

Helen Detwiler Elementary School

School Council Meeting (last one in 2018-2019 school year)
May 29, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.
Helen Detwiler Room # 19

In attendance: Karen, Nhu, Allison, Leanne, Kim
(no voting was done in this meeting, quorum not met)

Regrets: Amanda, Sukhi, Cara, Nancy, Heather S, Heather D, Annie, Christine

Approval of April minutes: to be distributed and approved by email

Principal's Report: Karen - "lots going on"

- * *EQAO Update – Grade 3 & 6*
 - ➔ was completed during these days: Tues 5/21, Thurs 5/23, Mon 5/27 & Tues 5/28.
- * *Home Reading/Guided Reading Materials*
 - ➔ Fundraising money was used to replenish lots of reading materials for the school library in JK-Gr. 3 levels
 - ➔ Ordered as many as possible in Non-Fiction books. Graphic novels a big hit for younger grades.
- * *Grade 1 Reading Target*
 - ➔ Board target is to have 75% Grade 1 students reading at their level. We are now at 72% so we are very close to target
 - ➔ "Kit" was ordered to support Grade 1 class/students that are below level. Waiting to see results from kids as this is a 2-year plan
 - ➔ Reading specialist/teachers/volunteers have been tremendous help in this program
- * *Grade 7/8 Toronto Trip*
 - ➔ Trip was held last Thursday, 5/23
 - ➔ One (out of 2) bus was almost 2 hours late to arrive at school due to miscommunication at the bus depot
 - ➔ Luckily the tour company had built in extra time to trip schedule so the students were still able to participate fully to all planned activities
 - ➔ The tour company compensated 2 full hours of bus time. The compensation works out to be about \$5.18/student
 - ➔ Compensation was initially given in a lump sum to school but this did not sit well with parents so tour company was instructed by the school to refund this money back DIRECTLY to parents of students who had paid for the trip
 - ➔ Trip did start with a "negative vibe" where some students felt pressured to go
 - ➔ Despite of the rough start, majority of students (and teachers) enjoyed the trip
 - ➔ Hoping that this year's trip will not taint subsequent years' year end trips
- * *Volunteer Tea*
 - ➔ Will be held on Tues, June 11
 - ➔ This year will be not be done through the school assembly. Will be a dedicated date with some kids coming in to do poems/songs

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→ Invites have started to come home. More are still being sent out this week.

* *Special Olympics*

- Will be held on June 4th at Saltfleet District High School
- 22 kids from HD participating

Staff Representative Report: Leeanne

- Hockey is a 'no go' this year. Not enough girls signed up and too many volunteers on vacation
- School band to perform at Wonderland on June 13
- Soccer tryouts going on now
- Track & Field Meets: to be held at Mohawk Sports Park
 - Senior Elementary – Tues. June 11
 - Junior Elementary – Tues. June 18
- FDK are using money from popcorn sale to get outdoor gears

Treasurer's Report: Kim (in for Heather S.)

- **Profit** from cookie sales: \$420.13 (YAY!)
- Sales generated from Vesey's is around \$689.00. Arrivals are delayed with no tracking numbers. Hoping the items will be in tomorrow (5/30) so they can be distributed on Mon 6/3
- Not favourable to do Vesey's again next year
- Total funds in account is currently \$2,351.00

General Information/New Business: Kim

* *Past funds/current funds to be used*

- As mentioned above, we have \$2,351.00 in the account that should be used up by the end of the year (any balance can be carried over to next year)
- We have agreed as council to forward \$300 to Mr. Ho for outdoor equipment
- We had 7 "YES" votes to use the remaining funds (about \$2000) for outdoor 'backless' bench(s). Where do we go from here?
- Karen to gather all info (i.e. bench & installation costs) and advise council. Votes can be done via e-mail
- Ideal spot is to put one bench near the Porta Pack
- Goal is to have bench installed over the summer
- Depending on cost of bench (\$600-1200 each + installation), we may decide to put 2 benches in
- We will also have addition funds from ice cream sandwich sales

* *Outdoor equipment update*

- Mr. Ho will use the \$300 for (4) basketball nets and (20) rubber outdoor balls

* *Indigo 'Adopt A School' update*

- School had trouble filling out the application because we did not have enough info
- Application was too extensive and we did not have enough time to submit before deadline
- Application unsuccessful this year, will try again next year

* *Ice Cream Day*

- Ice cream sandwich: \$2.00/each, 'one day only' sale date is Friday, June 14

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- Freezer space needed on June 12
- Karen to communicate this message out to staff to ensure freezer spacing is kept cleared on this date
- Some ice cream sandwiches will be given to student volunteers as a thank you for all their help throughout the school year

* *Principal Profile*

- Form was given to Kim, Leeanne, and Allison during this meeting
- "What are things this community needs?", "It's not about a person, it's about ideal"
- Form due back to Karen by Thurs, May 30 AM
- Kim, Leanne and Allison remained after the meeting to fill out the form

* *Fundraisers for next year*

- Key Fobs: cannot find price for less than \$3.00/each. Not profitable so not a viable option for fundraising. No voting needed.
- Shop Night at Indigo in Stoney Creek
 - We receive 15% of the total purchase in the form of a cheque or 20% in the form of Indigo Gift Card
 - Contact Indigo again in Sept to select a date & time to hold spot
 - Invite community, we take care of advertising event on our own
 - Aim for Mid-Nov date (in time for Christmas shopping)
- Pita Pit: transition this from being a school fundraiser to council fundraiser
- Cookies: will be back next year because of popular demands
- Ice Cream Sandwich: possibly one day in the Fall?
- Hoping we/HD can move towards using Cash Online as the ordering method for EVERYTHING. The main concern with this is that we can lose some sales and alienate some families. However, many other schools (with similar demographics) have already transitioned to 100% Cash Online. This also eliminates teachers having to count money when they could be using this time to teach & engage with students. Estimated time loss is about 1 hour/week.
- Staff Wish List
 - To be reviewed again in the next school year
 - Excess funds can go towards list or necessities will be purchased by school budget
 - Pita Pit/Pizza money have to be used towards things that affect the kids directly (i.e. school supplies), not textbooks
 - Netbooks: can these also be made available to younger grades?

TENTATIVE Next Meeting: September 19th, 2019 - 6pm

- Too many unknowns at this meeting to set a firm date
- Subject to change due to re-org & "Meet The Teacher" night

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Leeanne
Seconded by Allison