

John Darling Public School
School Council Minutes
October 7, 2014
6:30 p.m.

In Attendance: Michelle Martin, Colleen Brandes , Heather Quiring, Amy Lee Marti-Anne Hachey, Lori Williams , Heather Dubrick , Beth Skilling , Jackie Teixeira, Jenn Fleet , Amy Knechtel-Shannon , Mandy Dahmer – Treasurer, Kim Schmidt , Katie Hoedl – Co-Chair , Jessie White - Co-Chair, Andra Assaf – Secretary, Gillian McKenzie

Getting Started: Jessie White

- A motion was made to approve the meeting agenda. Motion : Jessie White
Second: Michele Martin Motion Carried
- A motion was made to approve the minutes from June 2014 Motion: Jessie White Second: Michele Martin Motion Carried
- Introductions : roundtable where all provided name, identifying their role as parent or teacher

Executive Elections

- All attendees on October 7 are voting members, those with regrets will not have voting privileges, however they are still able to participate on council meetings and committees
- Summary of roles as elected members from the School Council Constitution
- Co-Chair appointment - due to several interested parties, a ballot voting will take place where voting members are able to nominate two people as co-chairs
- Ballot Results : Jessie White and Katie Hoedl Motion Carried
- Treasurer - Mandy Dahmer
- Secretary - Andra Assaf 1st and Marti - Anne Hachey 2nd

Committee Involvement and Selection

Fundraising

- Kim and Jen were picked in June to be part of committee
- fundraising duties are chosen
- counting of funds raised and making orders for additional fundraising items
- developing creative ideas for fundraising
- bring back ideas to council for approval
- providing monthly update on fundraising status

Health and Wellness

- committee picked in June 2014
- plan family events focusing on Health and Wellness

- plan parent focused evenings

Darlingfest

- committee engagement event
- games and attractions for students and parents
- fundraising opportunity

Rink Committee

- coordinating the community rink, ensuring it gets set up and maintained throughout the winter months
- communication with custodian and the city of Kitchener

Greening /Outdoor landscaping

- due to a greening initiative a few years back there are now funds allocated to maintain the landscaping and school green space
- the dedication tree needs to be replaced

Giving Tree

- similar to the Angel tree, the Giving Tree provides the opportunity to have items donated for families in need around the community around Christmas time
- Letters are sent out to families asking if anyone needs help around Christmas time
- Kids donate items for the giving tree

WRAPSC (Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Council)

- a committee where they meet six times a year and gather information from other school councils and find out what is happening with the school board
- the first meeting was October 1st
- next meeting is November 4th and usually its the first Tuesday of each month

Committee Updates:

Fundraising

- Mint smoothies orders take 5 days to order
- Recommendation to have a two week campaign for the Mint Smoothies fundraiser as it can be too overwhelming for parents and donations
- If there are leftover mint smoothies, they can be sold at the Christmas Concert
- There should be a reminder to send money for bag of sample mint smoothies, there may have been some confusion on whether payment is required for the sample smoothies
- Poinsettia orders are due November 24, 2014
- Monday December 8, 2014 from 3 p.m to 7 p.m - parents can pick up their Poinsettia orders from the gym
- Spring fundraiser - Pizza

Health and Wellness

- November 14, 2014 event 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. , save the dates letters are going out this week
- The event entails the following : kids Zumba, drum fit, trail mix bar and and a dietitian presentation on kids lunches, recipe's and healthy food ideas
- Budget- missed deadline for government grant (\$1000) and also have a (- \$447.90 in account)
- Council discussion on the possibility to come back for additional funds, after the November event, in order to gage the funds required and the need for further funds for additional events
- Discussion on November 14 event activities and costs involved :
 - Kids Zumba - FREE
 - Drumfit - FREE
 - Trailmix Bar - costs involved and asking for donations
 - Dietitian - \$500
- Discussion on how much money council should provide and whether it should absorb the negative amount or not
- Discussion on whether the dietitian presentation should have its own dedicated event, however the committee had already organized the November 14, activities
- Motion : School Council to provide \$1500 in funds for the Health and Wellness Committee and net out the negative \$ - 447.90
- Vote: Make the Health and Wellness account to \$0
- Vote : Allocate Health and Wellness \$1500 with the option of returning for additional funds as required
- Motion Passed

