



SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

April 12, 2017

6:30PM

Sandhills Library

MEETING CALLED BY:	Beth & Della Co-Chairs
TYPE OF MEETING	School Council
NOTE TAKER:	Carrie E.
STAFF ATTENDANCE:	Principal Silvana Hoxha., VP Tom Ernst., Teacher -Mr. Neill Stewart
PARENT ATTENDANCE:	Nadina D., Jan M., Beth R., Della S., Mark J., Sabrina S., Ashley C., Carrie E., Sandra W.

CHAIR(s) UPDATE

Beth/Della

DISCUSSION
Meeting minutes from February and March accepted No other update

SCHOOL UPDATE	Silvana/Tom/Neill
----------------------	--------------------------

DISCUSSION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast Forest coming to do root application to trees in the last week of April • Unsuccessful in receiving Tim Walker award (won last year) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waiting to hear back from grants applied to <p>Neill Stewart (teacher)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • doing Eco School application (done annually) • Want to get parents involved in eco school application - last year got gold and want to maintain it; need help to maintain trees and do watering • Are there parents interested in helping with maintenance? Need to know which parents involved - Nadina, Christiane • Application asks for people to commit to summer maintenance - helps the eco club know what's being done outside school time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Historically there was a spring cleanup/mulch application in May, has fallen off in last few years; would get a good amount of spring cleanup done ○ might need maintenance plan to see what needs doing this year ○ ACTION: Do School Day post asking for help with spring cleanup - might generate interest then can use that list for volunteers - challenge is access to water-Silvana or Tom to follow up ○ Have funds available, will get contractor to do initial mulching and cleaning, then get parents to help maintain ○ get a group of people interested then start an email group to figure out who can do what and times ○ ACTION: Mark and Silvana to connect and figure out what parents do and what contractor doesdid a waste audit of whole school last week - 35 kg/day last year, green waste went down this year by 5 kg <p>Upcoming Events and Activities – Tom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French author Muriel Messier - date moved to April 20 • Green spirit day Fri Apr 21 - earth day theme • Visit from KW Symphony on 26th • Musical on 26th-27th - children can perform both days or just one • Music Monday may 1 • Community walkabout (walking school bus planning) May 8 • Kindergarten info night May 10



SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

- Chess club tourney starts next week
- Tuck shop sales - going well

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Ashley

DISCUSSION

Current account balances:

- Transportation \$7991
- Greening \$359 with \$700 coming
- General Revenue \$(waiting for Ashley to get back to me)
- Fundraising \$8373 (including cookie dough sales and the dance (\$965 in revenue with \$340 profit) Mrs Bissell was really good about making sure kids were supervised at dance

SUB COMMITTEES

DISCUSSION

Greening - Mark

- Things got through winter okay, slow coming up but expecting to see things growing soon
 - some mouse and rabbit damage but think most survived
 - if some trees didn't survive we'll talk - an oak was removed, a cherry and one other
- is it possible to plant something by the Kindergarten area because it's a big mud pit
 - Add to the assessment - Christiane thinks there is a solution to it. The area doesn't drain well (clay soil) - biggest problem is soil compaction
- will update next meeting with ideas

Fundraising - Ashley

- Ashley to connect with a parent that has expressed interest in joining the Fundraising committee
- Sandra has more info about loyalty cards
 - reached out to Fundsript - sent form email and no response
 - loyalty funding did respond - because of the way it's run through them, there is no admin fee - but if parent loses cards they can't replace them (they send bulk cards) - they can generate through the summer though - most companies don't do Costco and Walmart because they only do 1% return but they offer them
 - Average is 3% back
 - but it's an ongoing subscription, so you sign up for monthly delivery of whatever you want
 - MOTION to go forward, approved
 - can we have an ongoing link to it - like the WEFI link - so non-parents can subscribe
 - if we choose to have the funds allocated to WEFI then they can do tax receipts
 - ACTION: Sandra to send Carrie details about tax receipts and Carrie to verify legality

Parent Engagement

- Previously have discussed nature walk - Waterloo Region through NAP - did Owl walk in Forest, they sent out naturalist, they could put together a walk for us in an evening or a Saturday
 - Tails and trails through Monarch Woods – Mr. Wellhauser already has something set up for his class with the same group
 - Need to pick a time and date and can pick here or in Monarch Woods - is a free thing
 - Can we get more teachers to participate? Neil - yes - will try to get other teachers
 - Date - some time end of May on a weeknight - Sandra to reach out
 - School council sponsored coffee - morning or end of day - wear name tags/pins



SANDHILLS P.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

- Morning during drop-off - set up in empty portable
- Start at 8:15 go to 8:45, Monday May 8 "Coffee with Council"
- MOTION: Beth, Sandra passed
- Silvana to connect with her contact at Starbucks to verify donation
- Send out an email
- Sandhills makers night, they bring cardboard and duct tape then we announce a theme
- Start list for next year

Parking

- Planning to launch walking school bus in September
- Would like to expand planning committee - police staff, parents, town council - will have committee meeting in early May - contact Tom - will probably have 10-12 people - will also look at other traffic calming options

OTHER BUSINESS

Beth/Della

DISCUSSION

Family fun fair - not to be held this year

- Propose doing it every other year
 - missing a year might generate more interest
- The fair is a huge amount of work, it is a huge expense, not enough parent and teacher engagement
- Volunteers signed up for different events and wouldn't show up
- Beth attempted numerous times to connect with the chair's and principal at St. Dominic's and as of yet no response
- Don't have the money to do a full event and teacher's have identified that bussing is their top priority
- School Council's mandate is to redirect priorities and focus on building relationships between teachers and parents and minimize fundraising
 - MOTION to cancel family fun fair for 2017, option to move it to make it an every other year event
 - Motion by Sandra, Nadina - 5 to cancel, 2 to keep, rest abstained
 - Alternative - do a Sandhills 5K race based on upcoming walking bus routes - like an amazing race - some kind of water and snacks at the end
 - MOTION for new event for less costs and more engagement (i.e. the race) - Sandra, Nadina - PASSED
 - June 21 was penciled in date for fun fair, can we use that?

Tuck Shop update

- Made about \$400 so far
- Have chips and juice left over from dance, sell at tuck shop-accepted

School property safety check

- Custodian does a check every morning - beer bottles and other concerning litter out front (technically on city property)

WRAPC

- Nick Manning - communications – is looking for feedback on current board communications, is working on improving them across the board

Della's last year at Sandhills

- Discussed and agreed to have the June meeting at Milestones. Beth to make reservations.

END TIME:	7:50 pm
NEXT MEETING:	Wednesday, May 10 th @ 6:30pm