



Home of the Silverhawks!

SILVERHEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 26, 2017 at 6:30pm
School Library, Cambridge, ON

- 1. Welcome:** Helen Brown welcomed everyone. Briefly explained how this evening's Election process will work. We are looking to fill all roles including Members at Large. These members have voting privileges and have a say in what happens around the school. It was mentioned that Digital Nomination forms were sent out. Discussed that some parents may not have received these due to junk mail settings. No paper nominations for the election were received.
Special thank you offered to Faye Wilson as she steps down from her Community Rep role. Lori DaCunha will now be our Community Representative. Welcome Lori.

Present: Leslie McNabb, Valerie Martin, Chad Moffat, Helen Brown, Lori DaCunha, Rob Panek, Tammy Dixon, Amanda Rilan, Jenn Latour, Dana Tremblay, Reneè Kennett, Meghan Toth, Treasure Kauppila, Faye Wilson, Paula Butt, Aesha Brown

Minutes: The May 2017 minutes were reviewed. Need to amend to correct which members were in attendance. *Motion to approve with the attendance changes: Paula Butt, Second: Jenn Latour. Motion approved.*

- 2. 2017-2018 School Council Election:**

Chairperson – *Motion to nominate Jennifer Latour for School Council Chairperson: Amanda Rilan. Second: Dana Tremblay.* Jennifer accepted the nomination. By show of hands Council is in favour of Jennifer Latour becoming our Council Chairperson. Congratulations Jennifer!

Helen Brown will now hold the position of Past Chairperson.

Secretary – No member has been nominated for the Secretary position. *Motion to make the Secretary a rotational position for the time being: Helen Brown. Second: Jennifer Latour. Motion approved.* We will re-visit next meeting to determine if anyone would like to take on this important role.

Treasurer: No nominations were received. Clarified what the Treasurer Role entails. Since we have so much support from our Head Secretary in the office, Amanda Rilan is

willing to take on the Treasurer Roll. *Motion to approve Amanda Rilan for Treasurer: Helen Brown. Second: Jennifer Latour. Motion approved.*

The 2017-2018 School Council Executive is as follows:

Jennifer Latour – Chairperson

Amanda Rilan – Treasurer

2017-2018 Quorum of Members at Large:

Faye Wilson, Rob Panek, Tammy Dixon, Dana Tremblay, Reneè Kennett, Treasure Kauppila, and Paula Butt

Helen shared the Code of Ethics for School Council Meetings. Council reviewed the guidelines so that our organization operates as a positive place to share ideas.

A thank you message from Leslie was offered to Helen for all of her hard work last year as Chairperson. We know we will still see Helen around volunteering in other ways within the school. Thanks Helen!

3. Principal and Vice Principal Updates:

- Leslie shared that she is glad to be partnering again with Val for this second year at their new school. It has been a great start so far. The kids have had a fantastic start as well.
- Construction is still happening, as there have been some delays. The Portables are in place but with the addition of those new portables we lost a basketball net. Contractors were hired over the summer to work on and the good news is that there has been some additional funding from the Ministry to multiple schools. But with this came delays due to permits and staffing shortages. The Portable project had some stops and starts as a result. Some work and clean up has yet to be completed. Paving at the back of the school and a new rear door still to be installed.
- Some Ash trees on property needed to be removed due to the Emerald Ash disease. Stumps are still to be taken out. New trees will be planted in the spring or summer. Approval has been granted by some of our neighbours to remove some overgrown foliage on some of the paths. Also in honour of Canada's 150th, a sugar maple tree was planted. The Board Grounds Supervisor assisted in the planting of this tree.
- Leslie spoke with Helen about the suggestion made last year regarding donations being made to our WEFI account in lieu of some of our fundraising. Donations of \$15 or more will receive a tax receipt. The advantage of these donations is that 100% of the proceeds go to school initiatives rather just a low percentage. Leslie would like School Council approval to try again this year to see if we have greater success. Council supports this action with the idea that these funds will go

toward the purchase of new technology as well as replacing some of our outdated existing technology. Leslie would like Council to consider adding an outdoor learning area, a Kindergarten Play Area and planting some additional trees using these WEFI Council funds. All were in favour.

