



SILVERHEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL
PARENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 28, 2018 at 6:30pm
School Library, Cambridge, ON

- 1. Welcome:** Jenn brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
Present: Leslie McNabb, Chad Moffat, Jenn Latour, Lori DaCunha, Helen Brown, Tammy Dixon, Treasure Kaippila, Rob Panek, Dana Tremblay, Amanda Rilan
Regrets: Valerie Martin, Faye Wilson, Reneè Kennett, Karen Petznick, Aesha Brown

Minutes: The January 2018 minutes were reviewed and approved via email vote. For the record: *Motion to approve the minutes was made by: Helen Brown, Second: Tammy Dixon. Motion approved.*
- 2. Finance Report – Amanda Rilan:** Amanda sat with Tamara Butler and received a print out of what our account totals are, including both the School Council account as well as the ongoing Pizza fundraising. The totals were not exact as the current pizza session was yet to be fully tallied. After paying for Pizza session 4, the balance for both accounts will be approximately \$15,000.
- 3. Principal Updates – Leslie McNabb:**

 - Leslie reported that the Silver Celebration went well. There was a capacity crowd in the gym. As enrollment goes up, we may need to look at the logistics involved in having these large events and make some adjustments. Due to this climbing enrollment, we may also need to look at adding another portable to our property if it is possible to house one.
 - The staffing process will be starting at the end of March, beginning of April. Staff receive a survey and are invited to provide their wishes for the upcoming year. With regard to class placement, the school community will be given an opportunity to make requests. Requests regarding students not be placed with certain students are unlikely to be accommodated. Multiple factors are looked at when doing class placement, so it is not always possible to honour the many requests that come in. Being with students who challenge them, may actually be an opportunity for kids to develop coping skills by learning to work at solving conflicts. And as always, Provincial and Board guidelines also need to be followed when creating classes.

- Questions was asked regarding the new community being built on Maple Grove. Leslie is going to investigate what the plan is for these children in terms of school enrollment.
- Kindergarten Registration is happening now. So far Junior Kindergarten registration is lower than usual, but we won't have final numbers until the fall.
- Leslie mentioned an ongoing concern with misuse of technology in school, both on Chrome Books and cell phones in class. Discussions are being had about responsible use.
- Efforts also being made to curb loitering near the lockers. Some students are habitually late for class. There is a need to tighten these rules with our Grade 7 and 8's.
- Leslie recently did some volun"touring" in San Jose, Costa Rica with an organization called Bamboo. She went on a sea turtle conservation project, and also spent some days with a group called Boy With a Ball. There are schools in the region where students do not get appropriate supplies so they are not able to attend school. This organization will donate supplies to students if conditions are met, uniforms are worn, attendance is consistent and report cards are good. The organization also offers tutoring and homework help. The time spent with Boy With a Ball was an incredible one. Leslie posed a question to council, would we be interested in possibly supporting a donation of funds that would go towards supplying 1500 kids from this village with much needed school supplies. We could potentially use the school's discount to purchase these items and send them through Boy With a Ball for distribution. Leslie will follow up with the contacts she made to see what would be needed to make this happen.

4. Teacher Representative Updates – Chad Moffat:

- Boys 7 & 8 Basketball played Monday, they lost in the Semi Finals but won the AAAA Divisional. Well played!
- Girls 7 & 8 Basketball lost last week in the playoffs but played well and had fun.
- Junior Intramural Basketball happening.
- Intermediates are having open gym time with Mr. Thomson and Mr. Zarudny.
- Recycling Crew is cleaning up weekly with Mrs. King.
- PAL's playground program happening, the leaders are from Grades 4 & 5.
- Monthly Assembly held focused on Empathy, next month is Resilience
- DC Class Coffee Cart still rolling, they are working hard and doing a great job.
- Student Teachers are here from UWO and Laurier
- Kids2Learn tutoring program running with 6 groups being run Jones, Verkley and Newman.
- Grade 8 Jump Start Presentations soon, they provide information regarding the transition to High School and job opportunities. Grade 7 presentations happen in May.
- Grade 8 Course selections process is complete for students and their families.
- Camp Walden trip payments and permission forms will be due soon.

