**Earl Kitchener Elementary School Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 10th, 2015**

**Present:** Quorum established (15 members present)

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| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion** | **Decision/Action Item** |
| **Review and Approval of Agenda** | Motion to Approve: Kelly  Second: Yo | Agenda approved |
| **Approval of October Minutes** | Motion to Approve: Christi  Second: Ann | October Minutes approved |
| **Old Business** |  |  |
| **Playground Sub-committee update (Christi)** | Christi submitted task list (handout)  -Richelle read most recent email from Facilities; they need to assign a site supervisor, all work must go through board channels (vetted contractors, etc.)  -need help with communications: create surveys for parents and staff; student engagement; neighbourhood  -Jen W has an email (2012?) from assessment of tarmac, stating that repaving could be included/covered by Board – Follow up?  -need focus on communication; Allison suggested an area online (attached to minutes) where parents can be updated regularly on everything: school council minutes, playground update, financials, etc.  Communication Board – necessary but very expensive. Can some of the funds be used for this? What other schools have great signs? Can we approach them?  Contact person from Cootes Paradise to discuss what they have done, process, etc. | Email Christi if interested in helping with communications  Email Christi if you know someone who may be able to design a poster with information about this process and contact information  Monthly update on school website |
| **MPP Letter** | Advocating end to the job action  -generally positive feedback |  |
| **Kindergarten Dismissal** | Richelle: work order has gone in to make a double gate to enter playground from K area; evaluate other gates  -continue to call bylaw re: traffic; other approaches? Physical barriers?  -considering dismissing one K class into back playground (parents would be allowed into back corner) | Richelle will meet with the K team re: dismissal onto back playground |
| **Principal’s Report** | Joanne presented thank you card from students for Fright Night  Parent with peanut-allergy child spoke with Richelle about presence of nuts in lunches (ie: chocolate bars); continue to be aware  School Cash Online up and running  Front of school is no longer being dug up until next summer (to deal with water issues); gardens will be affected, so anything we want to keep should be transplanted (email Leslie to ask)  -should photograph/document front  Still in work-to-rule situation with office staff | Leslie should be consulted re: plants that should be transplanted during work at front of school |
| **Staff Report** | Remembrance Day Assembly tomorrow  -donation for poppy  EK was front page news for parallel election; kids really got a lot out of the process (can look at results at studentvote.ca)  Field Trips and Extra-curricular activities starting up again  Fright Night feedback: staff generally happy with clean up; request for rotation of rooms so that the messier rooms were not always the same  Usually developing wish lists, but waiting until Budget committee meets  Cross-country meet will be rescheduled for the spring |  |
| **New Business** |  |  |
| **Financial Reporting and Posting of Minutes to School Website** | Inquiries from parents about transparency of information (ie: school council minutes, financial information)  Make this information available to parents monthly: minutes, financial reports, playground sub-committee updates  -some concern about posting financials online; other ways to make the information available?  **Motion:** Make note in minutes that financial information is available in office or via email **(Passed with Quorum)** | Post with minutes that financial information is available in binder and via email |
| **Proposal to Discuss Renaming School (Fiona)** | -Fiona summarized information (handout)  -it was noted that school named because Earl Kitchener was head of British War Effort in WWI (not for his role in Boer War); important to remember that he had a positive legacy as well  -does his history re: concentration camps matter in terms of the name of the school?  -school is not really about the person Earl Kitchener; the connection is with the school “Earl Kitchener”  -important to have the conversation, especially because we have such access to information today; it is a good learning opportunity  -Richelle specified that this is not a council issue, must go through Trustees and Chair of the Board (only three ways schools currently rename, but it is being evaluated); start with Christine Bingham | Fiona will speak with Christine Bingham and get further information |
| **Added: Crosswalk in front of school (Hannah)** | Hannah has been speaking to Aiden Johnson about traffic; there is a school zone safety review and EK will be the first school reviewed in 2016  -Stepping it up: School Travel Planning Project: We were part of the pilot in 2010-2011. Includes surveys of students, parents, etc. Do we want to participate this year?  **Motion to move this forward: Hannah**  **Second: Laura**  **Passed with Quorum** | Hannah will chair subcommittee |
| **Book Fair (Allison)** | -set for P.A. Day (Nov. 27); may have to change if the structure of the day changes but this book fair provides the bulk of the funding  -if interviews do not take place, could still run after school; if we don’t make enough money, will lose things like # of Fr. Books, use of debit machines, etc.  -maybe Holiday Concert Day?  -need a contingency plan if it can’t run |  |

**Next School Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 8th, 2015**

**7:00PM in EK Library**

EK HOME AND SCHOOL

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

Nutrition Program

-50-75 bags of popcorn sold at Fright Night

-older students should be able to sell popcorn during nutrition break ($2)

-prefer students take bags home to eat

-waiting for funding; hoping for Nov. 24 start date

-Tues/Thurs alternate menus, very simple (ie: apples, cereal mix, cheese string; clementines, cereal mix, yogurt tubes)

-students can choose items from cart during nutrition break

-is one cart per floor enough, especially during winter with snow gear, etc. (maybe one cart at each end?); could carts be brought into classrooms at the beginning of nutrition break?

-funding not known yet: $8,000-10,000; Denise has also applied for a grant; the rest would be covered by fundraising

-Christi brought up idea of using fundraising to apply program to several schools

(Kim); but Tastebuds may already do this

-Cara suggested getting program up and running and then revisit this idea

Fright Night

Gay: $10,500 taken in; after expenses expect $7,000-8,000

-thank you to everyone for making it a success

-commitment of funds towards playground; also looking for ways to use money to support another school in need (ie: Hess Street School)

Milk and Pizza

-some issues with kids/classes forgetting to get milk and cheese; Jen M. has Grade 5 kids helping with Grade 1 classes that need help

-Kindergarten Pizza: email has been sent to team to see if classes need a volunteer; issue of whether each child gets a piece as in previous years, no longer the case but teachers are following up to check for consent

-a lot of donations for subsidized milk/pizza; extra funds ($2,000) – carry money over for next year? Bonus free pizza day? Community?

Participatory Ward 1 Budget

-start thinking about applications; they are looking for very specific focus/detail

-could submit a more detailed application to continue funding for playground under Master Plan

Financial Statement submitted by Gay (handout)