later this week and will bring any info from this meeting to our next council meeting
- Keats Way spent \$75,000 on their outdoor enhancements – grants and anonymous donor
- Susan mentioned installing Tetherball – Guy Mackie from the board says it can be put in for no cost
- discussion on whether we can direct non-earmarked funding to this Outdoor Learning endeavour and time at each meeting should be dedicated to discussing this project
- comment from Carrie Stevenson that this shouldn't replace the \$ for bus trips, home reading etc.
- Keats Way put aside a certain amount of money each year to save for their big project – maybe this is something that we can look at doing as a parent council

6. School Report

- because we are running short on time, nothing to report tonight
- Google Group created for EZ Parent Council

7. Chair Report

- Corrie attended WRAPSC meeting and will attend next meeting in November – see attached minutes
- Corrie will pass info to the Outreach committee about some topics that they spoke about at WRAPSC meeting

8. Agenda Items for next meeting

- next meeting date: November 19th, 2018
- ACTION ITEM: Committee's should come prepared with a proposed 2018-2019 budget for approval.**

9. Other Issues

- question about Walking School Bus – Brenda Prins shared about this program that happens at another school – discussion on how to find out if parents would be interested in doing this. Susan and Brenda to discuss further after Council adjourns.

-question about dairy educator coming to the school and what is involved with this presentation – concern that specific product is being promoted by an industry. Susan and Tamara would speak to staff re: critical thinking is encouraged with this presentation as with all presentations.

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn - Brooke Spearn, seconded by Heather Sequeira, voted in favour by all.

POST MEETING Actions & Updates

- A motion was presented to allocate \$400 to the gaga ball project. This is in support of the grant application process. The Outdoor learning committee indicated that by presenting the grant application with an amount already raised, our chances of approval would be better. Note, that if the grant is NOT approved, and we do not go ahead with the project, the money will be returned to the general account. An electronic survey was issued and we received 13 'in favour' approvals out of 19 voting members. The remaining members did not respond as of Friday, Oct 26th. The motions has therefore been approved.

- A Motion was also presented to allocate \$1110 to cover the bus costs for the primary and junior trips to the Symphony. This request is in addition to the general busing allocation of \$2500 approved in previous years by the parent council. An electronic survey was issued and we received 12 'In favour' and 1 'Not in favour' responses. The remaining members did not respond as of Friday, Oct 26th. The motion has therefore been approved. At the November meeting, we will review the total cost to support all busing go forward, and make a recommendation as to the level of support the Council will provide.