

SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES
January 22, 2019
Learning Commons
Chicopee Hills Public School

Attendance: David Cameron, Cathy Lapar, Lori Bowes, Caitlin Coverdale, John Tsintaris, Stacey Burgess, Kacy Furner, Elaine Emery, Sharan Sangha, Lindsey Taylor, Colleen Bishop, Dave Linnerth, Maria Gianniotis, Brooke Robinson, Erica Quayle, Lee Ann Andrieseen, Amanda Morgan, Peter Trybus

I. Principal's Report – Lee Ann Andriessen

a. Celebrations – ProGrant for math night was approved

b. Looking forward to September

- Online kindergarten registrations, opened last Sunday, January 20, had 20 students already
- Looking at staffing starting in late March continuing to end of June
- Required to submit numbers by March 31 – budget count for the Board occurs on that date

- Group Activity: call for parent input – was it helpful to meet in small groups with the principal upon registration for junior kindergarten?

Right now the procedure is: parents fill out online survey about their child (survey includes health issues, learning issues, registered in activities, siblings, etc.) then the parents meet with the principal. The information gained then helps the principal and teachers to create class lists.

- Group Activity: call for parent input – what can we do to help make the transition into grade 7 better?

Currently, the teachers and principals work with the feeder schools. They have a meeting with each of the feeder schools to talk about each of the kids, to get input in creating class lists, then have a parent night and then have a grade 7 spirit night

- Would it be helpful to have French immersion presentations by teachers in school rather than from the Board?
- (French immersion – new philosophy that if a child isn't doing well in French immersion, you can't just pull them out, must stay in until grade 8, just add more special education resources

Input:

- Junior kindergarten survey would be helpful to have the option to meet with the principal
- Consider sending the survey send out electronically
- Timing: helpful to have information early
- Try to group the parents between new parents v. seasoned parents
- Add information for French immersion – commitment level – changes in the philosophy
- Grade 6 to 7 transition – should we have the current grade 6s be leaders and welcome the new 6s? to give them a leadership role
- Involve the current grade 6 families as well as the new families from feeder schools
- Introduction to new curriculum for all families in grade 6
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II. **Budget Presentation from Dave Linnerth & Lindsey Taylor**

- Committee was formed for the purpose of strategic planning
- Their purpose was to determine: What are we fundraising for?
- **Vision:** literacy and outdoor learning
- They have developed short term goals v. long term goals

a) Literacy

- Short term: 2018-2019 – Grade 2, SK, French Immersion, grade 3 - home reading program to move forward
- Read-a-thon continuing this year
- “Calling all books” (March) for self-selected reading – asking for books donations
- Self-selected reading aka classroom library – teacher collects books for their shelves, but teachers would like more access to resources for classroom library – parents to bring books, then have an opportunity for parents to shop for their classroom, then any leftover books the students can shop for \$0.05 a book
- Long term: Maintain current infrastructure – upkeep home reading books

b) Outdoor learning:

Short term: 2018-2019 – outdoor equipment – balls, skipping ropes, toy bins, etc.

Long term: multi-phase master plan for an outdoor learning environment (shade, Kindergarten area, social spaces, etc.) – building on the space development already

- This would be a multi-phase plan
- Plan to have targeted fundraising for the specific projects
- The committee is looking at how we can accept corporate donations in the proper way and within the rules of the Board

- The plan for all money going forward – money spent by the Council should fit within these visions
- Pam Drews & Amanda Morgan willing to put together a google document to see what teachers need for outdoor learning
- Check with the teachers that won bins from read-a-thon to see whether the bins lasted and how those worked
- What happens to other needs, such as jerseys? We could have a special project for those needs
- Suggestion: have a portion of fundraising put into a miscellaneous account for special projects.
- Other suggestion: the vision of the outdoor learning looks to also have a focus on physical health and activity so call the category Outdoor Learning/Physical Health
- Proposal – also to assist vendors to become approved for the Board
- Only voting for short-term plans tonight

Motion ONE: Accept the Vision – we move to approve the vision to fundraise for literacy and outdoor learning. The implementation of the literacy component will be completed in the short-term while maintenance of the infrastructure will be done each year. The implementation of the outdoor learning component will be completed over the long-term in phases.

Moved by Dave Linnerth
 Seconded by John Tsintaris
 Motioned carried

- Note: Lee Anne has been approached by 2 companies who wish to invest in the school, most likely large donations and mostly in outdoor learning. We will need to invest in a long term vision. Lee Ann would like to develop a timeline.
- Budget committee to meet again in February – will come up with a plan to execute the vision

Motion TWO: We move to approve the allocation of \$7,000 to the home reading program with the intention of applying the money in the following order: Grade 2, French Immersion, SK, Grade 3?

Moved by Lindsey Taylor
Seconded by John Tsintaris
Motion carried

Current budget balance: \$9,483.81 – balance owing \$566.92 less QSP cheque written to today
= \$8, 916.899

Question: how was the order determined?

Priority is for English to start first
French immersion students do have English books currently

Suggestion: \$2000 discretionary fund?

