

EZ School Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 29, 2022

6:30 p.m., Virtual

Welcome: Attendance

Meaghan Gibbons

Jennifer Topham

Jo Thiessen

Ryan Gulka

Hilory Steffen

Carole Boucher

Krista Guenther

Jola Gurska

Leslie Nanbush

Casey Thiessen

Heather Sequeira

Sara MacNeill (Principal)

Farida Jamal (Vice Principal)

Motion to approve October minutes

Moved by: Leslie, Second by Carole, voted in favour by all voting members.

Motion to approve November agenda

Moved by: Heather, Second by Jola, voted in favour by all voting members.

Vote on 5 water bags, \$120 for watering new trees on property

Moved by: Leslie, Second by Heather - money to come from the Greening account. Voted in favour by all voting members.

Financial summary (Heather)

Deposit from Mabel's Labels \$53.44 - this was from last year.. Otherwise no changes in the finances.

Grocery gift card fundraiser - the last day for donating is this Friday.

Total balance of council funds = \$8314.80

School Wishlist (Farida Jamal, Sara MacNeill)

Grade 3-4 to Grade 6 classes - virtual guest speaker called Peace by Peace (non-profit from York region). Focus on positive conflict resolution, developing positive peer relationships, understanding different perspectives and different lived experiences. Program is over 10 weeks and starts at end of January - 1 hour lesson per week. Each lesson builds on the next. Focus on equity, perspectives, differences. Nine classes will be participating, \$175 per class. Sessions are tailored specifically to each class and to what concerns/issues are arising in each class. Wondering if Parent Council is willing to support this and perhaps pay for half. **Sara to ask if there are parent support materials to go along with this program.** Heather says we do have money to support this (carried over from last year).

Also last year we had talked about outdoor seating for the kids and about spending some of last year's money on that, so we want to make sure we have enough funds for this as well.

Motion to approve \$575 towards Peace by Peace program from the Fundraising Account. Moved by Heather, Second by Ryan, approved by all voting members.

1. Determine who may wish to be a lead/participate in each committee

- i. Committees for 2021 to 2022 - meeting in breakout rooms at the end of this meeting to discuss who will be the person of contact, who are the participants and also what are the top 3 goals for the year.
 - 1. Outdoor**
 - 2. Fundraising**
 - 3. Outreach**
 - 4. Mental Health and Wellness**

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

Trailblazers - vests and maps for safe walking routes have been distributed. Volunteer Trailblazers are expected to wear their vests and walk on their preferred routes and set a positive walking example for other walkers. They are NOT responsible for babysitting other children, for walking other children to school and for saving people's lives.

Month of December - 5 Days of Giving - this will be done online and will start next week: Munchy Monday supporting Nutrition for Learning. Teamwork Tuesday for Kidsability. Warm Welcome Wednesday to support Reception House. Thinking of you Thursday to support Anselma House. Friday is Fill them up Friday in support of Foodbank of Waterloo Region.

Lots of fun events being planned by a committee of teachers for fun winter activities: Starting this Wednesday, every Wednesday is Warm Woolly Wednesday and kids can wear comfy, soft, cozy clothing, PJs. Build a structure out of snow OR if no snow then using classroom materials to build a structure. Tuesday - Window decorations that can

be seen from outside of the school and then a scavenger hunt. Winter door decorating that will celebrate any holidays being celebrated by the students and also celebrate the season of winter. Grade 1 to Grade 6 students - doing BINGO (but called SNOWY) with stickers and prizes. Whole school movie that you watch in your classroom but all at the same time.

Strong Start (SK and grade 1 students) has been approved to start again at EZ and volunteers are needed. We used to have 3 site coordinators but they are all retired/moved away. Looking for 1-2 parent volunteers who would be interested in coordinating this program. There would be training involved. Time commitment for coordinator - 3-4 hours of training (in December), responsible for recruiting volunteers from the parent community. There is a volunteer application form that will come out on School Day. This program runs entirely on volunteers.

Library - all kids now have access to library time and are able to take a book home.

Playgrounds are closed now for the season because of snow/ice/frozen ground.

Fundraising - WRDSB recommends online fundraising and having items delivered straight to people's home - minimizing pickups at the school because of all the Covid protocols.

Picture Day - tentative date is January 31, 2022.

WRAPSC update and Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

PRO grant - amount of money allocated depends on financial needs of the school. Funding available for EZ is \$250. Biggest focus of this program this year is how to promote inclusiveness. Application is due by January 14th. Hilory had an idea of having a local artist from the BIPOC community come and do some outdoor art that is displayed at the school. Some artists suggested: Luke Swinson, Pamela Rojas-Perez, Trisha Abe. Another suggestion is to put this funding towards a parent resource to go with the Peace by Peace program and everyone was in agreement.

Thinking about how to bring more diverse members to our group and be more representative of our entire school population as a Parent Council.

Other items; Parent Involvement Funding Grants

This grant is \$500 and could perhaps be put towards an artist along with the PRO Grant (bringing that total to \$750)

Adjournment

*8:00 - 8:20 - Committee breakouts (not required but available if interest exists)

Next School Council Meeting Dates:

January 31, 2022, February 28, 2022, April 25, 2022, May 30, 2022