

MINUTES

George L. Armstrong Elementary School Council

Date | time Thursday November 23rd, 2023 | 6PM *Meeting called to order by* S.Armstrong

In Attendance

Name	Email		Voting
Sharla Armstrong	hidingfromhubby@hotmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Nina Vallré	nvallve@hotmail.com	Co-chair	Y
Laura Corson	Laura.corson@gmail.com	Treasurer	Y
Carrie Gerdes	carriemschultz@gmail.com	Secretary	Y
Carley H	Cjh316@icloud.com		Y
Janet VanDuzen	jvanduze@hwdsb.on.ca		Y
Lynn Armstrong	larmstr@mcmaster.ca		
Leah Senior	Leah.senior@gmail.com		Y
Lesley VanderVliet			
Michelle Noble (online)	Michelle.s.noble@gmail.com		Y
Valerie Preston (online)	vpreston@mcmaster.ca		Y
Elisha Coughler (online)	chriselishacoughler@hotmail.com		Y
Regrets:			
Joanne Hall	joahall@hwdsb.on.ca	Principal	
Paula Wardle		Teacher Rep	

Opening Land acknowledgement

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.

Approval of Minutes

Previous minutes from October 5th were read aloud.

Attendance still to be added.

Corrected the amount of the speaker bursary to \$1000

Approval of amended minutes moved by Nina, seconded by Lynn.

Minutes approved as amended.

Approval of the June 2023 Minutes deferred until they become available to the current council. Nina to distribute.

Council

In the intervening time between councils Sharla and Nina have coordinated a few events – see new business.

Principal's Report – Janet vanDuzen for both Joanne Hall & Paula Wardle

Clubs continue – km club, robotics club

Boys and Girls Sr & Jr Volleyball clubs performed well and displayed excellent sportsmanship throughout the season.

Grade 4 academic testing has begun

School trip for the juniors to Tim Horton's Field was a great success

- medals were presented
- gave many children the opportunity to run

Mr. Shayben arranged a successful Remembrance Day Assembly

Annual Plan – Student Well-being and academics

Sept/Oct

Meet the teacher night is October 19

- Sharla will coordinate a presence with J. Hall
- It is a bit later in the year than we would remember as kids because we want the right teacher to be met should the school have a reorganization from the board level
- Scholastic Book Fair will be the same day
- Kids art will be on display

New Business

Ms Wardle was unable to attend tonight, report given by J. Hall in her absence.

GLA website

- Quite out of date for the school council information
- Staff list is out of date
- Who can edit the site and what is the process to have information added or updated?
 - o HWDSB run, internal access only
 - o Can send changes to the school secretary
 - Carrie to send in updated list of members

Poinsettia Fundraiser

- Poinsettia fundraiser from Terra Greenhouses
- Paperwork is due tomorrow
- Poinsettia pick up will be at the Holiday Market December 7th
 - o Terra will deliver during the day
 - o Volunteers needed to receive and hand out
 - Nina
 - Valerie

Holiday Market

Local Business Market in Large Gym

- Previous years pre-COVID GLA had a Christmas Market where items were donated and a pay what you can system allowed children of all ages and means to get something for their family's at Christmas.
 - Gr7&8 worked
 - Items priced 25cents to \$2
- This year will be vendor driven
 - Eight confirmed vendors
 - Scentsy
 - Tupperware
 - Sharla reaching out to Concession Street Businesses
 - If you have a vendor in mind please forward to Sharla she will reach out to avoid having duplicates

Community Partner Information Fair in Small Gym

- In the past the newcomer night has been well attended, but feedback was that it was perhaps limited in scope to only newcomers, so incorporating it into the Holiday Market may be better received.
- Currently confirmed
 - Today's Family
 - Pumpkin Patch
 - Mountain Kids Klub
 - Beautiful Alleys
 - BIA
 - Animal services (w/mascot)
 - Fire Prevention
 - HSR
 - HPL
 - Waste Management
- Contacted unable to attend
 - SWISS – Settlement Workers
- Contacted waiting for reply
 - Hamilton Parks and Rec
- To be contacted
 - Indigenous Groups
 - NYAWEH (Joanne to reach out)
 - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre (Sharla)
 - Women's Shelter

Refreshments

- Grade 7&8 leadership team selling popcorn and drinks

sELFie booth

- Carrie to coordinate
- Backdrop, props

Advertising

- Lynn to create a flyer

Volunteers

- Let Sharla know if you can help set up/stay/tear down

Organize an Education Week event

- Breakfast and Snacks for the teachers on Tuesday May 7
- Ideas floated
 - Mohawk college massage students
- Family Fun Night on May 9
 - Content TBD
 - Discussion on
 - Ray's Reptiles
 - Triple C farms (concerns about rain cancelling)
 - Other local vendors

End of Year Carnival

- Unlikely, teachers are unavailable

Chocolate Bar Sales

- Scheduled for February

March break promo coupons

- Concession Street businesses, approach for promos
 - Bowling Alley
 - Escape Room

Candigram Sales Valentine's Day

- School council may provide something for every student then sales of additional 'grams
- Reach out to local vendors for discount or costs for 420+ pieces
 - Candiwerxs
- Leadership committee will be running a "Show the Love" Food drive

Budget

Budget stands at \$500

Speaker's Grant possible \$1000

Some reach outs regarding remaining supplies from cancelled carnival have been unanswered

Reach out to Jolene Andrews (past co-chair) suggested.

Other Business

No other business

Next Meeting

January 18th | 6-7:30 PM, Staff Room

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:06 PM by Lynn, seconded by Carrie

Minutes finalized and accepted January 18th 2024