

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Learning Commons

Attendees: Erica Quayle, Katie Hall, Cathy Lapar, Elaine Emery, Caitlin Coverdale, Pancham Chand, Lei Ren, Oriana Benevides, Richard Wallace, David Cameron, Lindsey Taylor, Dave Linnerth, Evelyn Sawatzky, Pam Drews, Tara Lambert, Amanda Morgan, David Bishop, Madison Cox

Regrets: Brooke Robinson, Mustafa Aydin

1. Minutes from Previous Meeting:

- No questions about Minutes from previous meeting

Motion to approve Minutes: Madison Cox

Seconded: Elaine Emery

Motion passed (Quorum met)

2. Communication from School Council: (Madison Cox)

- Executive is considering: How can School Council reach out more effectively to the School community at large?
- Twitter account or Facebook page
- Consulting with LeeAnne Andriessen about Board rules and regulations about social media
- Hoping to have an update in January
- Question for the School Council at large? How are parents finding interaction with SchoolDay? Too many updates? Do we need more Council? Is it too much noise if School Council adds more?
- Consensus that SchoolDay is good – more updates/messages are fine
- We could make a SchoolDay group for School Council but only school council members could get those updates
- We want a way to highlight that the message is coming from School Council through SchoolDay
- Is School Day the right resources for messages from School Council?
- Would Facebook/Twitter be easier to search
- Others experienced a Facebook group as a positive because parents can ask questions
- Lee Anne Andriessen's concern: Social media must be monitored by school staff
- Another concern: is the possibility of messages being different/conflicting then it creates a lot of chaos among parents and unnecessary calls to the school
- Also there is a concern that parents will have to go to several different sites for information

3. Team Building Exercise: Pictionary

4. Fundraising Targets:

- The Executive is wondering about a follow-up small project to the Home Reading once that is completed.
- this is a wishlist of potential items for the next small project – in no particular order other than the home reading to be finished first
- Only items that are not covered in the Schedule A of the budget can be fundraised for – ex. Library books is something in the budget therefore, can not fundraise for it

Item	Preliminary Fundraising Target
Home Reading Grade 1 (Fr)	\$3000
Home Reading Grade 2 (Fr)	\$3000
Home Reading Kindergarten	\$9000
Home Reading Grade 3 (En)	\$7000
Home Reading Carts and supplies	\$1000
Volleyball uniforms	\$4000
Track & Field Uniforms	\$4000
School Mascot costume	\$3000
Bike racks	TBC
Basketball nets (outdoor)	\$600 each
TOTAL:	\$34,000

- Bike racks are needed especially on the Pebblecreek side along the fence so that the kids going home that way do not have to travel on their bikes through the kiss and ride area
- Basketball nets would be mounted to the side of the building – more expensive because the Board requirements that the equipment to be long lasting
- These are ball park figures only – not a lot of research because we don't have approval from School Council
- Executive was thinking that the small project would be helpful for older kids to benefit from fundraising and to have an immediate result of the fundraising
- Want to ensure that we are including all grades
- Last year Council approved two goals: 1. Long term goal: outdoor learning 2. Short term goal: home reading
- Do we look at other short term goals after we finish home reading?
- Important to communicate with the community so that all grades are aware that they are in the radar for goals, so that they will contribute – aware that there are needs for all grades of students
- Need to communicate with the older grades that they are important too
- We have purchased approximately half of the Home Reading requirements for kindergarten, the number reflected is for the other half of the cohort
- Grade 3 Home Reading has been purchased already (and can be removed from the above wishlist)

- French immersion Home Reading is calculated for 30 students per grade – will need smaller product for the French immersion
- Also need carts for the French immersion Home Reading products
- French books are more expensive than English
- Will need about \$7500 per grade for French immersion Home Reading
- If you wish to donate books, they will form part of the classroom libraries (but not for the library or home reading)

MOTION: To continue use the 2019 fundraising priorities as established at the June 2019 meeting without any changes or amendments

Motion made by: Dave Linnerth

Seconded by: Richard Wallace

Motion passed with quorum

Therefore, no other short term project determined.

5. Financial Overview

WEFI Balance: \$5959.82

School Council Funds: \$9380.23

Grade 3 home reading has been purchased: \$5,600.00

Already approved \$2000 for Outdoor learning – hasn't been removed from the totals yet

Total Balance: \$9740.05

Good Will carry forward: \$300?? Not previously used, should carry forward, already approved in previous years to designate for Good Will projects

Previous Month's balance: \$15,340.05

Note: Our head secretary has gone on leave (has been gone for over a week). There is a "supply secretary" – but she doesn't have all of the training of a head secretary including dealing with financials.

