

Empire
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(519)



School
Empire Street,
Waterloo, Ontario
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S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council Agenda February 10, 2016 7:00 PM

Present: Wenbin, Steph, Beth, Karen, Rachel, ?, Erica, Lindsay, Caitlin, Moumita,
Karen Moore, Mrs. Gilbert
Regrets: Kelly W, Jackie,

- 1) Welcome and introductions (5 minutes)
- 2) Welcome Karen Moore - Empire's New VP (2 minutes)
 - Came from Edna Staebler (special education)
 - Twinned with MacGregor school (splits time between)
- 3) Approval of December meeting minutes (1 minutes)
 - Caitlin approves
- 4) Finance Report - Wenbin (7 minutes)
 - Wenbin reviewed the school fund accounts for Jan 22 to Feb 8
 - since Dec, over \$6500 in donations were received through WEFI and \$1000 from the Toyota Evergreen grant.
- 5) Fundraising
 - (a) Book Fair - Rachel (10 minutes)
 - Rachel shared a book fair plan in January and brought print copies. The book fair will be the week of April 4th. Will be set up in horseshoe in the library.
 - Beth will assist with flyers and pair up with Boston Pizza, Science Fair and other messages

- Shannon will assist with volunteer recruitment. Rachel requests one parent council member per shift.
- Mrs Gilbert will assist with getting info out to the teachers/staff
- Goal is to raise the money to cover the science fair
- **Action item: All to consider volunteering for the book fair**

(b) Move-a-thon - Karen (10 minutes)

- The event is booked for March 11th for 9:30 to 3:30 (day before March Break) and the “Spin Doctor” is booked for the event. Total is \$650 + hst
- Karen Madsen recommended that grades be grouped together. Karen Moore will look at what Brian left in the file but knows that Karen Madsen will support with scheduling if needed.
- Karen will put a communication to parents together and looking for support to staple envelopes together
- All approved purchase of the Glow in the Dark bracelets for each child

(c) Fun Fair - Steph (9 minutes)

(i) Planning committee

- Booked for June 14th; planning can begin 3 months before the event.
- Shannon has created a planning binder with contacts, flyer templates, signage
- Karen Madsen will create a list/total volunteers required. Coordinating the volunteers is the largest part of this planning.
 - Discussed possibility of incentives for volunteers
 - Rachel said she would interact with parents on the schoolground versus email re: volunteer recruitment
 - Karen Moore will recruit students from MacGregor and Erica will talk to Brian about recruiting students from Centennial
- Beth and Erica will coordinate the silent auction. Others are encouraged to find donations from local businesses.
- **Action item: All to consider volunteering for Fun Fair planning committee and events the day of**

(d) Boston Pizza - Steph (1 minute)

- No update from how February turnout was. Had seen a drop in participation in January.
- Some have found that the restaurant layout is not conducive to social interaction, sitting in booths doesn't invite conversation.
- Let's consider ways to increase parent interaction (e.g. teachers singing)
- Mrs Gilbert will ask teachers if they'd be willing to participate
- They may be other extracurriculars families are involved in Boston Pizza
- Montana's be another option (face-painting, balloon animals night) for future years

(e) Spirit Wear - Beth (3 minutes)

- Two options presented:
 - You Are Store (they will create an online store and will ship directly to homes, 10% of sales will come to Empire PS). KW gymnastics has used this
 - \$18 per shirt plus fundraising
 - Local company in Ayr that will do it package up the product by class
 - \$14 per shirt plus \$1 for fundraising
 - Agreed on this option because cheaper and local
 - Have order forms at Book Fair, Move a Thon etc
- Potential to purchase shirts in bulk and sell shirts at the Move-a-Thon

5) Playground update - Karen (4 minutes)

- The high end of the Earthscape quote was \$62,000 and therefore we have enough funds to begin the purchase order
- school board purchase order process expected to take a number of months
- Karen will see if Earthscape will book a date with them before a purchase order is completed
- All agreed to plan a ribbon cutting or similar ceremony at the fun fair
- Beth to send an email to parents letting them know that we have reached our fundraising goal

6) Principal/Vice Principal Reports (4 minutes)

- Rocks and Rings and Wilderness Explorer events were well received
- Google event will be rescheduled (they went to the wrong Empire school on the scheduled date)
- Feb 19th report cards are going home. Kelly W and Karen Moore are reviewing at this time.
- Feb 26th is a newly announced PD day. Staff will learning about Writer's Workshop, Google Read and Write, new concussion policy, Health and Safety

7) Parent questions and concerns (4 minutes)

- Request for parent business (Pro Martial Arts) to send flyer home or partner on Pink Shirt day. They have an armour program re: anti-bullying. They would need to apply to the WRDSB for approval (Kelly and Karen can not provide the approval)
- Steph asked Mrs Gilbert to poll the teachers about what items they might need (now that the fundraising for the playground is complete). MRs Gilber reported that buses for field trips, technology

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Next meeting (March 23rd)

Adjournment