

MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL OF
SIR WILLIAM OSLER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
HELD AT 330 GOVERNOR'S ROAD,
DUNDAS, ONTARIO

February 21, 2017

Council Members Present: Mathew Gibson, Katherine Spencer, Phil Moruzi, Dara Coulter, Heather Phillips, Sarah Van Geffen, Angela Harrison, Sara Flynn, Rebecca Tan, Sajah Stiller, Nancy Kucic.

Parents/Teachers Present: Jacqueline Kurtz

Regrets: Corinne Schuster-Wallace, Lisa Neale.

1. Attendance

2. Introductions

3. Land Acknowledgement

N. Kucic introduced the HWDSB Land Acknowledgement and read the Acknowledgement aloud. Each school received a wampum belt. N. Kucic explained that Positive Culture and Well Being are a top priority for HWDSB and the board is committed to “closing the gap” and “indigenous reconciliation”. The Land Acknowledgement was one of the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

“Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty. The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity. We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.”

A discussion was had about beginning council meetings in a similar way-to acknowledge the land. Matty proposed to continue the discussion over email and at the next meeting.

4. Review of minutes of previous meeting

Matty made a motion to accept the minutes and Dara seconded the motion-unanimously passed.

5. Election of new members

Two positions on council were available. Sajah Stiller and Rebecca Tan expressed interest in the positions. Sajah declared that she is an employee of the HWSDB.

Matty made a motion to elect, by affirmation, Sajah and Rebecca to council. Katharine seconded-unanimously passed.

6. Changes to Council regulations/By-laws

A motion was made by Matty to change the By-law 4.1. The motion was seconded by Dara- passed unanimously.

By-law 4.1 shall now be:

4.1 A vacancy in the membership shall be filled (Reg.612) by lottery, from the waiting list, and the appointee shall sit on council for the duration of the school year. In the absence of a waiting list, the council may, through successful motion, decide to do any one of the following:

- a. Allow the parent member position to remain vacant (providing this does not contravene by-law 4.4); or
- b. Elect by successful motion an interested parent member at a meeting at which the parent is present; or
- c. Follow by-laws 2.3 to 2.4 (above), circulating nomination forms for a period of at least 14 working days.

7. Principal's report

Given by J. Kurtz (Vice Principal):

The Community Liaison officer will be coming to speak about bullying, social media, and internet safety to the middle school students over two dates in February. McMaster Children's hospital presentation about empowering kids and strengthening resiliency skills is on March 26th from 6pm-7:30pm. The reading specialist was invited to the council meeting but could not make it. A brief summary of her role follows: She works with FDK and Grade one students in class. She supports system staff with learning and co-delivers reading strategies. She runs literacy intervention programs. She is available to come next month

8. Teacher's report

Given by Nancy Kucic:

The Professional Development session on March 2nd will focus on math, specifically proportional reasoning. SWO Olympics are on Friday, February 23rd. The focus of this event is team building, participation character education.

9. Parent activity committee (review Dance-athon, plan Movie Night)

The Dance-a-thon went well and there were lots of volunteers. There will be a movie night on Friday, April 20th. A licence is needed to show movies, which will cost approximately \$326. A motion was made by Matty for a one-year license to show movies. It was seconded by Sajah Stiller-unanimously passed.

10. Treasurer's report

Money for Joy Day and hydration station has not yet come out of the account. In the past money earmarked for projects/purchases went to a "pre-allocated funds" account. The account has been collapsed.

The Dance-a-Thon grossed \$4, 202.26. The cost for the DJ was \$611.94. The net for the event is \$3590.32

At present, the account holds \$11, 3835 with \$5, 250 allocated.

Given the amount of non-allocated funds, a longer review of the fundraising and disbursement model is required, including identifying additional targets for the present year. Matty to lead an email discussion prior to the next meeting where a fundraising and disbursements will be discussed in more detail.

N. Kucic read a letter (see attached) from the robotics club requesting money for a playing field to participate in the 2018 Vex Ring Master Challenge. A quote was presented from I Design Solutions for \$270.00 (see attached). ***Motion made by Matty to fund the Full Field Perimeter & Tiles for the robotics club and seconded by Sarah-unanimously passed.***

It was suggested that a process be created and outlined for student clubs and teams that are requesting funds from School Council. This process would detail what it is expected from students (i.e. letter, quotes, etc...) when asking for funds and would insure that all team/clubs are able to equally access/request funds.

11. New Business

Sajah brought up the topic of PRO (Parent Reaching Out) Grants. The focus this year includes equity, specifically getting more parents, engaged and involved with/in school council. Some discussion took place around using possible PRO Grant funds towards communication, specifically a newsletter or website with details about council meetings, school events, etc... More discussion to follow.

12. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. Next meeting is April 11, 2018.

Letter From Robotic Club to School Council

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Dear Parent Council,

We, the Robotics Team, are in need of a playing field for our robots to practice on. We need this playing field to practice for the 2018 Vex Ringmaster Challenge issued by the HWDSB School Board. We have raised at least \$170.00 from our Annual Valentine's Day Post Office. The stamp selling brought up a considerable amount of money, but not quite enough. We will still need at least \$270.00 more dollars before we can fully purchase the playing field. Since the competition is being held on March 26, we will need the playing field by March 5 at the latest to give us some time to practice. If the Parent Council is willing to fundraise/donate any money, it will be deeply appreciated. See the following quote for more information about our school team. Thank you for all your help.

Sincerely,

The Robotics Team at SWO