6. Fundraising Committee:

- No one signed up for the committee
- Executive suggesting another approach to the committee
- Executive to put forth some ideas/projects for someone to volunteer to take on to manage:

IDEAS put forth by Executive:

- a) **BOOK FAIR** – Erica Quayle
- b) **Mabel's Labels** – Caitlin Coverdale
 - involves pushing the message to the school committee including writing “copy”/advertisements for School Day
 - someone to manage the account (currently managed by Lindsay Taylor)
- c) **Guinness Book of Records event** – possibly in February
 - This idea was shelved for another year, not to be undertaken for the 2019/20 school year.
- d) **Targeted Home Reading** – Caitlin Coverdale
 - Includes: requests to the families who will be using the home reading for cash donations
 - involves writing advertising/request – note: reminder to parents to designate all donations made through WEFI as for Home Reading
- e) **Read-a-thon** – in March – Madison & Cathy Lapar to lead
 - involves communication with teachers. Note: Assume that no one on the staff is aware of the procedures. It could be communicated through teacher reps.
 - involves: putting together the booklets, distribution of the booklets, collection and counting money, purchasing prizes and delivery of prizes
- f) **Program-a-thon/Code Academy** – possibly in March to follow along with the Read-a-thon for the older students
- g) **Math/Tech Night and BBQ** – April 23 - John Tsintaris will help with the BBQ
 - John will bring his staff to run the BBQ, needs someone to handle the money/tickets, selling drinks
 - need a coordinator for the event – Lindsey Taylor will help. Elaine Emery will to assist depending on the day
 - John also has tents that can be set up to eat under if weather if problematic
 - Will need assistance getting the people to attend
 - Richard Wallace to help with financial
 - Erica Quayle will also assist
- h) **Family/Spring Dance** – in the spring (separate from a Dance-a-thon)
 - decided not to do a Family Dance this year
- i) **FlipGive campaign**
 - involves: managing account the account; writing advertising for SchoolDay
 - Richard Wallace to be the lead

FlipGive – 2%-10% given back to the school depending on the store

Counsel decided not to use the program known as Funscrip – may require parents to come to the school to pick up the gift cards, it will take manual labour. It is a time sensitive – must get on board if you want to get them by Christmas – this might be better for next year due to timing issue

j) Bingemans – possible date January 23 (day before the PD Day in January)

- they allow you a night to bring the school community to come
- sell tickets – sold through School Day – almost no effort
- involves writing advertising through School Day and managing funds/tickets
- Oriana Benevides to organize

k) Grade 8 Graduation t-shirts – John Tsintaris

- The t-shirt contains signatures of all of the graduating students
- \$20 per shirt? – ask Grade 8 teachers – this could be the Council contribution to their grade 8 trip.
- Will need to run this idea past the Grade 8 graduation committee

NOTE: - grade 8 trip is book June 22

NOTE: the grade 8 bake sale proceeds are going towards students who can't afford to go on the trip. They made enough money for one student to go.

l) Teacher Appreciation – Erica Quayle & Cathy Lapar – February

- Information was received that School Councils are not permitted to spend any money on this type of event.

Calendar/Schedule of Events:

December: Flip Give – Richard & WEFI campaign for Outdoor Learning

January: Mabel's Labels/Bingemans

February: Dance-a-thon (teacher run) (February 14) and Targetted Home Reading and Teacher Appreciation

March: Read-a-thon

April: Math/Tech Night & Grade 8 T-shirts

May 30th: OLP Golf Tournament – Dave Linnerth lead on that project

- Dance-a-thon – will be in February – teacher run
- Concern that this is too much events/fundraising during push for outdoor learning push

7. Outdoor Learning Update:

- They have meetings scheduled for this week with first of landscape architecture groups
- Looking for a group that is willing to work with students and within our budget
- Goal: to have the architecture group to sit and meet with the students to get their ideas
- We want to be able to own our plans

- WEFI – will now have to type in that the donation is to OUTDOOR Learning Project – no dropdown menu available
- They will be pushing for donations for the holidays
- They have finalized the donation range for recognition:
 - \$20-\$999 – will get a tax receipt
 - \$1,000 - \$4999 – tax receipt, will be mentioned on the blog and website, will get a plaque to be displayed in your business
 - \$5000-\$24,999 – donation recognized on roadside sign for 2 weeks
 - \$25,000 and up – will get all of the recognition and be apart of ribbon cutting ceremony
- They will start a focused corporation push in the new year once we have the plans
- They will be applying for grants in January
- Trying to get as much money in hand to get first phase installed this summer
- Goal: \$10,000 for the first year
- Goal: is that every summer going forward to have an install going forward
- Each year in September can have a grand opening of the new phase
- Hope to get more than one phase for the first year
- The committee is printing a package for parents to take to corporations – hope to have the packages available in January
- At previous meeting Council approved \$2000 for the architecture group design – a graphic design of our plan, not an engineer stamped plan
- Owning the plan will allow the school to drive the phases and to allow phases to be developed by different companies – not just one company doing all the work
- In February they will host a community family night meeting to share the plan going forward – question and answer period. Hoping to have the architect at the meeting
- There is a grant available – team is going on Monday night for the meeting, upgrading of school areas that are incorporating nature – it is a \$10,000 grant – 4 meetings to attend
- If there are corporate people who want to make smaller donation, they could also sponsor the golf tournament
- The WEFI link has not been working, which is why there hasn't been any communication to the community asking for donations for WEFI
- Donations through WEFI must have a message to say for Outdoor Learning Project

