**Hespeler P.S. School Council Meeting**

**Via Google Meet**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022**

7:00 pm

Present: Rebecca Jutzi, Sharon McKeown, Karen Canapini, Sabina Voisin, Jesse Sabbagh, Michelle Bush Broga, Christine Sciascetti, Rose Kowalczyk, Kyly Miller, Susan Fryer-Davis, Anne Eaton, Stacey Lawrence, Jillian Bolender, Kara Hall, Courtney Riddell, Crystal Bechtel

Regrets: Tryna Gray, Susan Ford, Regan Christensen

1. **Welcome**

* Sharon & Rebecca discussed the possibility of in-person Council meetings now that restrictions have lifted. They decided that our last formal meeting in May we will remain virtual to respect that when people signed up for Council this year it was with the expectation of virtual meetings.
* Maybe we can have an outdoor wrap-up in June as we traditionally would and reassess for the fall.

1. **Approval of Minutes from March 9, 2022**

* Approved as read - Kyly motioned to approve, Jill seconded, approved unanimously.

**3. Treasurer’s Report**

* + Mar. 10, 2022 opening balance was $6,387.44
  + The pizza fundraiser for March brought in $1,110.00
  + Available balance is $7,497.44
  + Do we want to notionally allocate some additional funds for the remaining cost of the new playground? Rebecca, Kyly & Sharon discussed this via email over this past week. The Blue Imp invoice has been paid in full but it’s a bit complicated as additional items are on it as well: ground cover, Kindy playhouse, playground, buddy benches.
  + Facilities pays for the ground cover.
  + One of our classes presented a wonderful campaign for buddy benches to Rebecca and the school is paying for those. One bench will be over by portables, one will be by the new playground.
  + The playground cost was to be split half/half between Council & the school.
  + Council had agreed to pay for the full cost of the Kindy playhouse, have we fully paid for that?
  + Kyly will go back and review the reports from the past months to follow up with Sharon & Rebecca as to what we have already paid for. Will be reported at the May meeting.
  + We don’t have any other notional allocations at this time, they have all have been pulled.
  + Hopefully next year is more normal and we’ll need to make sure we have funds available to notionally open allocations for the year (fun fair, parent nights, etc.).

1. **Principal/Vice-Principal Update**

Principal’s Update – Rebecca Jutzi

New Playground - is being installed now!

* + The Board paid for the removal of the outdoor classroom since we couldn’t do the parking lot extension. The playground is located in such a way that we can still do the parking lot extension if it eventually gets city approval.
  + We were able to move the existing armour stone to create a new natural outdoor classroom space.
  + It would be great to do some sort of official opening when it’s done, once the ground cover is down.
  + The contractor feels it’ll be ready to go after this long weekend but it might be a bit delayed with the rain/storm that’s coming.
  + How are we preventing unauthorized use? There is fencing around it.
  + Will there be some way to make sure older grades get to use it too? Staff was told today that the red/yellow climber is for primary use, this new one is for juniors. There will be opportunites for teachers to take primary students out at other times to use it too. It will be unveiled as a junior climber for nutrition breaks. The intermediates are outside with the Kindies, intermediates will also be allowed to use this new playground on nutrition breaks.
  + We’ll wait until the contractor officially says it’s done, and then some council members and Winston can come out for a photo op. We will aim to do that on the first day it’s open for use.

Spirit Wear

* + We received 83 student orders & 22 staff orders (some with multiple items) so it was definitely a success. We did not take a profit from the sales.

COVID-19

* + We are going back to reporting school COVID-19 cases. We will receive a daily email notification of cases reported that day. It lists the classroom/class & grade without names, along with the number of cases in that cohort. There is no need to dismiss cohorts since students in the same class are no longer considered a close contact.
  + Please report to the school if someone is home with COVID-19. The school is obligated to report all absences. If it gets to 30% of our school population public health assesses if a closure is needed.

Yard cleanup

* + Mr. Akgol & Mr. Firth’s classes are happy to do garden cleanup along with their Earth Day yard cleanup on April 22.
  + Susan Ford has arranged for the city to drop mulch off as in previous years.
  + Some council members are needed to do weeding ahead of time, are people available for daytime help? Sharon, Crystal, Michelle, Sabina
  + The city is pretty good about dropping the mulch off on short notice, we can monitor the weather and decide if April 22 is suitable.

