

Stittsville Public School Parent Council Meeting Minutes - October 21, 2014

Present:

Jacqueline Davis
Sabrina Kemp
Michael Malek
Fiona Livingstone
Lorrie Hayes
Janet Starkes
Julie Smith
Megan Baker
Virginia O'Halloran
Melissa Aitken
Donna Boyle
Ryan Dawe
Kuzniarz
Maura Cuffari
Kristin Harcoff
Jenny Guth
Donna Edwards
Jacquie Connors
Kathryn Spence

Indicated Absences:

Angela Viktora
Michelle Legault
Jennifer Kearns
Amanda Wittebol

INTRODUCTION

1. Welcome - Jacqueline Davis
 - Motion to approve previous minutes as circulated by Shannon Helleman - approved
 - Motion to approve agenda as circulated by Sabrina and Jacqueline - approved

EXECUTIVE REPORT

2. Chair Report - Jacqueline Davis

- 3a. Principal Report - Michael Malek

- On September 25th, the whole school participated in the Terry Fox Walk and raised approximately \$XXXX.XX Thank you to Mr. Gonis for organizing this important event and to the countless volunteers who supported the event.

- Special thank you to School Council for their support with Meet the Teacher Night on September 25th
- On behalf of the staff and students, special thank you to Tracey Heard, Ben and Shannon Helleman organizing and leading the parent volunteers who donated their time to tend to the school gardens. The gardens look amazing.
- Individual Educations Plans (IEP's) will be sent home with students who are working on accommodated or modified programs, October 15th. Special thanks to the Special Education Teachers, Core French and homeroom teachers for all their hard work in completing detailed plans for student success. Parents are asked to review and sign page 5 and return to the homeroom teacher. If parents have any questions about their child's IEP, they are asked to contact the homeroom teacher.
- Picture Retake Day – October 29th for students who missed this opportunity.
- October 31st – K-6 Black and Orange Day
- Progress Report will be sent home with students on Thursday, November 13th. Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held the evening of November 20th and the morning of November 21st.
- Our operating budget this year is \$XXX,XXX.XX - this is to pay for all supply teachers, photocopying, telephone, postage, as well as paper, art supplies, technology, classroom resources and daily consumable items.
- EQAO Results
 - Grade 3 Reading 92, Writing 92, Math 85
 - Grade 6 Reading 88, Writing 83, Math 58
- October 10th - PD: Staff reviewed EQAO data in preparation for the School Learning Plan. Our curriculum focus this year will continue to be mathematics, with a focus on Junior Boys. We acknowledge that our boys do well with knowledge and skills sections of EQAO, however, the application and extension to real life situations is an area for improvement.

3b. Vice Principal - Donna Boyle

- Upcoming WITS assemblies on Wednesday, October 21, 2014
 - 11:30 – 12:30 WITS (Junior – LEADS)
 - 12:30 – 1:10 WITS (Primary)
 - 2:00 – 2:30 WITS (Kindergarten)
 - "The Recess Queen" will be read. Parents are welcome to attend, but it's not intended for parents. Discussion was had about notifying parents that assemblies are open, but to be clear about the purpose of the assembly. There is an assembly on Remembrance Day that is open to parents as well.
- Our School Resource Officer will be joining us to lead the Assemblies. Thanks to our Safe and Caring Team, Helen Catselis, Maura Cuffari, Elizaeth Graham, Virginia O'Halloran, Angela Reed, Cathy Takahashi, Natalie Tessier, Mary-Jo Welch, Donna Nadanyi, Jennifer Chambers, and myself.
- Lockdown on Thursday, October 16th very successful - assisted by our School Resource Officer Genevieve Hupe and Constable Barb Babcock along with our office staff. We will practice one more in the spring.

- Fire drills - we have held our mandatory 3 Fire Drills for the fall, and will practice 3 more in the spring.