MOTION: all money donated through WEFI from November 1 until January meeting to be designated to outdoor learning

Motion made by: Erica Quayle
 Seconded by John Tsintaris
 Passed

8. **Book Fair:** Update from Erica Quayle

Total Revenue: \$9814.70 (rough estimate)

The profits for School was not available at the time of the meeting as figures were still being finalized. Final numbers to be provided at January meeting.

Feedback: - open up in the evening earlier – we had parents/families waiting

Feedback: don't schedule parents during nutrition breaks.

Motion: Council to receive cash and no products from Scholastic

Motion made by: Erica Quayle

Seconded by: Richard

Passed

9. **GoodWill**

- The Committee sent out the email to committee
- Looking for donations for Walmart gift cards
- Send gift cards to the office clearly labelled Good will
- Two projects currently on the go

10. **Principal's Update:**

A. *Labour Relations*

- Elementary teachers federation will be in a legal strike position on November 26
- We have been informed that work to rule sanctions will include:
 1. no staff meetings
 2. No Professional development outside of the school day
 3. No report cards (however, marks will be supplied to administrators instead)
 4. No teacher in charge assistance when principals need to be away – VP's can be dispatched to another school temporarily
 5. No filing of student progress reports
 6. Not participating in school committees other than School Council, staffing, labour management or health/safety committees
- Staff will continue to focus on and support the learning needs of students, contact parents and do supervision
- There will be 2 week advanced warning if there is going to be a walk out
- There are no time lines for work to rule
- Can expect unrest among secretaries, custodians, etc.
- If there is a collective unrest among all of the groups, that could cause a lock out

B. Seasonal/Christmas concert

- Music leadership team consulted with us and decided against hosting a seasonal concert.
- Leadership team truly dedicated to music education and put a great deal of effort
- Spring concert instead for the week of April 28-30 – more of a formal concert
- They did not want their efforts to be lost

C. Traffic Update

- Concerns: October 31 – pouring rain – LeeAnn and T. Scott went out to assist with supervision from 2:50-3:45; Traffic was extremely heavy
- LeeAnn was at the kiss and ride area – there was a vehicle that tried to run her over – person was swearing, yelling, - they were passing in the wrong lane – she was able to stop the person – decided to tape it – everything caught on camera - can't tell licence plates – showed the video to traffic person (Lesley Maxwell) and superintendent
- T Scott was in the area of the bus area
- Primary concern is student safety
- Creating unsafe conditions
- We are engaging in consultation with transportation (Leslie Maxwell), Finance (Matt Gerard), Facilities (Ron Dailing), and our own superintendent (Evelyn Giannopoulos)
- This consultation is looking at some options to make some changes to our site which will cost a great deal of money. These changes will not involve additional parking
- These changes will look at taking the parking out of the kiss and ride and making it a single lane (once you are in, you are in and have to wait)
- Another option is to close the parking lots all together – meaning: zero access to the property for families
- Currently people are parking at 2pm for dismissal
- Police are being called for Corfield Road because homeowners are complaining
- Leslie Maxwell is doing research on this right now
- Dismissal is always the problem
- Tuesdays and Thursdays is when we have athletics at the school – so we have to be considerate of those visitors as well
- Even with educational campaigns we aren't seeing improvement

D. Council Parent Learning Interests: we will try to accommodate learning regarding the following topics in the meetings to come

1. Literacy in primary grades
2. Math
3. EQAO
4. Special education
5. Progressive discipline
6. HERO Generation and WITS
7. Equity

E. *School Inquiry about Outdoor Learning Project:*

- Engaged about 6 classes
- Students given opportunity to present their ideas for outdoor learning
- There were 6-8 classes who were interested
- Grade 3 students who researched native plants to Ontario that should be planted at the back
- Students creating presentation with media
- Students incorporating math and measurement
- The winning presentations will make a pitch to the architect
- If the architect finds a student or group has done a great job that has been incorporated, then they can be apart of the ribbon cutting ceremony
- Outdoor learning committee looking for a company that will have the architect come and speak to the student groups
- Studies have shown that if students are engaged in “real life” projects they will do much better

NEXT SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING scheduled for: January 21 at 6:30pm in the Learning Commons