- Some classrooms needed to be re-organized due to increased enrollment. We are now sitting at 755 students! New teachers for these classes will begin on Monday October 2nd. A new portable will be required to become a French classroom. The date for this portable is to be determined. A question was posed to Leslie regarding class size maximums. The answer was that Maximum counts are decided by the Ministry based on age/grade of the students. Final counts can go over the maximum by up to 10% up to a certain date. After these dates have passed, class sizes may need to increase based on enrollment needs. Multiple factors go into deciding how a classroom re-organization will happen once the school year has started. For example, always needing to move students with a friend. Another question was asked about possible additions to the school because of new construction in the area. As of this time, there are no plans to build an addition. Boundaries will likely need to be looked at eventually.

4. Teacher Representative Updates:

- Kindergarten – working on establishing routines, making friends, being a good listener. Full Day Kindergarten is play based learning, active play, outdoor learning and exploration.
- Classrooms – Student Teachers have joined us from UWO. Classes are working on routines, routines, routines. Teachers are getting to know their classes with a variety of activities like Energizers, Team/Class building exercises, Class meetings, building a safe and inclusive community within the classroom.
- Student Activities and Teams – Terry Fox Run on Sept. 27, Eroll Lee “Character” Presentation on Sept. 27, Boys Soccer (7-8) with Mr. Thomson and Mr. Zarudny, Boys Football (7-8) with Mr. Thomson, Girls Football with Mr. Thomson, Running Club, Popcorn Sales for Grade 7 Sudbury Trip, Games Club with our Child and Youth Worker, Miss Leslie (allows kids to practice social skills and make friends. Focus on fun, confidence building, and conflict management) PAL’s Playground Activity Leaders for Grade 4-5 with Mrs. Smale and Mrs. MacGillivray. Athletic Council, Intramurals coming soon.

- 5. Silverheights Neighbourhood Association (SNA) Updates:** From Community Rep – Lori DaCunha. The SNA is located in our community centre inside St Gabriel’s Catholic School. Fall programs have started. The association is definitely making a name for itself in the community since most programs now fill very quickly. New staff have been hired because SNA is growing. There will be a Halloween Dance held on Friday October 27th

for Grades 2- 6. Hoping to hold a Mom2Mom fundraiser sale but more vendors are needed. It is \$30 for a Parent table and \$60 for a Business table. Please subscribe to the SNA newsletter if you haven't already done so. Thanks.

6. **Babysitting Services for Council Meetings:** *Motion to continue utilizing Grade 8 babysitters for child care provided during our meetings. The payment will be \$20 each student paid by cheque once Tamara Butler has received their sign in sheets from Jenn after the meetings: Tammy. Second: Jenn. Motion approved.*
7. **Financial:** Financial Statement reviewed. Not many changes from last year as we have not started pizza or other fundraising yet. Cookie Dough fundraising earned over \$6000.00 last year!
8. **Stage Update:** The stage was delivered last year and the school was able to use it for the Grade 8 Grad ceremony. The final cost was \$19,230.71. Mr. Moffat reported that the set up was so easy! He would classify it as one of the best purchases made at this school in a long time. The stage is modular so we will be able to configure it differently for various uses and add to it when necessary or possible. A lift will be rented or borrowed as necessary for our student who require it.
9. **Safe Caring Inclusive Schools (SCIS):** An SCIS Committee has been created again this year. The team will meet 4 times per year. An SCIS Assembly will be held at some point in conjunction with the HUMAN Club.
10. **Pizza Program:** Pizza will start right after Thanksgiving on Tuesday October 10th and run until November 14th. Tito's pizza will be supplying the pizza for this round and will offer both Cheese and Pepperoni pizza. They have also offered to sort the pizza prior to arrival. Some members expressed concern about Tito's so a we can consider this round to be a test phase to see if it runs smoothly. As of the middle of last year, the pizza program ran in partnership with the office and School Council. As such, the pizza revenue does not fall into the financial statement for Council. Council is welcome to have input into how the pizza funds are allotted.
11. **EQAO:** Questions asked about EQAO. Information regarding this annual testing for Grade's 3 and 6 are expected soon.

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 25th, 2017

Adjournment: *Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm*