

School Council Meeting - November 26th

Attendees - 10 - Martin Schreindler, Sam Hopkins's, Jenn Dufton, Courtney Zivku, Michelle O'Keefe, Julie Keip, Stacey Doberman, Geta Hutuleac, Jaimie, Sherri McFee

Staff Attendees - 3 (Pam Mustin, Sarrah Beemer, Sarah Knapp)

First Topic (Sherri):

Suggestion from last meeting to increase meeting length by 30mins so they are less rushed and to limit deferred items. Agenda will still be built as 1.5hrs, but we'll have the 30min buffer.

Sherri made a motion, Martin seconded.

All voted in favour - PASSED

Sarah Knapp - commented that other schools leverage google docs/polls for voting should we need to approve things before a next meeting. Ex. If there was a request for money, there was a threshold, and if over a certain amount - vote required.

Ideally in the future, we will have more of a frame work as this year has been new people and trying to sort out structure, etc.

Treasurer's Report (Jen)

Popcorn sales \$718 YTD - \$617 online format, \$48 cash - cash is being held in the float for future events.

Movie Night - \$156, so total float is \$204 currently.

School Day \$10.15 Paid for October

Sign \$607.85 Paid

\$12,763.44 in our account

Pending expense \$416.83 for ordered popcorn

Principal's Report (Pam/Sarrah)

Reached out to Finance Dept (Marina/Nicole) to ask about speaking to us and they can come in February to talk about what funds can be used for, how they can be retained, etc

Working to keep website current even though School Day is often the main one. Updates were made for Remembrance Day. Council could also leverage the website if we wanted to.

Academic Focus -

- Math Facilitator - had a math resource coming in to work with 3/4s and 2/3s. We're a priority 1 school given prior EQAO results - its a positive that we get board support's to support Admin and Educators to ensure we're aligning with Math Long Term Plans.
- Literacy - block 1, Early Resource Reading Teacher (focus k-2) - mandated by ministry but also board mandated testing/monitoring. Looking at they resources we have and what do we need, or what do we have that we no longer need.

- While we may be block 1, it is a positive we get these specialized resources/tangible support and strategies that can positively impact the entire school.
- Question raised on EQAO and why last years results are pending from Ministry, school hasn't heard as to what the hold up is. Meadowlane has made significant progress.

Kindergarten Registration starts Dec 1 - it's earlier this year. Call the office for more information.

Bus Evacuation Drills completed.

Pro Grant Update (Jen)

Due on Friday - Julie, Jen & Sarah had been looking at ideas.

Final Idea - multicultural fest to be held in the spring time - science fair style, 10 countries/cultures to focus on, attendees get a 'passport' to be stamped as they travel around.

- Goal - help with inclusion, engagement - partner with teachers and classrooms.
- Will require volunteer support - lots of possibilities.
- Possible Equity & Multi Language learning departments could provide resources.
- Tentative date April 2nd.

No need to vote - no one was opposed.

Pam - can look into if PIC grant can be also leveraged for this type of event.

Teachers Report (Sarah Knapp)

- Caring Assembly - each month has a focus area within the classroom, next focus is accountability. We've been handing out certificates when they see the characteristics in action.
- Grateful for the funds for new gym equipment - sorting through old items to go to classrooms and new items in the gym.
- Remembrance Day assembly - students were very respectful, older students did readings and led the assembly.
- Progress Reports - sent home. Parents can reach out to Classroom teachers if they have questions on the progress reports. This is just the progress report, not final report/grades.
- Choir - will be singing at Rangers game December 19th. Ms Benjamins is arranging. There will be a block of tickets but details have not yet been provided to us. Once available. Choir members/families will have first priority and then it will be sent to the entire school.
- Staff vs Student Soccer Game held.
- Field trips are happening - teachers are using their discretion on when to use the funds from school council based on costs of trips.
 - Discussion - how are we keeping it fair on classes going on field trips versus not - offered if it meets the needs of the classroom etc. Trips so far have been free and are programs that are targeted at certain grades - so some free programs may not be available for all grades.

- Do teachers need to get pre-approval from Council for the funds - currently approved by Sarrah/Pam to ensure it aligns to curriculum. If it were for items for the classroom - it wouldn't be consumables (ie. markers) - could be games that support literacy ongoing, etc. Overall - still needs to benefit the whole class and meet curriculum expectations.
- Motion - Council doesn't need to approve the \$300 spend by classroom teacher to make approve the asks instead of waiting for a council meeting.
- Vote - PASSED (all in favour)

Fundraising Report (Martin)

Chocolate Fundraising for Nutrition for Learning - led by Pam - end of January/early February - date to be selected, will get some prizes going to encourage/engage students.

Discussion - Board has WEFI accounts that people gave through it - tax receipt able. Giving Tuesday coming up - any thought to asking for donations to Nutrition for Learning. Could leverage this within any fundraiser if people want to donate instead of selling items.

- Could have the notation on the council site always about WEFI so people don't feel pressure - reference the ongoing ways to support - Factory Shoe, Mabels Labels, etc.

Previously had Domino's Nights - but haven't heard from them recently but prior members vaguely recall. The vouchers for Pizza were smoother.

Jen - is going to reach out to Factory Shoe to see about program, new cards, etc.

Cake Pops discussed - originally end of February is targeted in place of a popcorn day - pricing to be confirmed. After discussion on type of facility they are made in, decision made to sell at Funfair so that parents are responsible for determining if a child can/cant have them.

Baden Coffee Fundraiser - suggesting to cancel as were targeting February and don't want too many too close to dates- all agree.

Hot Lunches - reached out to Lunch Lady - no response. Martin will look into ESNS as a hot lunch provider for next meeting.

- This is in response to an ask from prior years where Parent's have asked for more options for lunches. What are the options, price point, is there a minimum? Michelle & Courtney happy to help with distribution.

Fun Fair - May 20th - trying to make it a community event, use the field, have activities (like soccer) that don't have a cost.

- Fire truck is booked
- Thought to do a Bazaar - other schools rent tables, and have vendors donate items to a raffle. Vendors do need to carry their own insurance. Julie would be able to get more details on what is allowable. Certificates of Insurance are a typical requirement.
- School Travel Planning Supervisor - popular activity - speedometer, racing etc.

Current Cookie Dough Fundraiser - ongoing, ends Saturday.

Next Movie Night - April 23rd - some students have already asked for Inside Out 2.

Other Items:

Currently we dont have a May meeting schedule, do we want one on the books for a week after the fun fair, and debrief to capture feedback and ear mark fundraiser for next year.

- will hold meeting May 27th

FYI - if Staff are off - approved by Board, if its extended, Admin is told only once its extended, not privy to that info.

Meeting Ajourned.