



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

S uccess O wnership A ttitude R espect

Empire School Council Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2018 6:30 PM

1) **Welcome and Introductions**

Present: Jessica Gilbert, Shelley Croth, Krista Mohr, Rachel Thompson, Shannon Berkhuizen, Brian Rankine, Amanda Wickstead, Jen Clary-Lemon, Justin Faulkner, Micheline Lang, Nicole Dore, Ashley McKinnon, Sarah Clark, Mary Lou Roe, Aynsley Hickey.

Regrets: Erica Hind, Rochelle Knox, Andrea Ahrens

2) **Approval of September Minutes**

The September 12, 2018 meeting minutes were approved with minor changes.

3) **Finance Report**

A full financial report was provided to each council member.

We are still waiting for \$900 for the Pro Grant.

Outstanding \$529.74 allocated to recess kits

Transfer for the Kindergarten Technology \$8337.00 will go out shortly.

Current net of \$3283.00

Pic Grant should be available to us although we are not sure how to access it. Sarah will try to find out from WRAPSC how we can access the Pic Grant money.

We are restricted by having to purchase services or product directly from the Pic Grant.

We cannot be reimbursed by the Pic Grant for services or product pre purchased.

Suggestion for the money was using it for the Tea social starting this year.

Shelley will purchase the sidewalk chalk for the recess kits.

4) **School Council Objectives for 2018 / 2019**

- a. What are our objectives for this school year?

Discussion

- Air-conditioners in the classrooms.
- Promoting current political issues (health education program, new math program) around our education system.
- We will wait and see what the school needs most before we decide what fundraising to do and how much fundraising we should do.
- Funding child care for school council meetings. It is possible that the Pic Grant could fund this.

- b. How will we spend surplus funds from 2017 / 2018 (\$3,300)?

- This was not discussed due to time restrictions.

5) **Proposed Council Activities for 2018 / 2019**

a. Primary Fundraisers

- i. Move-a-thon (we will do this again this year)
- ii. Scholastic Book Fair (we will do this again this year)
- iii. School Lunches- after some discussion school council decided that we will hold off on using ESNS for now. We can reopen the discussion again another time.

b. Other Fundraisers

- i. Dining Nights Out (we may continue but should try to expand the cultural choices)
- ii. Lovable Labels (Shelley is working on this)
- iii. Spirit Wear (we will do this again)
- iv. Holiday Fundraiser (we will definitely do this again)
- v. Coffee Fundraiser (we will not do this one again)

c. Events

- i. Fit Fest (Amy will help but needs someone to take the lead usually in January the night before the PD day) – Nicole Dore has agreed to take the lead on this event.

- ii. Science and Math Night – We will not be doing ESQ this year but instead we will do an in house School run math and science night. Andrea wants to help with this. This will be funded by the PRO (parents reaching out) grant.
 - iii. Year End Celebration – more discussion on details will come later – Nicole Dore has offered to take the lead on this event
 - iv. One Book One School – (we will do this again)
 - v. Empire Staff Appreciation Event – (we will do this again)
 - vi. Mary Lou Roe suggested that we consider doing something for World Refugee Day. It takes place in the month of June. Jessica suggested approaching Ruth Ann for suggestions or thoughts.
- d. Charitable works (we will discuss in more detail next month, we were restricted by time)
- i. Nutrition for Learning (we need to discuss how much money we will donate to NFL and how we will raise the money)
 - ii. Other School Councils
 - iii. Camp
 - iv. Tree planting
 - v. Empire Skating Program
- e. Targeted Funds
- i. Has anything been identified this year that requires targeted funds?
- See Staff wish list

6) **Empire Staff “Wishlist”**

- a. Gaga Ball Pits - \$2500 plus labour for 2 pits plus \$175.50 for 50 balls, we hope to get free labour.
- b. Cost of Buses for School Trips to Symphony – \$1400.00 for both trips (we could use the reserve fund to pay for the fall trip.)
- c. Home reading cart - \$600
- d. Kiln repair – we don’t have an estimate but it will likely be several hundred dollars.
- e. Repaint the front foyer with art work or mural – possibly hello in different languages (open to suggestions but the goal is to provide a welcome feeling to all). – Dave Glebe (former principle and art teacher) has offered to do it for the cost of paint
- f. School logo painted in the gym -

7) **School Council Guidelines** (Pushed to next meeting)

Justin wanted to have some tangible guidelines that the chair person going forward would have to help manage and maintain members. Amanda would like to see the official School Council bylaws. We can use those as a starting point. Jen Clary-Lemon

offered to forward to Amanda the bylaws that had been drafted and used by Jen's previous PAC. Justin has notes at home that he will send to Amanda.

8) **Principal / Vice-principal Reports**

Staffing Changes

Jill Pettifer accepted a position at Cedar Creek in Ayr

Todd Scheidel has accepted the music position at Empire

Megan Wiltshire was hired to the FDK position and is to begin Monday October 15th.

LTO Jessica Pellowe who was teaching afternoon in Grade 1 accepted a contract position at Groh Public School.

Joann Thiangarjah is currently in the LTO position in this classroom

Upcoming Events at the School

- Walk to School Day- Oct 3- Huge Success
- Grade 3 Swim to Survive is ongoing
- Toasty Toes- collecting NEW socks for local homeless shelters/organizations - until November 1
- Food Drives starts November 1
- Engineers without Borders has been presenting in select classes this week -
- Kindness Club Started
- Dance for Kindness- part of Kindness club but need parental support because on a Saturday at Wloo Town Square on Nov 10
- Laurier Hockey National Anthem- Nov 10
- Kittenball club started
- Pals started
- Caribou Math Contest - October 17th
- Kindie Trip to Steckle Farm -October 22
- Empathy Spirit Assembly - October 25th
- PD Day - October 26th

- Orange and Black Day - October 31st
- Progress Reports- go home Nov 12

9) **Parent Questions and Concerns**

None

10) **Adjournment**

Next Meeting: November 14, 2018 at 6:30 pm