

EZ School Parent Council Meeting

Agenda: Monday, May 31st, 2021 | 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Attendees: Jola G, Ryan G, Jennifer T, Carole B, Leslie N, Joanna T, Heather S, Corre B, Krista H, Meaghan G, Davis N, Sara M, Farida

Duration	Agenda Item & Minutes	Owner
6:30 to 6:35	<p>Welcome: A warm welcome to Farida!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This is our last meeting of 2021! ● Farida is the new VP at EZ; she's a mother of 2 daughters and a son ● Before coming to EZ she was doing distance learning for Kindergarten ● Welcome aboard this journey! ● Round table of introductions 	Corrie Ballantyne
6:35 to 6:45	<p>Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Motion to approve March Meeting minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion: Corrie ○ Second: Ryan ○ Motion Carried ● Motion to approve May agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion: Corrie ○ Second: Heather ○ Motion Carried 	Corrie Ballantyne
6:45 to 6:50	<p>Finance Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● COVID changed what fundraising looked like this year ● We have about > \$7000 dollars to spend ● Additionally, here's the money allocated but not yet spent in 2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Only half of the \$200 per classroom has been used to date ○ Allocated \$450 towards Rebecca (outdoor learning) coming in to speak April/May → never happened due to school closure 	Heather Sequeira

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Had \$600 allocated for school locks and this is not happening anymore either ○ \$155 approval for perennial purchase not used as Jola confirmed grant has been received. No current use for the \$155 allotment but we did not revoke motion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No money has been spent this school year ● There \$600.28 Greening Committee deficit that was used towards something that shouldn't have been; Shannon will look into this* ● \$47 500 HST rebate from the playground applied automatically ● We have money to be spent but how do we want to allocate these? ● Given that we haven't done any fundraising this year, suggest just keeping our \$7000 surplus for this year and put it towards 2021/22 ● <i>Direct from the Farms</i> has already reached out for fundraising in 2021/22 year ● [Sarah] Who knows what will end up happening next year (e.g. class trips) so best bet is to do outdoor or greening projects but hold off on everything else <p><i>*From Shannon : "The total for that account is a deficit of \$601.28. There have been no transactions on account 854 for this school year. When we were allocating carry over of Funds from last year, Susan had told me to lump the deficit for that account in with the Greening deficit, as it was an account that was also used for Playground Fundraising, but outside of School Council. It has a deficit total of \$245.24. However, as I dig into that account, I don't think it should have been applied to School Council Funds. I will investigate what it will take to move around money to return the \$245.24."</i></p>	
<p>6:50 to 7:05</p>	<p>Greening update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$1500 allocated, directly through the Waterloo Region School Food Gardens grant 	<p>Jola</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Got money to rebuild garden and some perennials, new hose reels ○ 🌸 Scheduled for June 16th to replace 6 front garden beds, new cedar boards, seedlings ○ They will also be sending some volunteers to help out, too! ○ The beds are looking sad; so thinking of putting down cardboards or mulch ○ A class will be starting some of the work and then the region will finish ● Will have a Monarch no mow zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide habitat for monarchs ○ Selecting a zone; Farida has spray painted the area (15x30) ● Received \$12000 grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To include armour stone ○ Project in 2 stages, including tree planting in the fall ● So much awesome work, here! Thank you, Jola. 	
7:05 to 7:15	<p>Play 4 All update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Could we install some outdoor seating and benches? ● [Sarah] Teachers have voiced interest in would like to have a permanent fixture that can be a table or a seat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ https://www.earthscapeplay.com/natural-playground-play-posts-discovery-table-outdoor/ ○ Picnic tables? ○ https://www.amazon.ca/Lifetime-Convertible-Bench-Construction-60054/dp/B00556W6UQ ○ Could get armour stone w/ flat top finish. Teachers should pick a height they like? 	Krista

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wondering if Sara can talk about how this conversation connects to the concerns around inequities. I'm just thinking if another school council wasn't able to buy locks, how can we justify buying expensive tables?<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ [Sarah] At this point there's no direction from the board on where to spend/money. It's one of those things where we have to look at how do we move forward○ It is something we'll all need to think about.● Is there a risk that our money will be taken away? [Sarah] There's no information one way or another yet. This is what our leadership is thinking about at every step of the way.● [Jen] Because we're a school with an engaged council, can we partner with a school that doesn't? Then both benefit.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ [Sarah] Those are valid questions that I'll be bringing back to our board as we go into next year.○ [Sarah] **Came up with a framework across 100 administrators on how to celebrate graduating students. All Grade 6's celebrations will happen on the same day.○ [Meaghan] Was a very unpopular decision within the WRAPSC community. An article was posted from the principal's standpoint and it received a lot of parent responses.● [Krista] Will be important to outline how much the government and board funds. There seem to be a lot of things that have become Parent's Council responsibility e.g. home reading, school grounds	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● [Krista] Might be nice to be able to bring the community back together again in September to celebrate the opening of the new playground <p><i>**Just a note: Board made announcement that, in the interests of equality, no gifts or drivebys or anything for graduation.</i></p>	
7:15 to 7:30	<p>School update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade 6 graduation celebration is June 24th 10am if in distance learning or 2:20 for in-person learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will have a “clap out” and a few other things (e.g. slide show with a streamed event) ● Looking for volunteers to participate in an <i>equity committee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently 4 people on it now ○ Reviewing curriculum with an equity lens e.g. Infusing Black or Indigenous communities more into the curriculum ○ Have been gathering resources over the last few months to be shared in Fall 2021 ○ Looking for parents to do reach out in the local community for people in these groups to profile and highlight e.g. guest speaker roll ○ Option to put it out on Twitter or other social media platforms? ○ If interested, email Sara directly at sara_macneill@wrdsb.ca ● [Farida] Received \$3500 in gift card initiative which has been distributed to 23 families in May and 8 in June <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Was well used and needed. Is there an opportunity to do this twice in 2021/22 to reach more families? ○ [Corrie] It was just a Facebook post (pretty easy to do)c-- should we do another drive now rather than waiting until the fall? ○ [Sara] Probably okay to just wait until the fall. Let's add it to the agenda. 	Sarah/Farida

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [Meaghan] Lots of MANA was happy to contribute 	
7:30 - 7:40	<p>WRAPSC update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The most recent meeting had an update on the FI assessment that an outside firm was doing; they are writing up a recommendation report to be distributed in the fall ● Potential for government to instantiate online learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Option 1: Having distance learning available for elementary and secondary (teacher led) ○ Option 2: Just for secondary (teacher led) ○ Option 3: ● If anyone is interested in writing to their MPor Minister of Education to voice their opinion, that would be a good idea 	Meaghan
7:40 - 8:00pm	<p>Roundtable and wrap-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thank to everyone for your time this year! See you in September. ● Thanks for being a great leader, Corrie! ● Motion to close meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion: Corrie ○ Second: Heather ○ Motion Carried 	Corrie