Enrolment/Staffing

* + We always get our staffing allocations around this time. This is based on student numbers we submit at the end of March.
  + We are down a little as the board is reducing our FI classes to 1 x gr1 FI. The board has decided we’re limited enrolment school and no out of bounds students are admitted to FI anymore.
  + We had 34 requests for FI (1.5 classes worth of students) and we have been allowed to take all of the students and create 2 x gr1/2 split classes.
  + This does present some challenges as some students will have had a year of FI where others are brand new so Rebecca hoping we can still change that to 1 x gr1 & 1 x gr1/2 split.
  + Rebecca presented the current class breakdown for next year. This isn’t written in stone as our numbers can fluctuate until September.
  + Kindergarten: 4 classes
  + English: 1 x gr1, 1 x gr1/2, 1 x gr2/3, 1 x gr3/4, 1 x gr4/5, 1 x gr5, 1 x gr5/6, 1 x gr6, 2 x gr7, 3 x gr8
  + French: 2 x gr1/2, 1 x gr2/3, 2 x gr3/4, 1 x gr4, 2 x gr5/6, 1 x gr6, 1 x gr7, 1 x gr8
  + ACE: 2 classes
  + There are lots of split classes because the ministry puts a cap on class sizes in Kindy & primary. In junior & intermediate there isn’t a cap but class size operates on an average of 24 students.
  + Pauline Class-Atkins retiring & one other teacher is resigning, so with that we are in a position to hire 1 full-time and 1 part-time teacher.
  + Has it been reviewed that we currently have out of bounds families at our school that have switched to English from FI, and is some of that contributing to our high population numbers which has led to us being limited enrolment for only in-bounds FI students? Yes, but the board recently changed the policy that out of bounds students may stay at the school even if they switch from FI to English out of consideration for leaving them in the school community they know.
  + There is an FI study going on in the board assessing some of the issues for people who aren’t in a FI boundary and have difficulty accessing an FI school.
  + If a student doesn’t get accepted at HPS in gr1 but moves back in to boundary for gr2 and wants to join FI, they may do so if there’s space. It does happen that people will drive farther for a year and hope to get in with space the next year.

Grade 8 year-end celebration

* The planning committee met to discuss how this will look going forward in an equitable way. We have always had the celebration in the gym, and it’s been a lovely yet low-cost, manageable event.
* The preliminary plan is to have an evening event with parents & family members, with a formal presentation. We may also try to include a live-stream as maybe not everyone will feel comfortable being in-person. They are trying to figure it out.
* The way we do awards is changing. Some of this is due to COVID-19 & that many activities have not been happening, but also in that we want to be more inclusive how we recognize our students’ efforts throughout their years here.
* Each student will make a slide for a slideshow that celebrates each of them. The slide will be shown behind them as they walk across the stage.
* Recognizing that there are students having social challenges due to COVID-19 or are not feeling comfortable being on stage, walking across the stage will be optional, their slide can still be shown.
* There will be cake & drinks outside after ceremony, and students will stay for a dance afterwards. We are not encouraging the need to go out and buy new fancy clothes, we are encouraging students to wear what they feel comfortable in for that night that they may already own from other events.
* Would council consider donating $500 again this year towards a photo booth/DJ?
* Kara motioned to donate $500 towards the gr8 celebration, Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.

Vice-Principal’s Update – Karen Canapini

Dates to note

* April 28: Grad photos
  + April 29: Individual photos
  + May 10: Senior track & field @ JHSS (rain date May 11)
  + May 25: Senior county track & field finals @ JHSS (rain date May 31)
  + May 20: Junior track & field @ HPS? (unsure of location) (no rain date)
  + June 9: Junior track & field finals @ JHSS (no rain date)
  + June 16: Centennial students transition visit
  + June 23: Gr8 celebration
* Suzanne Lowden & various teachers are organizing an outdoor talent show.
* June 17: grade 4-8 talent show
* June 24: grade 1-3 talent show
* The piano will be taken outside for any students who would like to use it.
* Karen will check with student council regarding additional spirit days, and see if we can get more notice to be able to post it online for parents.
* Susan has updated the Thinglink map online to include the new unlearn murals.

1. **New Business/Fundraising**

Council fundraiser - Domino’s pizza lunches

* This will operate similarly to our previous arrangement with New Orleans pizza.
* We set the per slice price & decide if we want each pizza cut into 8 or 10 slices. It arrives in warmers. We collect money via School-Day and pay Domino’s monthly.
* They have a gluten-free option, but not dairy-free. Sharon doesn’t recall that we charged more for gluten-free in the past even though it costs more to purchase.
* Crystal, Courtney & Sharon can help on Fridays, we could remove the June PD Day from ordering, as well as the track & field day.
* We will do this for May & June still this year, as we need enough time to get School-Day organized and time for people to order. We’ll need to have orders placed by April 29 at the latest.
* It will be made clear that it’s a one-time order that encompasses the whole 2-month period. If you’re absent, you miss it without a refund.
* This will be a good trial run for Council taking over pizza lunches.
* If we do 8 slices per pizza it’s a nice big slice. We used to charge $2.50 per slice.
* Student council would be a good option for helpers to run the pizza to classes.
* Rebecca can work with Shelley to organize the ordering on School-Day.
* Sharon, Rebecca & Karen will decide on a day of the week that works without too many anomalies.

Additional Dominos Fundraiser

* They are offering a slightly different fundraiser option this time, this is only available to schools that did the Wednesday fundraisers. It’s very little work and tends to be a good fundraiser since it’s more flexible for families.
* Via an online order form, you order pizza gift certificate for $15, $9 of which goes back to the school. This isn’t a discounted pizza price, but more money goes back to the school than with the pizza nights.
* The gift certificates are valid for 45 days after they’re handed out, and are valid at any Domino’s location. Domino’s provides the certificates once we have a total of how many were sold.
* We will commit to this & Sharon will arrange it with Domino’s.
* Shelley can help with with School-Day ordering.
* May is the campaign month & gift certificates delivered at end of May.

1. **Other business**

* Playground update covered above.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 8:13pm**

Jesse motioned to adjourn, Stacey seconded, adjourned.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

**Proposed Meeting Dates:** TBD