

**John Darling Public School
School Council Minutes
March 3rd 2014 - 6:30pm**

In Attendance: Jen Hulett; Mandy Dahmer; Beth Skilling; Michelle Martin; Katie Hoedl; Heather Quiring; Jennifer Fleet; Jessie White; Jim LeClair; Lori Williams
Teacher/ECE Representative: Heather Dubrick
Principal: Gillian McKenzie

Regrets: Marnie Wuensch; Colleen Brandes; Jackie Teixeira; Rachel Coleman; Tara McPherson; Tom Herr; Kim Schmidt; Helen Byers; Marti-Anne Hachey

1. Getting Started

A motion was made by Lori to approve the agenda; seconded by Jenn Fleet. Motion carried.
A motion was made by Lori to approve the minutes of February 10th, seconded by Heather. Motion carried.

2. Healthyhunger.ca – Jenn Fleet

The only local participating restaurant is Subway in Guelph which does not seem like a viable option. Jenn suggested another program: The Elementary School Nutrition Services. They use Boston Pizza, Subway, Pita Pit, and have a milk program and a pizza program. The food comes pre-packaged for each class with the child's name on it and is PPM150 compliant. They have an on-line calendar and take credit card, debit or cheque payments. A portion of the money goes back to the school. They will present at our next meeting.

3. Committee Updates

Fundraising – Lori Williams

The committee proposes that we use Dielman's again next fall as they offer the best profit at 55%. There were no complaints or returns on it this year. Treasure sales were not so great this year, so these are not recommended for next year. Chocolate sales are suggested before Christmas and again before Easter. Rheo Thompson offers approx \$1.00 per chocolate. Another suggestion was Little Caesar's pizza kits in the spring which offers 3 large pepperoni pizzas for \$23.00 and you get \$5.00 per box sold. Poinsettia sales are recommended again as usual. Lori motioned that we proceed next year as described above and Jessie seconded. Motion was carried.

Rink – Michelle Martin

The best price for a new tarp was found in Stratford for \$823.00 which weighs 336lbs and can be cut into 2 tarps. The rink account has \$480.00 plus another \$200.00 coming from the city. Another \$200.00 is needed for volunteer gifts. A motion was made by Jenn to allocate \$600.00 from the miscellaneous fund toward the new tarp; seconded by Lori. Motion carried.

Darlingfest – Jessie

So far we have booked: Game Asylum, a photo booth, face painting, the fire department, and the Rangers street team. Possibly mini golf. There will be a food alternative for those who are allergic to pizza. Magic Pizza will be our pizza provider. Chips are being donated. We are soliciting drink donations. We will have the Cake walk, beanbag toss, slap shot, dino dig and fish net. Also considering the reptile demonstration (with some modifications to the presentation) and Science Quest. Total costs are predicted to be well under \$4500.

We need to designate the Darlingfest proceeds toward something. Discussion included community events, skating helmets, and a tarp for the rink. Gillian mentioned that we will be receiving 20 mini ipads over the March break and the school will be purchasing covers for them. As for skating helmets, there are some community organizations that have proposed to help out families in need of them. Also, we are waiting to see if the school board comes out with a plan for this issue. We are also awaiting school board plans for a storage shed, pending financial resources.

A motion was made by Jessie to allocate Darlingfest profits to “School and Community Initiatives”, seconded by Lori. Motion carried.

Movie Night Update – Jessie

From Farm to Table Canada is a local award-winning company that has pre-packaged popcorn of different flavours. A case of 40 is \$20.00. We could offer one bag for free and then charge people for additional bags. There was discussion around whether we want families to have to bring money to this free event and whether anyone needs more than one bag each. We also considered some movie titles that are on the Board’s list. “Epic” was considered to be the best choice thus far.

WRPSC – no update

4. Treasurer’s report – Mandy

We have a negative amount in Health and Wellness; however grant money will be added to this. Lunch Lady profits will be put in miscellaneous. Rink money is to get its own allocation going forward. Snuggle-up books has money left and Mandy will check whether we’ve been billed for this or not.

Principal/Teacher Report – Gillian

- Amanda Roberts is the new staff member starting after March break for Kindergarten and primary.
- The Sochi Olympic bonanza activities were well enjoyed.
- Holly Burrell took a 4 student team to Skills Canada. Out of 25 schools, we got the bronze medal in their age category and placed 5th overall.
- Friday is a PD day unpaid for teachers. ECE’s will be at another site. Gillian will be at JD and will take a different unpaid day.
- Kim is coordinating the book fair. Set-up is Friday April 11th in the afternoon. The fair is Monday the 14th and Tuesday the 15th in the library. Take down is on the 15th and pick-up on the 16th.

- PD sessions have focused on raising the bar and continuous movement for student performance. Talked about how kids become afraid of mistakes – they are such a great learning opportunity. We need to celebrate and promote mistakes and ask questions to promote deeper thinking. The deepest learning happens when you explain something to someone else and check your reasoning. We need to teach kids to ask questions of each other and move the learning responsibility to them.
- Safe Welcome Program: a buzzer and monitor are being installed then Gillian will inform the parent community. Doors will be locked during school hours. Gillian warned that there will be glitches and that sometimes people might have to wait for a bit outside before being let in.
- Parking issues brainstorming: Neighbours are upset about their driveways being blocked during drop-offs and pick-ups. We need to promote being good neighbours and also walking to school. Residents will probably need to complain to the city to effect change.
- Stuffed Drake dragons – a request has been made to donate them to the kids for this school's anniversary. We discussed looking in to what the break-even cost is so that we might offer them for that price.
- Boston Pizza night is Wednesday April 23rd and Monday April 28th. We will promote it as a “Family Night” until we know how many teachers will participate in serving.

Principal Profile Discussion

We need to submit answers to 3 questions. Jessie will email these out to council members and asks that the feedback is provided by the end of this week.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm

2013/14 Meeting Dates:

Apr 7th; May 12th; June 9th.