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

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 19, 2022**

7:00 pm

Present: Rebecca Jutzi, Karen Canapini, Kara Hall, Kristin Lovell, Christine (Chris) Sciascetti, Tara Delaney, Rebecca Mills, Melissa Legros-Cronkwright, Crystal Bechtel, Scott Young, Jillian (Jill) Bolender, Jesse Sabbagh, Jen Regimbald, Michelle Bush Broga, Kyly Miller, Sabina Voisin, Sharon McKeown

Listening Virtually: Stacey Lawrence, Alicia Young, Cassie Bolland

Regrets: Susan Ford, Rose Kowalczyk, Tryna Gray, Anne Eaton

1. **Welcome**

* Welcome by Sharon. We went around the table with introductions.
* Noted people attending online, this option is a listening only option if you can’t make it to a meeting. You must email Rebecca to let her know so she will send you the link, it is not a publicly open link.

1. **Approval of Minutes from May 11, 2022**

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

1. **Elections**

* Chairperson: Sharon McKeown (Jill motioned, Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.)
* Secretary: Sabina Voisin (Jesse motioned, Kara seconded, approved unanimously.)

Rebecca Mius will be backup if Sabina can’t attend.

* Treasurer: Kyly Miller (Jesse motioned, Jill seconded, approved unanimously.)
* Community Partner: Susan Ford
* Teacher Rep: Kara Hall
* Parent Partners: Kristin Lovell, Chris Sciascetti, Tara Delaney, Rebecca Mius, Melissa Legros-Cronkwright, Crystal Bechtel, Scott Young, Jill Bolender, Jesse Sabbagh, Jen Regimbald, Michelle Bush Broga, Kyly Miller, Cassie Bolland, Stacey Lawrence, Alicia Young, Rose Kowalczyk, Tryna Gray

1. **Treasurer’s Report**
   * Opening balance of $7037.32
   * Pending expense of $18.07 yard bags from April 2022 garden cleanup - Kyly will follow up with Shelley to move from school funds to council funds as Sabina received this reimbursement already.
   * Pending revenue of $2758 from pizza days. We will need to decide what the pizza revenue is going towards.
   * Available balance is $9777.65
2. **Principal/Vice-Principal Update**

Principal’s Update – Rebecca Jutzi

* We’ve had a great start to the year, it’s great to have kids back and excited with fewer COVID-19 restrictions. Staff are feeling good about getting clubs and extra-curricular up and running, and having kids able to move throughout the school again.
* Unfortunately, the WRDSB cyber attack over the summer has impacted our ability to do certain things. We’re not able to enrol new families on School-Day right now, and no current families have access to their account. This is why we couldn’t publish class placements, and can’t collect money electronically. We’d like to get rolling on a few things that are on hold because of this. IT is working on rebuilding the system but it takes time so we just need to be patient.
* We’re also still in progress with the office renovation. This will be a brand new space for admin and the staff room.
* There was also a new space added across from the library that will be a conference room and the levelled book room.
* Once the office is finished 2 classes will move back into the school from the portables (gr8 math & gr5 FI which will be half portable and half inside).
* The extended day program has grown (before/after school care - it is now a licensed program as of this year). We are not reorganizing classes, but we are adding 1 extended day section so all 4 Kindy classes will now have extended day. This means that Mrs. Brenner’s class gets extended day added so all Kindy classes will have an AM & PM DECE now. We will be hiring for that position.
* Photo Day (individual) has been changed to Oct. 27. We’ve switched to a new provider called Pegasus, and there will be class photos outside in the spring. Rebecca thinks that Pegasus provides a class composite of the individual photos in the meantime.
* The school cell phone policy is that it’s off and away. The phone is confiscated if it’s out during the day. The second time a parent is called to pick up the phone.
* Thank you to council for the photo booth for last year’s gr8 celebration, it was a big hit and lots of fun for the students!
* Our current enrolment is about 685 students.

Vice-Principal’s Update – Karen Canapini

Dates to note

* + Oct 27: Individual photo day
  + Sept. 28: Terry’s Coin Toss. We are collecting loonies/toonies up to this date for the coin toss game. You can also make donations online separately.
  + Sept 29: Terry Fox Run (last block). Oct 7 is the rain date. Rebecca will get clarification on parents attending.
  + Sept 30: Orange Shirt Day. Intermediates students have organized for all students to have an orange shirt template to create a mural with. They will also tie orange ribbons around the school. This will be a remembrance event throughout the school day. Each grade level will have grade appropriate learning regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.
  + Dec 14: tentative date for winter choir concert (includes Uke group)
* Normally the sign out front is taken care of by Karen, it’s blank because we don’t have access to it right now due to the cyber attack. Once it’s working you’ll see upcoming events posted there.
* Teachers are communicating in other ways so make sure you are signed up via their preferred method (Twitter, email, etc.)
* Intramurals are starting this week for juniors, based on World Cup Soccer. Primary will start once office renovation is done.
* Gr7/8 football and field hockey teams have started as well.
* Gr5-8 equity club is starting.
* Junior and intermediate choirs have started, primary will be starting soon.
* We are working on getting leadership opportunities going for students, starting with gr 7/8’s because they missed out on a lot of opportunities over the last couple of years. There are announcements positions, Kindy helpers, lunch helpers, athletic council & student council. There will be other opportunities coming as well for gr6 students.
* We haven’t discussed resuming colour houses yet.