Rink Update

- company used for the rink liner no longer has the required size
- Discussion : recommendations from council members to contact other school councils and city of Kitchener to see what they are using
- Discussion: Unsure of the quality of other liners from other stores, and whether they are reliable and durable for multi year usage
- A motion was made to purchase a 6ml liner, small \$585 and 2 year usage with free shipping, in Mississauga Motion : Michele Martin Second : Jessie White Motion Carried
- Discussion: it was determined that the Rink account has enough funds allocated to purchase the liner

Hot Lunch Program

- program starts Thursday October 9, 2014

- Discussion on getting a listing for JK/SK students ahead of time identifying who has ordered
- Staff are unable to order, a revision to order system will be made to accommodate office staff

Treasurer's Report

- Review of the June/ September report showing a balance to date of \$15 266.19 of which \$8189.34 has been allocated and further discussion on allocating \$7076.85
- A motion is carried for council to allocate photocopying funds, \$50 provided by the school and \$50 by the council, a total of \$100 for photocopying needs as they are a great cost . Motion : Michele Martin Second : Jenn Fleet Motion Carried
- A motion was carried for the purchase of additional walkie talkies for staff during recess. Objective is to have one for each teacher, safety of students due to certain school doors being closed, walkie talkies allows for more communication between staff inside and outside at recess time. \$ 30 / set for 20 staff = \$600
- Motion : allocating \$600 for walkie talkies and the rest for miscellaneous, approx. \$300
- Motion: Mandy Dahmer Second: Jessie White Motion Carried
- Darlingfest - spent less and made a higher profit

Principal/Teacher Report

- The JK/SK equipment arrived, spent \$2600 out of the \$3000 allocated, remaining funds will be left for any additional items that may be needed
- the equipment is also available for Dev/Ed
- Gary Raspberry, working on a musical experience for kids
 - workshops with kids on developing a class cheer and school song
 - the results will be shared at an assembly
- \$650 spent up to date on the musical experience and an additional \$250 for his return to complete the school song
- School Board message will be shared next meeting
- BIPSA - Board Improvement Plan - provides the school board focus and guides the school improvement plan
- Current school population is 261
- Staffing updates : Louise Friesen is on LOA
 - Elysia Cloet- Pr. French & Health
 - Amy Lee - JK/SK teacher
 - Fatima Hoy ECE
 - Michele Fangrad – EA Kindergarden
 - Marian Shantz – Head Secretary
- Safe Welcome Program
 - avoid the 1st nutrition break for coming to the office as staff are on break
 - Extended day program is growing

- Meeting dates have now changed to 1st Monday of each month from 1st Tuesday
- John Darling is a polling station for the upcoming Municipal Elections.
- **The Chess Lady** has changed her rates.
 - She has kept the same fee but has reduced the number of sessions to 8 weeks, if she has to rotate among classes or 9 weeks if she can remain in one room.
 - The library is in use M-F. It is also used at Nutrition Breaks by the class in the portable. The Chess lady will have to travel this year.
 - Therefore, her cost is \$300 per class (gr. 1-6) for 8 weeks
- **Eco school Goals for 2014/2015-1.**
 - Reduce our waste by promoting litter less lunches.
 - Encourage the use of reusable containers *buying bulk is cheaper and produces less packaging
 - Turn off and unplug electronics when not in use at the end of the day
- **Parent Resource sent by the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) - Relationships-**
 - What parents can do to help their children develop healthy relationships (Document & Webkey) 2 copies are in the School Council mailbox for the Co-chairs.

PD day

- went great, looked at data, school improvement plan and implementation next steps, mandatory Health and Safety Training, and setting high expectations for kids, growth mindsets and helping kids with risk taking

Greening budget - presentation on how to set up outdoor learning

- Toyota Greening, for example our school doesn't have a dedicated sand box
- planning process on greening project

School Skating program

- We are not booking off campus skating due to School Board requirements, where students are required to have CSA approved and fitted helmets
- Use of school rink: students require CSA approved fitted helmets; they have the option of outdoor gym activities as well

Overview of Grade 3 and 6 test results

- Positive results in the reading/ writing sections and slight improvement in the mathematics section