4. Teacher's Report - Virginia O'Halloran

- A teacher on staff has organized for each classroom a bag of spoons.
- IODE is food cupboard available for students who have forgotten lunches or don't provide enough food.
- Staff is provided with anaphylaxis training by public health nurse and learn about diabetes too
- Soccer teams have practiced and have competed. October 8 was the boys tournament and the girls competed on the 15th and came in second. The switch of divisions went well.
- Cross country did really well, over 100 runners! They ran on October 17th after training several times a week for over a month.
- Free the Children Club has started and first campaign has started - We Scare Hunger food drive. Last year was 1200 canned goods. So far there are 65 members, attending meetings etc.
- Student council is up and going now - Grade 5 and 6 teachers will choose 12 students. Students will apply and answer 4 questions. Teachers will narrow it down, a few will be chosen to give speeches, etc. Chosen 12 to be included in anti-bullying initiatives, introduce speakers at assemblies, volunteering in school events, maybe miss a little class to help?! Expected to promote student spirit in leadership.
- Black and orange day next week.
- Youngest and only list is now finalized for notes that need to be distributed to families.
- Spirit Day reminder sheet will soon be sent home.
- Knitting club to start beginning of November
- Borden ball runs in November and December
- House league soccer for grade 3 and 4s at recess
- Mr Gonis will start Environmental Club next month for students grades 1-6: take care of recycling, run classrooms audits (give tips to improve), etc.
- In September, the students participated in Take a Stand, Lend a Hand assembly. Take a stand (against bullies), and lend a hand (help the victim).
- Terry Fox walk was successful
- Tune in Tuesdays organizing by Sandy Faux. Students request a song of her choice and they have to do a report and research and give the announcement
- Pumpkin Walk on Oct 30 - still need parent volunteers! Shifts are 20-45 minutes, some early and some late. Run by Shawna, proceeds for yard equipment.
- November Remembrance Day Ceremony on 11th, time to be announced.

5. Treasurer's Report - Fiona Livingstone

Not much to report. Food program money coming in...down a bit since last year \$XX,XXX last year, \$XX,XXX this year. \$XXXX missing from food program. Every category is down. Last year net was \$XX,XXX, this year \$XX,XXX. We did start a couple weeks later, so that hurts a

little too. We will make some of that bake from hot dog program run through the lunch lady. \$X.XX on each order from lunch lady.

Discussion had about opening up food program registration again in January - risk may be losing clients. Nothing finalized.

\$XX,XXX in the bank, lots of food money in, not much paid out yet out \$XX,XXX for food only). \$XX,XXX came in by Paypal, last year was \$XX,XXX. Volume of cheques has dissipated which is a lot less work for treasurer.

6. Fundraising Report - Sabrina Kemp

Donna and Janet had taken over fundraising, yay! They haven't taken over quite yet, so Sabrina reporting today.

- Mabel's labels is ongoing - Jessica Sultan is coordinating
- October movie night (Kristin) - Bears - 94 tickets, which is more than usual.
- Perogies and Cookie Dough - Jen Kearns (goal of \$XXXX)
- CPR certification night - tickets are \$XX we have to pay \$X/head for training booklet. Trainer has offered his time for free, and heart safe has offered use of dummies for free. Cap of 50 participants. Deadline is Monday, but will accept til end of week.
- School Clothes - Julie Smith - in time for Christmas. Forms are ready. Goal of \$XXX
- Tag Along Toys Night will happen late Nov or Dec. It is the first time trying this...only tried Chapters before.

7. Food Program Report - Lorrie Hayes

Most covered already. Lorrie still getting help from Fiona with hotlunches.net Milk program vastly improved. Adult volunteers fill bags, grade 6s deliver, and they collect after.

8. OCASC Report - Coreen Tyers

Coreen not present to report. Haven't heard anything this year. Shannon to email her.

PREVIOUS BUSINESS

9. Buddy Bench - Jenny provided more information. In limbo are the finances required. Janet and Julie stepped in to offer pink shirts for anti-bullying day (same cost as school wear). Another option is to earmark money from another fundraiser. Jenny Guth indicated there is a city grant you can apply for as well, but only in Sept and May (30% up to \$X,XXX dollars). Julie to coordinate pink shirts with pink day. Safe and caring school community to analyze idea before going forward. We want to make sure it is well researched before proposing to staff. There was also interest on Facebook group from some community moms in donating. These decisions need to be made by December. Jenny to get some stories from schools who have already implemented it already. Cost estimate was done last year, so board tender should run smoothly.

10. Snowsuit fund - Shannon to run this program again.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Budget Allocations - Jacqueline Davis

Teachers prefer:

1. Allocations
2. Technology or Culture
3. Scientists in the School

Ryan, Fiona, Sabrina and Jacqueline to revisit financials before we vote on any monies being spent.

Jacqueline asked teachers for list of what teachers generally spend their money on. Teachers to report by email what their allocations are directed toward, give costs of projectors, and pieces that they'd like, and which cultural activities they are interested in, etc. Report to come two weeks before next meeting so council members can read and think about it. We will vote in November, with a second vote in December if more discussion is required...if little discussion, then maybe just an email vote as a 2nd.

11. Municipal Election: Role of Trustees and Responses from Candidates to Council - Jenny Guth

Council asked a few questions of candidates and Jenny received answers to share with council. Jenny will give a summary, but there are long responses and a lot of information to share (to much to read). Information will be shared by email or posted on website.

CONCLUSIONS

12. Meeting adjournment - motion to close meeting (Donna, Shannon) - motion approved.

NEXT MEETING: November 18, 2014 at 7:00pm.