5. Community Representative Updates – Lori DaCunha, Silverheights Neighbourhood Association:

- Winter Programs are coming to an end next week (March 5-9)
- March Break Camp – still some spaces left, if interested contact SNA
- Spring Program Registration is March 7th from 9am – 7pm.
- Summer Camp Registration is Saturday April 7th.
- Leaders In Training (LIT) applications are due.
- Bike Rodeo Thursday May 17th from 6pm-7:30pm.
- Neighbourhood Day to be held on Saturday June 2nd at 12-4pm.
- LEAD program postponed for March and will run April 28-29, 2018.

6. Chairperson Updates – Jenn Latour:

- Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) agendas have been posted but no minutes available. Next Meeting is on March 6th if anyone would like to attend.
- Proposal from Mr. Thomson for support for a Move-A-Thon event. He would appreciate a donation from council for \$25 gift cards as prizes for 2 divisions. Can we also support a pizza party or a movie party for the winning class? SNA happily donated funds towards this event. Thank you Lori! *Motion to support these initiatives up to and including funds of \$150? Approved by Helen Brown and Seconded by Tammy Dixon. Motion approved.*
- Movie Night! Date to be determined but will likely be sometime in April to hopefully avoid muddy boots and bad weather. Council will be hosting 2 movie nights, one geared towards the younger kids, one for the older students. “Duplo and Lego” 🐱
- St Gabriel’s Catholic School is offering Parent Engagement seminars and has extended an invitation to Silverheights families. The first seminar will focus on Anxiety in Children (March 21st) and the second will focus on Parents dealing with Anxiety (March 22nd).
- Discussion had about hosting a possible Fun Fair at the end of the year. We would want to keep it simple and fun for families. We need to avoid a larger scale event due to the long list of restrictions from the School Board. This event would need volunteers and support. The best bet will likely be the week of June 11th. Council needs to create a plan and present it to Leslie who will then present it to the staff on our behalf. Parent Reaching Grant (PRO) can be used to support this event as long as we incorporate the Arts and involve parents.

7. Fundraising Report – Helen Brown:

- After collaborating with the Fundraising team, Helen presented a month by month break down of the plans they had devised for the rest of the year. Discussions were held about everyone’s questions, concerns and opinions.
- MARCH – BIG BOX of Cards (All Occasion Assortment) plans to launch March 7th – April 3rd. Pick up date in April TBD. Discussed the fact that initially the council

preferred the Birthday Card Box rather than the all occasion, Helen had been in discussion with the BIG BOX people and decided that since the Birthday box would not be available until much later we should move ahead with the All Occasion. Council decided that we want to go back to the original vote and wait for the preferred product. *Motion made to postpone the card fundraiser until the Fall in order to sell the Birthday Box. Approved by Rob and Seconded by Dana. Motion approved.*

- MARCH continued - Spring Candy Grams to be sold March 21-23 and delivered March 29th. Volunteers needed for this fundraiser for selling and packaging candy. *Motion made to purchase candy and supplies for this fundraiser up to and including \$150. Approved by Amanda and Seconded by Treasure. Motion approved.*
- APRIL – QSP Launch for the Bloom and Cookie Dough Catalogue Fundraiser. Pick up date for the week of May 21st.
- MAY – Book donation collections underway for the proposed Book Sale on May 16th. The theme would be “Summer Reading”. Due to lack of donation and timing, proposal was made to move this event until the fall. Council was in favour of this.
- JUNE – Smencil sale to be held the first week of June.
- Discussion had about the amount of fundraising this seems to be. Are we going to put parents into fundraising fatigue? Leslie expressed concern that we might be overwhelming the school community, council agreed, so we adjusted our plans for the Spring Fundraisers. See above for the changes.
- For the record, all members of Council need to make sure that moving forward, once motions are put forth and voted on, we need to ensure that we fully adhere to those decisions. If any plans need to be amended, they would be subject to a new discussion and vote. The proper protocols and guidelines must be followed for initial and subsequent votes.

Next Meeting: Wednesday April 25, 2018 – No meeting in March!

Adjournment: *Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm*