

**EZ Parent Council Meeting**  
**Mar 29 – 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Attendance**

**Voting Council Members**

**Corrie Ballantyne**

**Joanna Thiessen**

**Davis Neable**

**Carole Boucher**

**Jola Gurska**

**Ryan Gulka**

**Leslie N**

**Jennifer Topham**

**Anneliese Schwartz**

**Meaghan Gibbons**

**Krista Hunter**

**Non-voting Council Members and Guests**

**Rob MacQueen (VP)**

**Sara MacNeill (Principal)**

**1. Welcome**

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

**Motion to approve January minutes and today's agenda – raised by Corrie and second by Leslie  
– voted in favour by all voting members**

**3. Financial Updates**

We have around \$6000 total currently. So far only 5 teachers have spent their \$200 that we approved for each class to buy resources to help with outdoor learning.

#### **4. Outdoor Learning**

Staff are totally excited about outdoor learning but challenges are: 1. Finding the time to go out and buy things outside of the instructional day and 2. Finding the best prices so that the \$200 goes as far as it can and 3. Wanting more ideas of things to use for outdoor learning.

Maybe Sara can come up with a list of things that teachers want to do outdoors and then parent council can help to source some of the items.

Meaghan had the idea of classes starting seeds in the classroom. Jola to send Sara the prices of some of the supplies for starting seeds from OSC.

Rebecca Seiling is booked to come April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup> to help give the staff some further ideas for outdoor learning in all the different zones of our property. \$450 required for this. We have \$350 in FlipGive – can we take \$150-\$170 from the general account to pay her?

**Motion to approve funding the \$450 to pay for Rebecca - moved by Corrie, second by Jola and voted in favour by all voting members.**

Also 3 planning time teachers asked if there is any more \$ so that they can buy some things to use outdoors with students - for example sidewalk chalk. Council agreed that they could each have \$200 to spend – we have allocated \$3200 and so far only \$500 ish has been spent.

Waterloo Region School Food Gardens – grant. Garden boxes are falling apart so Meaghan and Jola have applied for this grant to help fix the boxes and buy some supplies to facilitate using the gardens. Perennials from REEP – Meaghan is asking for money to purchase these in case the grant isn't approved. It would be around \$155. **Motion to approve \$155 for perennial plants - raised by Corrie, second by Anneliese, voted in favour by all voting members.**

Gardens – idea to establish 3 of them as perennial beds – strawberry plants, rhubarb, herbs, pollinator plants.

Clean-up of the school yard is planned for the week of April 22 (Earth day week). This year because of Covid, parents will receive a letter providing them with the option to opt in or opt out. Kids who can participate will be given disposable gloves.

#### **5. Greening Update**

Two clean up days planned to get the gardens back in action. Meaghan will ask for volunteers via the parent FB group so stay tuned!

Question about getting a tent to use outdoors. Mike Maxwell (EZ parent) has a large outdoor tent that he wants to donate to EZ. Sara to ask if this is possible. Mike says we need a permit from the city due to the size of the tent.

## **6. School Report**

Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools committee – There are 4 staff on this team. Looking for a parent to join this team. Sara is wondering what is the best way to get parent engagement.

Grade 6 graduation – we have decided as admin to plan together with all the other schools with grade 6 students in an equity-rooted framework. Then there is also Covid to think about. All the students who are in distance learning will be invited to join virtually. June 22<sup>nd</sup> during school day all the celebrations will take place for all students across the board. No gifts, no drive-bys, no signs. We are allowed to still do the locks because this is considered a “non-frivolous” item. There is a committee of teachers at EZ who will decide exactly what the celebrations will look like. Because of Covid there will be no trips outside of the school and no sharing of food. Kids will need to stay within their cohort during the celebrations. All the info about the graduations will be available on the school websites.

**Motion raised to spend up to \$700 on locks for the graduating grade 6 students – raised by Corrie, second by Ryan, voted in favour by all voting members.**

In February 62 gift cards were received, around \$3000 value. These are being distributed to the families in our school community who are needing some assistance with things like money for groceries. Rob has had the happy task of giving out the cards.

## **9. WRAPSC Update**

First meeting is next week – Meaghan will be attending.

## **10. Wrap up and round table**

**Motion to end the meeting – raised by Corrie, second by Joanna, voted in favour by all voting members.**