

EZ School Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 31, 2022

6:30 p.m., Virtual

1. Welcome: Attendance

Jennifer Topham

Jo Thiessen

Ryan Gulka

Carole Boucher

Jola Gurska

Leslie Nanibush

Brenda Prins

Naren Kumarakulasingam

Heather Sequeira

Sara MacNeill (Principal)

Farida Jamal (Vice Principal)

2. Motion to approve November minutes & January agenda

Moved by Leslie, second by Jo (Nov minutes) – voted in favour by all voting members.

Moved by Leslie, second by Heather (Jan agenda) – voted in favour by all voting members.

3. Financial summary (Heather)

No change – no money has gone in or out.

Last meeting \$575 allocated to Peace by Peace (conflict resolution program) – this has not come out of the account yet. And \$120 for the watering trees. Otherwise no new money moved around.

4. School Wishlist (Farida Jamal, Sara MacNeill)

Met with staff on Outdoor Learning Committee to ask what the needs for this program are. Staff wanted activity ideas for: forest, field, tarmac. Rebecca Seiling was consulted about ideas for activities in these zones that also address curriculum expectations in each grade. Rebecca is going to create a program for our school and then meet with staff by zoom to share what she comes up with. Estimating \$800 to create this resource for K-6. Wondering if council would be willing to contribute to this cost.

Staff wanted to purchase materials such as tarps of different sizes, ropes, pulleys, compasses, thermometers, magnifying glasses – outdoor exploration tools. Idea is to store these somewhere central eg. In the gym storage so that it doesn't take up space in the classroom. Classes would sign this out as needed. Looking for \$500 for this.

Chef a l'ecole is a French language program based around cooking. Staff member applied for a grant and got \$600. Virtual presentation because of Covid. It would be for core French classes as well as French Immersion. For all 16 classes, \$1300 ish still required to cover this cost.

Ryan is asking about whether or not field trips are possible this year. Sara says that there are lots of complications with transportation, volunteers. Currently the only field trips that are approved are the "class 1 field trips" which are walking field trips when there is the correct staff:student ratio.

Jen and Carole both suggesting that in-person activities are preferable. Brenda sharing that she and her family did some Chef a L'ecole through the library and even though it was virtual it was great. Sara sharing that there are still many rules for guests to come into the school. Currently only essential visitors such as psychologists and speech pathologists etc. are allowed to come in to the school. Suggestion that we ask them if we book it for April and they are able to come in person at that time, can we switch it to in person? **Sara to ask Madame Gauthier about this.**

Balance – Pizza account \$2450.58, Fundraising account \$3878.15, Dance-a-thon account \$1607.29

Motion to approve moving \$1300 from the Dance-a-thon account to Outdoor Learning equipment and Rebecca Seiling's program – moved by Heather, second by Jen, voted all in favour by all voting members.

Motion to approve moving \$1383.75 from Fundraising account to Chef a L'Ecole – moved by Brenda and second by Ryan, voted in favour by all voting members.

5. Vice Principal/Principal general updates (Farida & Sara)

Sara reached out to other school admin to discuss ideas of what people are doing for Fundraising at their schools. Dominoes Family Pizza Night – 4 week blitz where every Tuesday you get a code and if you go to Dominoes on University Ave and use the discount code – large 3 topping pizza for \$15 and our school gets \$5 for every pizza they sell. No limit, person doesn't have to be directly connected to the school – we can share this code with anyone and people can use this online or in-person. Next round would start March 1 and would be for the month of March. Very little effort – just sending out the message on School Day and on FB to spread the word. Another idea is Factory Shoe Warehouse – same idea where the school gets a code and anyone who buys a pair of shoes over \$35 and uses our code we get \$5. Another idea is rain barrel fundraiser (rain barrels, composters) - \$55 for rain barrel, people order online and we pick a day and the items get dropped at the school and then people come and pick up what they ordered. You get \$10 for every rain barrel. They can also do home delivery but there is an extra fee of \$10 for that customer. These are very low effort ways to fundraise that are possible during Covid.

Sara will send the info to the fundraising committee and also the greening committee.

Today was photo day at EZ with LifeTouch. It was done following Covid protocols and was "no contact". All students doing short-term virtual learning will have another opportunity this Spring on re-take day – likely end of May.

We have registered for Feb 16th "Walk to School Day". Students can register for the walk and have chance to win a \$20 gift card. Our EZ Trailblazers will be taking a leadership role on this day.

Parents have been asking for clarification on parking. Allen St. on east side – there is a no parking sign and also a sign for school drop off. In this area of Allen St.,

during school drop off time you can pull over and let your kids out but you cannot leave the car yourself. There is a new sign, No Stopping sign, opposite to bus zone on Moore St. This is for the safety of the kids who take the buses and there is no parking and no stopping in this area.

We collected \$3695 from grocery gift card fundraiser this Fall and \$1290 has already been distributed. We will distribute more this week and then again before March Break. It would be good to do another grocery gift card fundraiser at end of March so that we have some gift cards to give out for the rest of the school year.

6. WRAPSC update and Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

Hilory absent tonight but she sent an email to council with some info about WRAPSC.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting – moved by Jen, second by Jo, approved by all voting members.

Next School Council Meeting Dates:

February 28, 2022, April 25, 2022, May 30, 2022