

**John Darling Public School
School Council Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2016 6:30pm**

In Attendance: Marti-Anne Hachey, Beth Skilling, Hatie Hoedle, Mandy Dahmer, Amy Lee, Aimee Tyrrell, Jessie White, Kat Pettitt, Darlene Shantz, Heathening Quiring, Andra Assaf, Lori Williams, Kim Schmidt, Gillian McKenzie

1. Getting Started

A motion was made by Katie to approve the agenda, seconded by Beth. Motion Carried. A motion was made to approve the minutes from January's meeting by Heather, seconded by Jessie. Motion was passed.

2. Principal/Teacher Report

- Student ECE is working in B3 for training
- February 24th is Pink shirt day (stand up to bullying day) Students are encouraged to wear pink.
- February 24 - French play Cinderella. Last years play was a success having a great balance of english and french.
- Scientists in the School: in process of booking classes.
- Feb 29 is a leap year and next Spirit Day: Backwards day
- John Darling raised \$250 from newcomer refugee toonie donation
- Valentines Day a graffiti wall is being setup in the hallway. Students will be encouraged to put up 'put-ups' for anybody (student, teacher, etc) to promote kindness, caring and community.
- February 15th is Family Day - no school
- Gillian shared videos on BIPSA. 'Collaboration' among staff and students. Students' learning is deeper and more meaningful when they are able to talk and share ideas and bounce ideas off of other people. 'Mathematics' video - how to continue to support students. Getting kids to persevere through difficult tasks. Encouraging them to go back, check work and add more to it. Ask for critique and build. How do we get kids to take feedback and go back and apply it?
 - Grade 5/6 Teachers are looking at how descriptive feedback (in mathematics in particular) is given to students. How can they use technology to make it easier for kids to improve their work?
 - Grade 3/4 teachers want to look at developing oral language skills. Students' responses could be deeper, and more detailed. Help students be more detailed and descriptive in explanations.
 - Grade 1/2 want to look at developing oral language skills. Help kids think about the questions they ask. Response are simple and statements are given, not questions. Look at helping them build questioning abilities.
 - Kindergarten work on building self-regulation skills. Helping kids branch out and explore other areas (ie. a child choosing same activity each day could be encouraged to try a different activity). Students have difficulty making choices (ie. circling the room). Helping them to persevere at a learning task and go deeper with their learning.
 - Educational staff are looking at professional development to help grow these areas.
- February 26th additional PD day
- Kindergarten registration for JK's and new SK's only. An on-line piece has been added. Register on-line and Mrs. Shantz contacts parent to setup interview time.
- Grants Rotary Club of Kitchener - if there are initiatives we are interested in we can pursue.

- Concussion Management (Memorandum 158)
<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/158.pdf> Please visit link for concussion information and how it will be handled within the school. There are steps and guidelines that will be followed if a child suffers from a concussion. Even if the event does not happen at school, please advise Ms.McKenzie about the child's situation so appropriate steps can be followed as outlined in the WRDSB Concussion Management protocol.

3. Team Building

Last month council members were asked 'How can we ensure issues don't get de-railed or take up time during council meetings?' Common responses, 'co-chairs and principal are to be the ones to make the decision on a case by case basis. If a topic has taken up a significant amount of time and seems to need more discussion time, the co-chairs will make the decision to bring it to a close and either add the topic onto the next agenda OR to the bottom of current meeting and if time allows will be discussed further.

Information was provided about Meadowlane's Science Fair event to consider for a possible future community engagement activity.

4. Committee Updates

Fundraising: N/A

Health & Wellness: Wellness Fair is Friday, February 5th from 6-8pm. Loads of professionals and fun activities to take place. Please see school day for more details.

DarlingFest: Meeting scheduled for Monday Feb. 8th

Rink: Currently it's slush.

Book Fair: Tuesday February 23 and Wednesday 24 in A8. Teachers can look and see with their classes on Monday February 22.

5. Treasurer's Report

A deposit of \$182 deposited January 14th that is currently being investigated where it came from. \$2868.68 currently not allocated.

Next Meeting Monday, March 7th 2016.

Meeting Adjourned 7:40pm