

Edna Staebler Public School
School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday June 19, 2023

Tatania, Susan, Melissa, Alaina, Stephanie, Heidi, Rebecca, Hanane, Lori, Bjanka

(1) Principal Report

(a) Council Accomplishments in 2022-2023. Had an amazing year!

- Playground addition
- Technology purchases
- Nutrition for learning donation
- Grade 8 graduation
- Literary connections pledge
- Wishlists for all classes
- Mad Science program
- Yearly playground replacement fund
- Volunteering fee reimbursement
- Internet Safety community engagement session
- Other school donation (another school in our district, used these funds for their grad celebration, anonymous to protect privacy)
- Inclusivity pledge for field trips or activities

Events/ Fundraisers

- Pizza lunches
- Bookfair
- Moveathon
- STEAM Fair
- Spring Social

(b) Plans and Quotes for next year

- Mad Science \$3325 for grades 1-6 book early to get a discount.
- Sara Westbrook \$5000 for “Power Up” Program on emotional literacy. This will set up the students for success for the next year. Will provide a summary of the program to the school council/parents.
- Tech refresh - continue with scheduled refurb next year (\$3000) will get another screen and have it mounted. Will try to order soon so that it doesn't take as long.
- Was waiting to spend the \$2000 on Literary Connections from the book fair for changes in curriculum. Now that the new guidelines have been posted they can make good decisions with these funds. French resources for early literacy are also needed.
- In addition to literacy there are changes in the curriculum happening with what is taught in french/grade 2 entry.

(c) Outdoor Learning / Safe caring Inclusive Schools

- \$15,000 budget as per previous meeting.
- Get kids to vote for play structures they like
- Seating area changes
 - 4 armour stones to be relocated for safety
 - 12 additional stones to be ordered to make an outdoor classroom setup in the far corner of the yard by the pond. Additional smaller classroom will be set up as well.
 - Will make a small “buddy bench” area with stones close to the playground
 - \$5,600 quote, might be a little less.

(2) Treasurer Notes

(a) Reviewed Finances -

- (i) Please see attached document for detailed summary.
- (ii) After expenses, we donated \$2,500 from our Spring Social to Nutrition for Learning.
- (iii) Overall we had a great year and raised ~\$20,000 for the school. Pizza and Moveathon were our best fundraisers.
- (iv) Not all expenses are in the school council expense account (850) financials yet due to a backlog on the board side. Stephanie will confirm all final numbers in Sept, but the detailed summary attached serves as a good tracking tool.
- (v) At a previous meeting we approved \$15,000 (plus extra \$1000 for cost overruns) to be used for outdoor space improvements. This money is to be transferred to the school WEFI account. \$5000 was approved for armour stones. Will approve the rest of funds for playground addition in Sept after discussing with students and looking at other vendors' quotes.

(b) Approvals ready for Sep 2023

- (i) Motion for \$3000 for Mad Science for grades 1 to 6 by Stephanie. Seconded by Hanane. Motion Approved.
- (ii) Motion for \$5000 for Sara Westbrook's "Power Up" program by Melissa. Seconded by Hanane. Motion approved.
- (iii) Motion for \$3000 for technology refurbishment for 2023-2024 school year by Stephanie. Seconded by Bjanka. Motion approved.
- (iv) Motion to pledge \$300 for volunteer reimbursements for 2023-2024 school year by Stephanie. Seconded by Hanane. Motion approved.
- (v) Motion to reallocate \$1000 school field trip inclusivity fund (that was not spent) to subsidize grade 7-8 field trip in Sep/Oct by Stephanie. Seconded by Hanane. Motion approved.
- (vi) Motion to spend \$5000 on armour stones from WEFI account from outdoor funds by Stephanie. Seconded by Hanane. Motion approved.

(3) Nutrition for Learning Information

- 213 students served each day, this number had doubled. There is great need for this program.
- 5 staff and many students help with this program.
- Looking for parent volunteers next year.
- Parent brought up concern that sometimes it feels like some kids are not eating their healthy lunches and instead just eating the granola bars from the program. Recognize that there is a tricky balance between making sure the program is open and comfortable for everyone while not being overused. Talked about implementing an education roll out next year (for example at an assembly) to remind kids the purpose of the program. If you are hungry then the program is there for you, but not if you just don't want to eat your lunch.

Post meeting notes

- Meet the Team Open House is scheduled for September 13, 2023. This will be an evening drop in event. School council will have a table for this event to start introductions and get volunteers
- Our first School Council meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2023 at 6pm in the school Library.
- Other scheduled formal council meetings: Oct 2, Nov 20, Jan 15, Mar 4, Apr 22, Jun 3
- Major council events next year: Bookfair (Oct), Moveathon (Feb), Spring Social (end of May), Steam fair (tbd)

STEAM Fair was a huge success. We had over 50 projects presented with over 60 students participating (10% of the school) across grades 1 to 8. We had amazing community turnout for the event and inspired many students to participate next year. We were under-budget and spent less than \$500. Due to the cost of the poster-boards and anticipating increased participation, a larger budget will be needed for next year.

Spring Social was another amazing event that was well attended. It was an extremely hot day, but everyone seemed to have a great time and was so excited to be together as a community post-covid. Ms. Craig's team of students did an amazing job running activities for the younger kids (we approved a \$100 pizza lunch to thank them for all their hard work). Cake walk and gifts baskets were hugely successful inside. DJ worked well outside as well. The movie attendance was only "ok" and few people stayed until the very end of it. Biggest complaint was the long food truck lines.