

Empire School
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S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council MINUTES

May 11, 2016 7:00 PM

Present: Shannon B, Wenbin, Steph, Beth, Karen Marsden, Kelly Wilkinson, Colleen, Rachel, Lindsay

1) Welcome and introductions (3 minutes)

2) Approval of April meeting minutes (1 minutes)

- Colleen approved, Karen Marsden seconded

3) Finance Report - Wenbin (5 minutes)

- Wenbin is correcting an error in the budget (double issued cheque, one needs to be voided)
- Wenbin will provide a print out at June meeting
- Total available funds is \$68,883 (We will get back a portion of the HST but we are not sure how much. \$58,365.19 is the pre-tax total). Therefore we don't know how much we have left to spend for this year. \$1000 for home reading for teachers has not come out of the budget yet either. **Action item: Kelly to verify final total.**
- Put a call out for parent volunteers to clean up the home reading (or possibly kids)

4) Fundraising - (20 minutes)

- No Boston Pizza update from May
- Promote June Boston Pizza night and wearing spirit wear

(a) Book Fair - Rachel

- Orders have come in. Handed out in classrooms.
- Defer to next year to book 2016-2016 fair (however, will book it with a special event when parents/families will be at school - e.g. with Science Night. April is a great time of year)

- Home reading funds were announced to teachers on Staff Appreciation Day. Teachers will take the lead in purchasing

(b) Lovable Labels - Rachel

- We planned to coincide with Kindergarten info night (May 18th). Rachel has enough photocopies for each kindergarten parent.
- Beth/Steph will be at a Parent Council table and will hand these out on May 18th
- Rachel will arrange for a larger handout in June. **Action: Add to the website/twitter**

(c) Spirit Wear - Beth

- Order forms have been submitted (extended it for 1 week). Should have the product back by the end of the month. We are unsure at this point of the total amount raised.
- We have the option of buying bulk shirts at reduced cost (\$12 versus \$15) to save for later sale (need to buy a minimum of 50 to do so, \$600). Possible to save them for June end of year event for sale at the event, but need for volunteers at the event (and volunteers are scarce). Final decision not to purchase the bulk shirts

(d) Year End Celebration - Beth/Steph

- DJ is booked (Karen Marsden has confirmation email)
- Karen Moore has signed up to have Gino's Pizza come in and sell the pizza (i.e. no volunteers required, 20% kickback)
- Tumble Bus is booked
- Food Truck available: Berlin 95 (german fare, will customize menu for us: e.g. add a chicken finger/fry combo for kids)
- MegaCone (ice cream truck) will get back to Beth, Mapleton Dairy (north of Alma) does public events
Action: Beth will look into this, Hot Dog: Lindsay to ask Sombrero Hot Dog stand
- We Club (grade 6) will organize a cake raffle (done in Kindergarten wing/outside the gym)
- Rain plan: DJ, Pizza can go inside. Tumblebus to park near Kindergarten door. **Action: Beth/Steph to draw Map for rain day**
- **Promotion for event: Beth to plan promotional material**

5) Playground (update/watering/plaque) - Karen/Kelly (5 minutes)

- Ribbon cutting planned (discuss further on June 8th)
- Jess indicated that there is great feedback from the kids

- Karen inquired about a Buddy Bench
- Mud Kitchen - put a plaque on in the honour of Mr. Murray whose donation **Action: Karen will plaque engraved, take a photo of her girls with the mud kitchen, give it in a frame with a thank you card**
- Staff will implement buddy bench (teachers)
- School bought hoses and sprinkler for sod . Caitlin approved and Lindsay seconded.
- Kids will take ownership of watering the plants/sod in the playground. Slow drip system for the trees (fill bucket twice per visit). Karen developed a watering schedule for the summer. **Action: Karen Marsden will put out sign up genius for volunteer requests.** If anything left, we will ask for volunteers on June 14th.
- **Action: Caitlin will get a lock box for the shed**

6) Principal/Vice Principal Reports (10 minutes)

- Cane's Arcade - Global Cardboard Challenge. We can register the school. Fits into the curriculum at a number of grade levels. Very little cost and volunteers required. Plan for a weeknight (e.g. THursday night before). Parent council could provide coffee and juice boxes
- Jump Rope for Heart is May 19th
- EQAO coming up (MAy 25- June 7th)
- May 27th is superhero day
- June 3 is PD day for assessments
- Fort McMurray fundraisers coming up (Friday May 13th)
- School Resource Officer came to talk about internet safety (potential to do earlier in the year next year) . Possible to do an event for parents. Recent event with grade 5 (age 10 and up) with bullying online (snapchat, google hangout, instagram)

7) Parent questions and concerns (4 minutes)

- June 27th - graduation / end of the year; order cupcakes **Action: Lindsay to pick up at Norris bakery and deliver to the school on June 27th**
- Retirement and teachers moving on: **Action: Kelly to have a list for next meeting**

- Portables - moving them? Kelly indicated that this is very costly. 2016-2017 one of the 9 will be removed. **Action: Kelly to determine where we are on the capital projects application list**

Next meeting (June 8th) // Adjournment