



Ee6s4Empire School
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S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council Agenda **April 12, 2017. 7:00 PM**

Present: Jess, Andrea, Steph, Louise, Justin, Rachel, Lindsay, Karen, Karen, Kelly

1) Welcome and introductions

2) Approval of March minutes

Revisions to March minutes have been made:

- \$1500 of technology is under discussion
- \$600 Pita expenses for children being supported is approved

3) Refugee Family Support – update (Karen)

- Volunteers sorted the many donations received and they were delivered to the families by school staff
- All of the children got some summer clothing
- Children have been involved in selection of some items
- Leftover items are being donated to other families in need
- Helga will let us know if there are any additional needs but for now the needs are met

4) Events/Fundraising

a) Bookfair report (Andrea)

- We get 25% of sales; we earned \$1275.20!
- Lower sales than last year in the credit card domains – assuming had to do with the snow storm
- This year, Jess involved senior students to help during school hours, e.g. write Kindergarten wish list, volunteer with set up
- Idea for next year:
 - Put wish list books out on the wish list table as an “impulse buy”/to facilitate parents finding the books on the wish list
 - Have a “staff picks” table by grade to help parents choose

- Bring forward Rachel's planning notes from 2016 – they were very helpful this year

b) ESQ report (Amy)

- Lots of kids have fun, lots of line-ups
- New activities were well-received, e.g. virtual reality
- They used to help fill out grant application, we could ask for this service again (e.g. \$1000 PRO grant, proactive grant application for the next school year, due May 25th.)
- Idea for next year:
 - Continue to have the Book Fair on the same night
 - Suggested date is day before 2018 April PD Day
- **Action:** Karen will send the Pro Grant information to Rachel to find a lead to facilitate this grant application

c) May Dining out event (Justin)

- Discussed changing location from Beertown to Mother's.
- Voted on it and decided upon Beertown for Tuesday May 9th
- **Action:** Lindsay to follow up on

d) End of year celebration update – June 14th (Justin)

- Many vendors have been booked: School of Rock (5-7:30), Tumblebus
- Food: Schmuck Truck, Fo Cheezy, Boston Pizza, MegaCone, Beavertails
- **Action:** Mrs. Hope & Mr. Petit will look into the cake walk
- **Action:** Karen & Kelly will book fall meet the teacher night so we can book more varied food options

e) Move-a-thon

- \$4694.00 was raised at the event (including the WEFI amount which has not been deposited as yet), expenses will come out of this

f) Teacher Appreciation Day

- Teachers really enjoyed the event and enjoyed the lunch
- The video was very well-received!
- No recommendations to approve it
- **Action:** Karen to add link to video on the staff site

5) Finance Report (Rachel)

- Rachel reviewed the finances

- Discussion of spending on technology – we don't quite have enough to make a meaningful purchase and reflection on goal at the outset of the year, as community building.
- Rachel made a motion to increase previously agreed budget to \$1500 to support student lunches – all were in support
- Recommendation that the technology spending be saved for next school year.
- Reminder that the surplus is not common and it is there for spending

6) **Principal / Vice Principal Reports**

- April 11 - Love My School Day is a twitter event – kids in spirit wear and tweeted out messages all day, some “paper” tweets decorated.
- April 21 – Earth Day assembly. Contest planned for litterless lunch week – classes which have least amount of waste win a prize. **Action:** Louise will look into gloves and bags from the City
- April 29 - Todd Scheidel (K2) would like to do a community clean up event on Saturday April 29th from 9:30 – 11:30. Bring gloves, rakes and yard waste bag. Welcomes any hardy perennials as donation. Jess will have her students design a poster for the Community Clean up event – put out though Twitter, School Day.
- Safe, Caring, Inclusive School survey has been released. Student, staff, parent versions that reflect the same information. Spread the word to help get the best data to represent our community.
- Headcount as of March 31 is the estimate that is used to drive staffing and budget for next school year
- “Parent request for teacher” – a blurb is sent out to families to request that it be left to the school. Placement relates to staff plans, teacher assessment of best fit for student, student relationships. The school wants to accommodate social dynamic issues.
- Juniors going to Symphony
- May 4 Curiosity Convention
- May 10 – photo day (will do siblings)

7) **Parent questions and concerns**

- Theme days – wacky hair day request ☺

8) **School Principal Profile**

- Due in May

9) **Adjournment**

Next meeting: May 10