In April, through the City of Kitchener, can apply for a clean up grant – Ms. Morgan has applied for it in past

WIFI: do we want to add lines to WIFI for outdoor learning/home reading/miscellaneous? Lee Ann to look to it

Lindsey suggested that the report should be divided out and show the line items

III. Dance-A-Thon

Presentation by Amanda Morgan

- Staff has made a Dance-a-thon committee
- February 15 will be the Dance-a-thon
- Intermediates working with Mrs. Thomas who will be working on putting in the packets with glow sticks and pledge books
- Money from fundraiser will pay for the DJ
- Google form sent out to determine their needs – anything raised from JK-grade 3 will go to home reading – 50% of money raised by the French Immersion class will go to French home reading, intermediates funds will go to Chrome books and risers for the gym;
- Will create a visual to show where the money is going
- Challenge: 45 minutes of dancing for kindergarten, 1 hour for the intermediates
- Sustained dancing – must have so many kids dancing for the allotted time
- Must be moving for that period of time
- Promotes: movement and health
- There will be a tab under WIFI (for receipts) and School Day or cash donations
- Dance team will be doing a performance

IV. Travel Committee Update

Presentation from Colleen Bishop

- Next Meeting next Tuesday at 6:30 at the school
- Corfield and Lackner crossing – in communications with the City about traffic along Lackner
- Rough idea for this corner: painting pedestrian crossing, potted plants, benches – various initiatives for traffic calming
- Parking lot management: new signage added along Chicopee Hills Drive, expecting soon
- Bottle neck area: paving grassy/muddy area
- Bike/scooter rack space: moving 3 bike racks from grade area to the concrete pad area on the west side of the school – the racks will be able to be accessible from both sides
- Walking school bus – Randi will begin her route tomorrow morning Jan. 23 – two people signed up so far
- Winter walk to school February 6
- Trailblazers have started, kids out wearing fluorescent vests
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V. Good Will Committee

- Established a year ago as a means to support our families in need
- Big push at Christmas time
- Everything done anonymously/privately – Lee Ann and Sonja child support worker identify families in need
- Amazing work!
- If you know of someone who wants to help out and to have their name on the list for Good Will – please let Brooke Robinson know

VI. WRAPSC/PIC

- Will provide an update via email

VII. Events

a. Read-a-thon

- Will run for the entire month of March
- Cheryl has sent all of documentation from last year to Cathy
- Lori Bowes and Brooke Robinson will be running this event

b. Math Night

- Presentation from Peter Trybus
- ProGrant has been approved
- Have a leadership team in place
- Looking at dates currently – either April 4 or April 11
- Want to get input from the teachers on the date, want to maximize teacher involvement
- No animals this year, they will find something else equally attractive to draw the crowds

c. Staff Appreciation

- John Tsintaris has generously offered to donate a meal for the entire staff and will do the set up as well – food to be available 11:10-11:50
- Lee Ann will provide John with a list of the food allergies so that he can accommodate
- Erica Quayle will organize the remainder
- Will be on February 20

d. Kindie Night

- Staff run initiative
- It would be nice to have a Council representative available that evening

e. Book Fair

- There will be another book fair
- Will run March 4- March 8
- It has been booked with Scholastic
- Cathy has volunteers in place already
- There will be no classroom previews this time because at the previous book fair some of the classes were very misbehaved
- We will have sell only days
- It will not cause a major disruption to the library
- There has been a request made for more books for the senior students

f. Jump Rope for Heart

- There will be a kick back to the school, a request has been made for specific items
- Request has been made to support the outdoor equipment such like skipping ropes or soccer balls, etc.
- This event will take place in May
- We will discuss more at the next Council meeting

g. Spring Concert

- This is also a staff driven event
- It is in the works

h. Graduation

- Ceremony not funded by Council
- But Council can make a donation towards it
- Suggestion made that we do something to acknowledge that this is the first ever graduating class from Chicopee
- Suggestion made that we do a small gift for each of the students – like a lock for their high school lockers
- Suggestion that Council present an award to a student at graduation
- These are things to think of and talk about at the next Council meeting

- Grade 7&8 year end trip - fundraising from bake sale, the kids decided that it will go towards students whose families can't afford for them to go
- No child will not go on the trip if their family can't afford to send them

i. Active/Year End Event

- This will be a free event for families to attend
- Theme will be Active Hearts/Active Minds
- There will be lots of activities
- Will be on May 30 rain or shine
- Need a small committee to organize – need a chair for the committee
- Suggestion: to make a passport to encourage families to visit each of the activities
- Cathy has reached out to Mike Farwell (voice of the Kitchener Rangers/570 News) to be apart of the event – he is confirmed – he will be accepting donations for his Cystic Fibrosis campaign – he could may host a special part of the event like a Pie in the Face
- Waiting for confirmation that Tex from the Kitchener Rangers
- Cathy has also reached out to the Kitchener Titans and Kitchener Panthers
- Kitchener Panthers will attend as long as they don't have a game
- John Tsintaris will organize food trucks – Mega Cone Creamery is confirmed
- John to get the Jamaican truck, Indian truck and will bring his own (Gill on the Go) – rule of thumb for food trucks is minimum 100 people per truck
- Kitchener Kicks have been booked – they will do a Chinese dragon performance
- Irene Pace – a registered dietician with Zehrs will do a booth/presentation
- Should not need a lot of volunteers for the day of so that parents on Council can attend with their families as well
- Will need to plan where each of the activities will be – will need a rain spot and a sun spot

- Elaine Emery will speak to some people regarding yoga/Zumba
- Will invite new kindergarten families and grade 6's from feeder schools
- Should have a Council area – display of the vision of Council and travel committee
- Should be no cost for the event

Persons interested in helping: Amanda Morgan, John Tsintaris, Erica Quayle

VIII. Events Committee

No update at this time

IX. Minutes from the last meeting

Motion made by Cathy Lapar to approve minutes from last meeting

Seconded by Sharan Sangha

Motion carried

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 26 at 6:30 in the Learning Commons