



Parent Council Meeting
March 25, 2024 – 6:30pm
Edmison Heights Library & WebEx

Attendance:

Lorena Haley-Twiss
Mary Heenan
Robyn Smith
Liz Maxwell
Lauren Fitzsimmons
Tonya Cowle
Katie Jones
Samantha Dennis
Amy Campbell
Lyndele Gauci

Ashley Graham
Keith Munro
Kate Dunford
Beth Morgan
Amy Moore
Noni Chowdhury
Mary Coulas
Becky Mills
Chantal Collins

Agenda:

- Welcome – Lauren Fitzsimmons
- Land Acknowledgement – Lauren Fitzsimmons
- Approval of, and business arising from the previous minutes – Lauren Fitzsimmons
- Principal's Report – Lorena Haley-Twiss
- Teacher's Report – Liz Maxwell & Robyn Smith
- Fundraising Report – Ashley Graham
- Student Nutrition Report – Samantha Dennis
- Treasurer's Report
- New Business
 - Open Table
- Adjournment

Start Time: 6:32pm

- **Welcome** – Chairperson Kim Docherty has had a last-minute family situation and is unable to attend tonight. She has asked Lauren Fitzsimmons to be the Deputy Chairperson for the evening. Lauren welcomed everyone in person and online to our March parent council meeting.

- **Land Acknowledgement** (Lauren Fitzsimmons) We are on the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg covered by Treaty 20; I am grateful to live, work, and meet here. Lauren gave a personal reflection linked to this time of year, which is typically when maple sap runs and is collected, but this year she has heard from some local Indigenous folks that it may not be a good year to tap the trees as they are stressed after the mild winter. She appreciated that advice and knowledge about the land.

- **Previous Minutes – Lauren Fitzsimmons**
 - Lauren asked the group if there is any questions or concerns from the previous meeting that requires discussion. No additions or revisions noted. Minutes approved by Amy Campbell and seconded by Beth Morgan.

- **Principal Report – Lorena Haley-Twiss**
 - See attached
 - Character Trait of the Month – Fairness
 - Professional Learning Community – 2 days (PA Days)
 - Staffing Numbers for next year – not confirmed yet
 - Anti-bullying – school improvement team – staff identified the need to work more with our community partners (ie: PARN), a consistent plan will be established that everyone understands (for staff, parents & students), more to come on that at the next meeting
 - Ramadan – many classes are learning with board resources.
 - Want to thank parents publicly for giving feedback and comments on daily school events/activities/situations it is much appreciated.
 - Safety – lockdown drill in April has been changed to May. Bus evacuation presentation occurred today. Formal health & safety training for Mary, Brock & Trish is being completed. Work project requests for library floors and all floors in portables (at least repairs) has been requested. The building is old, and requests are constantly going in for repairs and miscellaneous things around the school. Outside there are still holes in the ground, they will be filled once everything has thawed & settled.
 - A long jump pit was requested by students. In the spring the board will dump sand in the back so a pit can be made to practice with.

- **Teachers Report – Liz Maxwell & Robyn Smith**
 - See attached.
 - Extracurricular – The school play backstage and front of house crew opportunities coming up as well as the ongoing poster contest.
 - Grade 4 Intramurals have begun (thanks to the council suggestion!)
 - New sports equipment has been ordered and mostly received. Used equipment drive in the Spring to help this as well.

- Alice In Wonderland – May 29, 30 & 31, 2024
 - 4 days a week rehearsing currently. Working on scenes with opportunities for backstage help, scene painting, front of house, props and costumes (lots of DIY) for grade 4, 5 & 6's are coming up.
 - Looking different then what was envisioned at the beginning of the school however the atmosphere is still exciting! Play will be done in the home school gym; it will be something special. The students are learning to project their voices, no mics will be provided.
 - A provided preliminary budget has been handed out. This budget is what is projected without donations:

Items	Cost
Costumes	\$1,000
Make-Up	\$150
Props	\$400
Scrim/Wings	\$350
Paint/Crafting Stuff	\$200
Lights	\$500
Lower Stage Platform	\$2,000
Stairs (Wood/Labour)	In Kind
Printing	In House
Total:	\$4,600

- Depending on sales – the play production may ask council for some monetary help.
 - Looking for parent volunteers – front of house, makeup, hair etc.
 - Samantha Dennis will speak with Robyn about the makeup. She may also be able to help with stairs/platform.
 - Lyndele Gauci spoke about costumes and props, may be able to help within the local arts program, she will speak with Robyn.
 - T-shirts & hoodies will be available for purchase to help with costs.
 - 200 seats are capped per performance. Get your tickets early!
- **Fundraising Update- Ashley Graham**
 - Cookie Sales are underway. Delivery for dough April 9th, delivery between 11am – 12pm. Pickup 3pm – 7pm. Volunteers will be needed.
 - Discussion about the chosen company as Tonya discussed that it was disappointing that we couldn't move ahead with the other cookie company that had more allergy inclusions (gluten free, diary free etc.). Ashley explained that this was disappointing as they were close in numbers when surveyed however the shipping costs this company required were too high for the projected sales.
 - Adam Scott Intermediate is interested in teaming up next year to enable bigger fundraisers to benefit both schools. This will provide larger orders

to be made to help shipping costs and Adam Scott has more space for pick ups. To be discussed further at the beginning of the next school year.

- Danceathon – Jimmy DJ coming up in May – more to discuss at April meeting.

- **Nutrition Program – Samantha Dennis & Mary Coulas**

- We are financially sound for the rest of the school year. We should end the year around \$19,000. (It takes \$20,000 for the year to run the program).
- Fundraiser Idea - Golf day in 2025 with Quarry Golf Course in Selywn. We would canvas for golf hole sponsors.
 - The school council would need to be the body to hold the money but the money would go solely to the student nutrition program. A fundraising committee would be required for this event.
 - **COUNCIL voted to support the golf day initiative and allowing them to hold the money in our account. Mary Coulas motioned, Ashley Graham seconded – all in favour – vote passed.**
 - Further discussion to be had in Fall 2024.
- PC Grant has opened their applications – they did not let us know. Mary is working on establishing our application, as we are close to not receiving it, which would not be good.
- There is a program that the nutrition program can apply for our Indigenous population. Mary asked Lorena if there was a way to know the percentage of indigenous students and if this would be applicable. Lorena says that she would need to look into this and see how we can research & provide that information appropriately.
- Should we apply for \$5,000 grant through PC for student nurses' program – general consensus of room was yes.
- In the school – still lots of support from staff, helpers and volunteers
- Inclusiveness of food bins – Looking for a compassionate way to tell parents that the food bins have a priority and shouldn't be a free for all. Some teachers do send out emails to those they notice may be taking from those that need it. Teacher representatives will bring up to staff.
- Cereal Drive – where is it? The cereal drive was put on hold due to the food drive that was started. Samantha hopes to do this in April or May depending on our situation. It may need to wait until the next school year.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- Nothing new to report

- **New Business & Open Table**

- Tonya brought communication about a PRO Grant Speaker that is attending Adam Scott in April (see attached) and it is open to all parents of

schools to attend. Lorena said that this was great to share and will place it in the April newsletter.

- If there are local events or activities that would like to be shared for our school community speak with Lorena. If the activity is approved, she is more than happy to share in our newsletter.
- Mary shared some details about the Shamrock Festival in Ennismore in July. She will speak with Lorena and bring more information about this family event to the next council meeting.

Next meeting is set for Monday April 15 , 2024 at 6:30pm– EHPS Library & Online

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn – 1st Ashley Graham, 2nd Amy Campbell

Meeting Adjourned at 7:39pm.