

**John Darling Public School  
School Council Minutes  
February 25 2013  
6:pm**

**In Attendance:** Jenn Fleet, Colleen Brandes, Kim Schmidt, Lori Williams, Jen Hulett, Marti-Anne Hachey, Jackie Teixeira, Gillian McKenzie, Jessie White, Amy Knechtel-Shannon, Mandy Dahmer, Amanda Bourassa

**Regrets:** Helen Byers, Amanda Pope, Danielle Morales, Janice Mitchell, Marnie Wuensch Susie Gutri, Heather Quiring,

**Getting Started**

- A motion was made to approve the minutes from January 2012. Motion: Kim Schmidt Second: Lori Williams. Motion carried.
- The agenda was approved

**Fundraising Committee Update**

- The fundraising letter for Vessey Bulbs is being created. A portion of the funds raised is earmarked for Epilepsy awareness. The fundraiser begins March 28<sup>th</sup> and ends April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- School funds will be purchasing the final 2 document cameras, so the fundraising money can be dedicated to something else. Lori Williams motioned to allocate the rest of the Spring fundraising funds towards performing arts. Seconded by Jessie White. Motion carried. The motion was later modified to include community building as motioned by Jessie and seconded by Jackie Teixeira.

**Rink Update – Jessie per Amanda Pope**

- The rink is operating well this year, nothing new to report.

**Darlingfest report: Jessie White**

- The potential budget was distributed to council members
- There will be fewer smaller games this year, but more games for smaller children.
- Highlights include the rock climbing wall, scooters, ring toss, snow cones and clowns who will do face-painting.
- Fire truck, ambulance, police, a councilman and possibly the mayor will participate
- A radio station will be providing the music
- To save money on ice costs, we will make our own ice for the drink coolers.
- Volunteers will have incentives (one for parent volunteers and one for student volunteers). They will be eligible for gift card draws when they check-out from their station. Students will be targeted from leadership programs to increase student adherence to their commitments. If you know of any potential volunteers, please advise the Darlingfest committee. Each shift will be one hour in length.
- At next council meeting, they will report how many adult and student volunteers will be needed.

- The cost of changing the banner dates and posting it, taking it down and storing it will be \$84.00 this year as it will no longer be a donation.
- A motion to approve the budget at \$4,725.00 (without the banner cost included) was made by Jackie and seconded by Jen Fleet. Motion was carried.
- For the purposes of the donation letter to be sent out, we will list what the Darlingfest monies have been used for in the past, and that we are looking to purchase more indoor and outdoor resources. Some ideas discussed include: improving skate supply, replacing Kindergarten Snuggle books (Promoting literacy) and supporting the Arts. Gillian will consult the staff for more suggestions and forward ideas to the Darlingfest Committee by next Monday's meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report – Mandy Dahmer**

- \$9,103.14 was in our account at the end of January. \$2629.02 is available to finish paying for scientists in the school and buses.
- We have \$315.55 available to spend on technology yet.
- \$500.00 has been allocated to each of Home Reading and Greening.
- The \$2158.57 remaining will be allocated toward the Darlingfest float, leaving \$433.57 available.
- Mandy distributed fundraising guidelines from the Ministry that she has already perused.

### **Parent Involvement Grant Allocation:**

- We have to decide how to spend the \$500.00. Examples provided from WRAPSE include: planners, parent BBQ, workshop/speaker for parents, public performance, family movie night license. Other suggestions were flyers for Darlingfest, Darlingfest banner cost, newsletters and a performance by Eric Traplin.
- The consensus was that movie night in May was our first choice. Gillian will check the costs of a movie license. We could distribute Darlingfest requests for volunteers that night too.

### **Principal/Teacher Report: Gillian McKenzie**

- Full Day/Every Day K registration went well. Our school will be hiring another K teacher, ECE workers and an additional teacher for next year.
- Currently there are 2 FT K classes planned – possibly a 3<sup>rd</sup> will come.
- The new K classes can have up to 30 students.
- Winter literacy assessments and reading assessments are happening now and there is a lot of success to celebrate. I.E.Ps will be reviewed and updated and presented at next meeting.
- Labour relations update. There is a contract in place. The school is working with it and the focus continues to be on the learning agenda and student achievement. The School Board labour relations link has been removed. Even if the union advises its members to return to voluntary or extra-curricular activities, it's up to the teachers to make those individual decisions. So, it doesn't mean that things will automatically return to the way they were.

- The new Ipads will be in the school on March 18<sup>th</sup> followed by training for staff.
- School Initiatives: walk to school day; crossing guard appreciation day; national sweater day; the Chinese New Year in some classes, Valentines Day have all been acknowledged. John Park presentation about 8 traits that make you great was very well received. The Book Fair is happening today and tomorrow. The Superintendent visited again today.
- April 19<sup>th</sup> is the next PD day (1/2 day focusing on math success and the other half with guest speakers).
- Principle Profile Report Review: Gillian will send the questions out to council by email. A draft will be brought to the next meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Prologue for the Arts Information (presented by Jessie)**

- The cost is from \$700 – 1,000.00 for an assembly of 300, grades K – 6.
- The programs are very reliable and can be built around curriculum from teacher input (eg. Music, dance, Canadian National Ballet).
- The consensus of discussion was that this sounds beneficial and Darlingfest money could be allocated toward this.

**New Business:**

- Marnie has asked that we consider a council committee to run the Book Fair in future years. Gillian suggested that she and Mrs. Wells and Marnie will debrief after this year's fair and Gillian will let the council know if council involvement is needed.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:04pm**

**2012/13 Meeting Dates:**

April 15  
 May 13  
 June 10