

AMC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 21, 2025 ONLINE VIA MS TEAMS

PRESENT: Karley Chafee (Staff Representative), Caitlyn Araya, Wendy Gibbons, Steve Gibbons, Chloe Richer, Victoria Baranow, Laura Mulder, Mike McKim, Sarah Drake, Madeleine Elton, Katie Jannsen, Laura Deboer, Katie Schuessler, Amanda Faulkner, Jamie McLean (incoming Principal), Gord Cook (Principal), Michelle McIntyre, Melissa Garay

REGRETS: Michelle McIntyre, Jordan Neudorf, Katie Moisse, Vanessa Dunn, Abby Zaitley, Madeleine Elton, Hanan Nammour

Housekeeping

Welcome and Introduction

- Jamie McLean introduced himself and is very open to parents bringing questions to help all students succeed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes approved from April; moved by Chloe and all approved.

Standing Reports

Treasurer's Report:

- Emailed about outstanding items. Charges on accounting report that are not clear.
- Approximately \$3500 in unallocated funds. Final numbers from Mom's Pantry fundraiser, and approved but unspent/unaccounted items. May have up to \$1300 more.
- Year began with \$5000. We paid out \$5300 plus \$11 350 that was approved (blacktop, green initiative)
- Principal McLean: Set a date in September for elections, in October set up a fundraiser plan and sent to the Board for approval end of October. Report on School Council, what was done/raised, naming members and inviting new members. Principal's job is to keep everyone on track and ensure accountability. You can carry over money for ongoing initiatives.

Principal's Report:

- Recognizing difficulty for parents with changing leadership. Excited for Principal McLean to provide strong leadership. Principal McLean's goal is to leave the

place in a state where he's not needed. Principal Cook thanked us for our work - the outdoor classroom, bike racks, sound system. Principal Cook met with Drew from Long and McQuade with a plug and play system installation. It will be ready for Grade 5 Farewell.

- Staffing: Two new teachers are replacing Ms Derikx (E Tomasi) and Mdm Bakalar (Alicia Warner). 0.7 1/2 FI and prep position is being posted.

Teacher Report:

- Thank you to School Council for their work over the year.
- Welcome to Kindergarten was a success, wonderful to meet incoming JKs and their families.
- Choir was at 2 Forge games, Music Monday and Choirfest in the last few weeks.
- Soccer tournament on Monday, Track and Field next week, EQAO at the end of May.
- Discussion of Principal situation: There is a Board-wide shortage of principals. Retired Principals can only work for 50 days before their pension is affected. If you would like to write a letter to the Board and our Trustee, feel free; reach out to Laura Mulder if you would like a template. If you would like the 50 day rule changed, reach out to your MPP - this rule was waived during COVID and could be again.

Teacher Requests:

- An online portal was created for teachers to make requests online for supplies, trips, resources, etc.
- Triple C in school trip for JK/SK voted yes via email.
- Funding for registration of soccer tournament \$250 voted yes via email.
- Mad Science in school trip Ms. Chafee's 2/3 class \$240. Voted yes in chat.
- Transportation for outdoor soccer tournament Monday May 26 - Ms Randazzo and Mrs Cooper are coordinating. Motion to approve \$250 for bus.

Open Items

Post Mortem Fundraisers

- \$9341 raised over three fundraisers: Big Box (\$4000) Make It Sow (2000) Mom's Pantry (3000)
- Teacher Requests approved: \$6692

- Freezie Social on Thursday with So Chill cart. Jordan and Caitlyn available to volunteer.
- Staff Appreciation Breakfast. SC Members were in favour of supporting local businesses (Vintage Coffee Roasters and Pinch). Katie J and Caitlyn to set up. Email reminder to attend on Monday.
- Grade 5 Farewell Tuesday June 24. Mr Kiely needs volunteers to set up between 11 and 1, and during the event to hand out cake, and clean up afterwards.
- Caitlyn to send email to Jamie McLean about what we have accomplished to help shape the fundraising plan.
- SC T-shirts that say School Council Volunteer. Chloe is gathering quotes.
- Moccasin Identifier presentation went well. Consider a presentation for Truth and Reconciliation Day for older grades. They also have a stencil kit for purchase. The kids discussed more in class and came home excited and sharing what they learned.

Nutrition Break

Incident during NB, likely due to one teacher per floor with a floater. Discussion of the possibility for more supervision, which is a challenge due to the hours outlined by staff contracts: decisions are governed by collective agreement stating 80 minutes of supervision per cycle per teacher.

Today's incident was violent; can there be a plan for next year. Concerns for choking. Lunch buddies have been bullied by younger kids, which quashes their desire for volunteering. Shift to everyone outside and inside at the same time. Suggested there is more supervision outside, kids can use the entire playground, can socialize easier, students are safer as they aren't transitioning in and out.

Principal McLean plans to spend NB outside, observing behaviour of students, groups of students who might need another activity, discover triggers and mitigate them. Often issues are inside that first occurred outside. Can parents volunteer at NB?

Other Business

Grateful for Paul Davis - how Katie spoke to her students and friends changed. Ideas about pledges regarding cell phones. Continue the conversation next year.

School Calendar

End of August meet with Chairs. School Calendar and email are primary forms of communication. Website is not updated at this time.

Communicate about number of fundraisers

Cookie fundraiser in November with pick up date in December on market date

Fall BBQ similar to JK picnic

Clothing swap

After Care

Slow moving, hard year. Add BGC? Other agencies?

New Business

2025-26 Planning

- Caitlyn has created a working document of all the ideas and suggestions over the year.
- PA Days, events, holidays, etc.
- Some suggestions include Parents Night Out, Movie Night, Holiday Craft Night, Read-a-thon, Book Swap.
- Orange is school-led initiatives - things for SC to keep in mind and select events or fundraisers that complement what they are doing.
- Look at the calendar, note ideas, what is our goal, what should we focus on and prioritize? Katie suggested itemizing ideas as 1-2-3 for priorities.
- We need to make sure we are not carrying over money year to year. Allocate remaining money specifically and communicate to incoming principal.
- Fundraising spending is by younger classes, but a lot of money is spent on Grade 4/5 students.
- Discussion on how to spend remaining funds - email to all teachers? Email to teachers that haven't reached out? Invitation to get a set amount with parameters?

Open Floor:

- Caitlyn to review chat ideas such as movies under the stars

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TASK
Laura Mulder	Finish and circulate minutes
Victoria Baranow/Veronica	Follow up on outstanding items in budget
Caitlyn Araya	Email Jamie fundraising report

NEXT MEETINGS: Monday September 22 and Monday October 6 6:30

Meeting adjourned