1. **New Business/Fundraising**

School Council Goals/Initiatives

* We reviewed and discussed the current document (below):

**School Council Initiatives/Goals**

1. Host at least one parent workshop throughout the school year (fall/spring).
2. Host two social activities throughout the school year that are free of charge that attract both parents and students (Eg. Family Game night; dessert night; mad science, winter social, etc.).
3. Maintain a more visible Council presence at school activities. It was agreed that a minimum of two parents would be in attendance at events like JK registration night and meet the teacher/book fair, etc.
4. Maintain an up-to-date school website and Facebook Group to improve school communication.
5. Supply items to classrooms on a per grade/division basis with monies earned from fundraising initiatives.
6. Supply items to school as a whole with monies earned from fundraising initiatives. (Eg. Music/Phys-ed, outdoor, etc.)
7. Host a yearly garden cleanup in the spring to maintain the integrity of the outside image of our school.

* Michelle maintains the Hespeler Public School Council Facebook page, it is meant for information purposes not discussions. We’ll post events on this page.
* Tara: Are there other activities that council runs that costs families money? Yes, Danceathon and Fun Fair are run as fundraising activities. Occasionally we host one other special event like when we had Bob Cates in for a magic show.
* We try to be very conscious of the “seasons” in which we are fundraising in so as not to compete with a school-run fundraiser, etc.
* If people want to donate funds directly they can donate through WEFI which gives you a tax receipt through the board. The money goes into the board fund, not the school directly.
* The school works very closely with council for things that we want to fundraise for. We have great cooperative relationship.
* There is a school fundraiser coming soon, it will be Laura Secord chocolate bar sales. This will likely be in November. There will be certain incentives for sales. Historically, it’s a great fundraiser for the school.

Subcommittee requirements (chair required)

* Parent workshops: Chris Sciascetti (will bring ideas to October meeting)
* School Socials (winter social, family game night): Rebecca Mills
* Fun Fair (June 9): Jill Bolender (subcommittee: Jesse, Jen, Michelle, Kyly, Kristin, Sabina)
* THIS IS AN ALL HANDS ON DECK EVENT ON THE DAY OF!
* Danceathon: Sharon McKeown (subcommittee: Jill, Jen, Crystal) Professor Jamz runs the bulk of this in terms of fundraising.
* Garden Clean Up: hold until spring (Susan organizes mulch)
* Vendor Sale (Nov. 27): Crystal Bechtel (subcommittee: Sharon, Jill) Kara has all the prior information to start from and can support, Sabina can update all prior flyers.
* THIS IS AN ALL HANDS ON DECK EVENT ON THE DAY OF!

1. **Other business**

Pizza Days

* We are just waiting for School-Day to be up and running.
* Individual boxes worked very well last year, all boxes got recycled.
* We will raise the price a little this year so it runs as a proper fundraiser. We did it as a trial at the end of last year.
* If council wants to come in to count cash we can do that if we don’t want to wait for School-Day.
* Courtney, Sharon, Crystal can all help.
* Let’s wait a week or two longer as high schools are up and running on School-Day now so hopefully we are functioning very soon.

Vendor Sale: November 27, 2022

* Table order will go in.
* Crystal will send out the vendor call flyer.

Parent Workshops

* Chris will bring ideas to October meeting

Fun Fair: June 9, 2023

* Tina will give the Fun Fair binder to Jill. Once she has reviewed it the subcommittee will meet.

Danceathon

* Sharon will reach out to Professor Jamz for potential dates after Family Day.

Council funds

* Kyly motioned to allocate $550 (or more if cost is higher now) for the gr8 celebration photo booth. Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.
* Kyly motioned to allocate $1500 for Fun Fair prepayments. Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.
* Kyly motioned to allocate $1000 for social events. Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.
* Kyly motioned to allocate $1000 for parent workshops. Jesse seconded, approved unanimously.
* Rebecca will bring wish list of school/class items to the October meeting.
* It is helpful when doing events to have a fundraising goal we can speak to.
* Rebecca will keep an eye on how the mulch holds up as ground cover in the Kindy play area.
* An opportunity for shade would be a nice outdoor feature if we can figure out an appropriate structure and location. If the ball diamond by the Kindy doors gets removed we could put something beside the gaga ball pits.
* Tara: can we reach out to the city to see about benches near the red/yellow climber? Yes, but it’s been difficult to work with them in the past.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 8:47pm**

Kyly motioned to adjourn, Michelle seconded, adjourned.

**Next meeting: Monday, October 17, 2022**

**(3rd Monday of the month)**

**Proposed Meeting Dates:** November 21, 2022; December 19, 2022, January 16, 2023; February 13, 2023 (early to avoid Family Day); March 20, 2023; April 17, 2023; May 15, 2023, June (date TBD)