

Empire School 83 Empire Street, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 2M1 (519) 742-8375

S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council Minutes April 11, 2018. 7:00 PM

1) Welcome and Introductions

In attendance: Justin, Krista, Shelley, Rachel, Paul, Rochelle, Karen, Liz, Andrea, Jess, Eric, Mary Lou and Louise. **If I missed anyone please let me know**.

Regrets: Lindsey and Tricia

2) Approval of March Minutes

Approval of the March minutes were confirmed by consensus.

3) Finance Report

Please let the minutes show that I (Rachel) am giving notice that I will not be putting myself forward as the treasurer next year. If there is anyone currently on council who would like to shadow me now, I would love to share my information.

Highlights

- Moveathon monies thank you to Karen and team for planning this event. Cash donated was 3865.90. Some monies were donated via WEFI. Awaiting this deposit. Budget \$4000. Under budget on expenses. Net 3075.69+ with WEFI monies.
- Science Night Where is the \$1000 grant monies?? We need this in our account. \$900
 cheque cut for Science Night fee. Once Krista gets the receipts she will take care of the
 submission to get the cash.
- · Beertown monies of 120 have not arrived.
- March April ESNS monies have stayed at about \$41 per week. Slipped from 41.25 per week. Still budgeting \$25 a week for the rest of the year.
- · No new donations via ESNS.
- Thank you to Janet and team for organizing the Spirit Wear campaign. Net 188.40
- No new Lovable Label purchases.
- One Book One School have requested two cheques so far. Don't know if there will be any other expenses.
- Have flagged that we might have a request in May to support the grade 6 trip as mentioned and recorded in the minutes of the March meeting.
- FLAG could someone spend the remainder of the recess kits monies on chalk! We have 199.95 yet to spend!

4) Project Spending

a. Multimedia brackets update

 5 projectors ordered waiting for them to arrive, hoping to be operational by or before September 2018

b. Natural Playground

- The maintenance facility manager was here. Suggested that there is a 2 year warranty and that the company we bought the playground from may fix the landscape within the warrenty. Mulch needs to be ordered for natural playground but the playground needs to be fixed before we lay down the mulch.
- · Garden community needs mulch as well.

5) Events / Fundraising

a. Book Fair

- The book fair is up and running, looks like it is going well. Math and Science night will be busy.
- **ESQ** used \$900 of the \$1000 grant. Thank you Andrea for all your hard work.
- Make sure we add designating someone to write the grant request on the May Agenda.

b. Staff appreciation

- We are looking into a staff breakfast as the best way to appreciate all the staff at one time.
- Fun works has a night during the week Tues-Thurs. You can get 200-300 tickets and they are free to us. We then charge the families \$5 a ticket and it's pure profit might be worth while to try in October/November

c. Year-end picnic

- Under budget because school of rock is donating the sound system
- While planning events next year consider using different days of the week so parents that have a Thursday commitment can go to some events throughout the year. Also having events before a PD day can be hard on the staff. We should try to avoid doing that more than once a school year.

6) Principal / Vice-principal Reports

APRIL- is perseverance month - we had our assembly on April 6 as a kick-off

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

PD

Day- Friday April 13 - school improvement planning connected to our 3 focus areas (Math, atrisk students and well-being) (summary of highlights so far)

NO extended day programs

STAFFING

Staffing for next year- just beginning

- Staff are finding out teaching assignments for next year (tentative) today and in the coming weeks
 - Ms. Needler- tomorrow is her last day. We have hired Ms. Lauren Dalton for the remainder of the year

RECENT/UPCOMING

EVENTS

- Girls Club had their talent show for each other.
- Kindness Project- started in P3 with a student and has spread throughout many classes in the school
- Jersey Day/Wear green/gold day Thursday the 12th
- Garden Committee- well underway with many staff and classes participating in the planning, growing, etc.
- Next week- 2 Kindie trips to Butterfly Conservatory
- Primary Trip to Rockway Mennonite Collegiate to see a musical next Thursday the 19th
- Tim Walker Memorial award- \$500 bursary for fruit trees in our garden area- will be received at the board meeting on April 23 at the Ed Centre
- April 27- Spirit Day- Rainbow Day- wear lots of colours or your favourite colour!
- May 1- Gr 6s to visit Centennial PS
- May 2- Kindergarten information night- table will be available for SC representatives
- May 3- Spirit Assembly- Integrity
- · May 4- PD Day-
- May 9- Kodaly at CITS, 7 pm
- May 11- Jump Rope for Heart all day
- June 2- World Refugee Day- launch at The Museum and for the month. We will have LOTS of art and multimedia which is very exciting.
- Gr 6 Camp- Info night was last week, Camp is at Silver Lake from May 18-20 (fundraising has been ongoing with popcorn and chocolate to keep the costs low) Grade 6 trip- reason for changing the location include less expensive for families, many outdoor opportunities. Food will be Hala friendly. The camp program is not faith based.

Staff are hoping to facilitate a field trip free to the museum. It will be free admission if you are with the launch (Empire is with the Launch). A media release will come home if your child has something to share at the museum.

- This SUMMER- there will be a reno in the main hallway to install an accessible washroom with changetable, lift, etc.
- Luther horizon a community centre coming to Church Hill and Amos Street will be great for Kids clubs, Adult classes, grocery shopping etc.
- Shelley will purchase gift certificates for Administrators Appreciation day and Custodian Appreciation Day.

7) Parent Questions and Concerns

No questions or concerns were noted.

8) Principal Profile –

What is the 'Principal Profile'?

(from the boards documents)

Developing a principal profile allows the school community to reflect on their school's priorities. The leadership characteristics that would allow these priorities to be implemented can then be articulated. It is important to emphasize that the profile acts as advice from the school council, to be used by the Board when making principal transfers and placements. It is recommended that the profile be updated as required.

The profile asks school councils to reflect on three areas:

- 1. Identify the School Councils Priorities and Expectations
- 2. School Focus Identify the special programs/innovations which your school provides to support student learning.
- 3.Identify any issue or concern for your school community which you would like taken into consideration when looking at leader transfers or changes for school.

Impact of the Principal Profile

It should be noted that at the end of the previous school year, there were a number of changes made at our school that reflected the recommendations we made in the principal profile. Possibly this is coincidental.

- **Input from Krista**: this is a good chance to formally reach out to the board about our school.
- Highlights should include our designated music program, the garden project, nutrition program, wellbeing initiative (monthly traits character development), mindful Monday's, yoga club monthly assembly's etc.
- ELT program a great opportunity for ESL children take time to adjust to their new learning environment before they integrate into their regular classroom.

More discussion

- School Council will focus on planning events to find money to facilitate events focusing on creating a more diverse school council.
- There was a discussion about creating a committee of school council members and parents to work over the summer to plan some events so they can take place closer to the beginning of the school year. **Should discuss at June meeting**

9) Adjournment

Next Meeting: May 16