

AMC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 20, 2025

PRESENT: Karley Chaffee (Staff Representative), Denise Minardi (Principal), Jordan Neudorf, Sarah Drake, Michelle McIntyre, Amanda Faulkner, Chloe Richer, Mike McKim, Katie Jannsen, Sarah Drake, Melissa Garey, Victoria Baranow, Madalyn Elton, Laura Mulder

ONLINE: Laura DeBoer, Caitlyn Araya, Madaleine

REGRETS: Katie Moisse, Vanessa Dunn

Call to Order

Introductions

Attendance

Approval of minutes:

- Minutes approved from January meeting; moved by Victoria Baranow and all approved.

Open Floor:

Caitly suggested we block out a time near the end of the meeting to cover items not in the agenda. The hope is to maintain flow to the meetings while allowing attendees to bring up new issues.

STANDING ITEMS

Treasurer's Report:

- Income
- Purchases approved and paid
- Purchases approved
- \$4000 not allocated yet; placeholder for Valentine's Day event
- \$500 Board money and Pro Grant money
- Big Box Fundraiser

Principal's Report:

- Last day this Friday. Don Pente is the new Principal who will handover on Friday. Focus on emergency drills and health and safety. Ms. Minardi focused on FI items.

- Mdm Gosselin is in for Mdm Cliffe and doing a fabulous job. Ms. Haneff is covering as an EA for Mx Zdero. Ms Bellivari and Ms. Butler continue their support as DECEs.
- Agendas: Junior teachers would like agendas; primary teachers not so much. Deadline for ordering is end of April.
- Nutrition Break Change: positive feedback from staff, students and families. Staff appreciate the extra support. Equipment has arrived and was being used until the huge amount of snow. Suggest purchasing the consumable items (footballs, soccer balls, basketballs, utility balls) yearly.
- Ballet Jorgen came on January 20 and was a great event for the school
- Math Burglar running a math crack the code - Day 2 and 3.
- Pink Shirt Day on Wednesday for anti-bullying awareness (any pink item is acceptable).
- BGC field trip - some of them have occurred, one was rescheduled to February 5. Positive feedback from staff students and kids.
- Read-a-thon was a huge success, many exceeded their goals. Lunch for AMC super readers - top 2 in each class, top student received a certificate.
- June 24 farewell event for Grade 5s.
- February 28 PA Day.
- Emergency drills will be done by Mr. Pente.
- Reno plans: choice in exterior design of elevator. A survey will be sent in April.
- Parent updates sent via email each week.
- Principal placement survey should be looked at - annually sent to all school councils for a wish list in your principals.
- Facilities Supervisor is aware of concerns about the trees in the front.
- The kids loved the Valentine's Day dance, thank you!
- Ms. Minardi will update parents via email on Thursday.
- BGC aftercare sent an email. To paraphrase: "Thank you for enquiry, unfortunately not looking to expand then or now. In the middle of a funding schedule, will consider AMC for the fall."

Teacher Report:

- Teachers appreciate the schedule change, particularly with the nutrition breaks.

- Interviews don't occur with the recent reports but teachers are happy to speak to or email with parents to offer clarity.
- Teacher suggested an open house and connect it to kindergarten open house/FI open house. Ms. Minardi will speak to kindergarten.
- Grateful for generosity and support. Teachers are planning year end trips, expect more requests related to trips.

Teacher Requests:

- Kiley Grade 4/5 \$1000 RideSmart program - YES
- Spock Grade 3/4 All Grade 3 Children Battlefield Park and Museum. Funding for bus and entry fees \$1278 total. \$395 for bus, \$883 for entry fee. YES to bus.
- Kahana Grade 1 gluesticks and crayons \$171 NO - covered by school.
- Randazzo/Spock Grade 3/4 \$874 film camp in a box. Brings materials to do a claymation video in class. TBD after next fundraiser.
- Furness kinder \$90 replace storage bins NO - covered by school.
- Karley to follow up with teachers.
- Conversation about parents being the main support for field trips; some classes are getting field trips paid for and others are not. Ms. Minardi to remind teachers to reach out to families in need to submit forms and we will subsidize.
- \$2600 remaining after granting teacher requests.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PRO Grant

- Lost communication with Memorial person. Caitlyn will reach out to principal to discuss with SC. Tentative date June 5. Abby can connect Catilyn with different schools

Green Initiatives

- Chloe double checking if there is a conflict of interest and will confirm. Next step is touring. Want clarity about our vision, which needs to be in the front. Materials, design, layout. Once the snow melts, another walk through will occur.

Fundraising:

- Big Box of Cards. Acknowledging Cait did 90% of work. Raised \$4000, sold 390 boxes to 110 families, with 10-15 hours of work. Three wrong boxes at the end but got it sorted. Notes were made for future. Better pick up system - 150 boxes not picked up. 2:30 pick up isn't ideal, maybe 5:00 pick up slot in future. A handful of parents were disappointed they couldn't go door to door. For any SC initiative, please clarify for the teachers as some didn't know next steps after the forms were sent home. Katie offered to write how-tos/instructions for future. Suggestion to do Big Box November 2026.
- Valentine's Dance convo will be offline. Sound system needs to be dealt with until a permanent principal is here because of the decisions that need to be made. It is a portable indoor/outdoor system. There is a training component to this system. Ms. Pierroz can help - Katie and Vanessa can offer help.
- Will Scholastic Book Fair run? May be too late, we can do a book swap instead.
- Make it Sow: Work with Canadian non-profits and schools. There is a great selection of seed packets. Various focus: vegetables, flowers, combo packs. Good to start ASAP. \$10-12 per pack. 40-50% return. Have they run this with any other schools. The other school was Corktown Chloe to reach out. Discussing aspects of kids being involved in growing their own food, mental health supports, pollinator gardens, cooking their own food. Seeds clinic at Children's Garden
- Muskoka Coffee as a fall fundraiser.
- End of year L&F with a Mabel's Labels reminder.
- Play it Forward rolling out with blacktop painting - donating new and used playground equipment. Need to figure out storage before accepting donations.

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TASK
Laura Mulder	Finish and circulate minutes
Denise Minardi	Speak to Kindergarten classes about Spring OH
Karley Chaffee	Follow up on teacher requests
Denise Minardi	Remind teachers that we can subsidize field trips for families in need of support
Abby Zaitley	Send schools who have the same PRO Grant speaker to Caitlyn
Chloe Richer	Confirm whether there is a conflict before continuing with Green Initiative
Chloe Richer	Reach out to Corktown school about their experience with Make it Sow
Abby Zaitley	Send Chloe contact information for Children's Garden
Denise Minardi	Permit space for March 25 meeting

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday March 25

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:15