

Highview School Council Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 24th, 2018

Chair: Ms. Sandi Horton **Principal:** Mr. Ian Pellizzari

Attendance

Parent Reps: Sandi Horton, Julia Zimmer, Melissa Noble, Paula Wardle, Michael Merifield, Jenny Bognar, Amanda Knowles, Ashraf Al-ibraheem, Melissa Wagner-Wong, Stephanie Baschiera, Charissa Low, Elizabeth McCoy, Christine Wagner

Community Rep: Annette Mills

Staff Reps: Mr. Ian Pellizzari, Ms. Jo-Ann Corbin-Harper, Ms. Rebecca Kellner

Absent: Melissa McGinnis, Lincy Patel, Muhammad Bahaaddin, Jenilyn Santos, Tom Stewart, Erin McGinnis, Jodie Bocek, Pamela Wilson, Sandra Askew, Elaine O'Donnell, Caitlind McVey, Ann Pearce

Proceedings

Call to Order/ Welcome and Introductions:

Ms. Horton called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. All welcome and thanks for snacks (coffee, doughnuts, chocolate).

Acceptance of Minutes:

Ms. Bognar made a motion to accept December's minutes at 6:18 p.m. Ms. Wardle seconded the motion, all in favour.

Teacher's Report (Ms. Kellner):

Welcomed Ms. Compton, Mr. Moore, Mr. Farkas, Mr. McCabe, farewell to Ms. Simpson, Mr. Gamble, Ms. Clark, and Ms. Roberts.

FDK and Grade 1 working with Ms. Porterfield to improve literacy skills.

Grades 2 – 8 focusing on identifying learning needs and math.

Staff focusing on improving school climate/culture.

Sports: Sr. Boys Basketball, Sr. Girls Basketball, Sr. Swim Team coming in April/May.

Grades 2 & 3: Board Game Club.

Dance team up and running with competition in February.

200 new books for library thanks to Scholastic Book Fair.

Important Dates: Jan. 10 – Sherwood School Option Sheet Presentation, Jan.18 – Grade 8 Option Sheet Night, Jan. 24 – Family Literacy Day FDK, Jan. 29 – Joint Health & Safety Inspection, Jan. 30 – Hold & Secure, Jan. 31 – Lockdown Drill, Feb. 1 – Family Literacy Day for Grade 1.

Principal's Report:

Ms. Baschiera asked about Climate/Culture.

Gr. 8s leading activities, brainstorming with staff, make school a better climate.

Ms. Corbin-Harper: Culture vs. Climate

- Good culture – teachers/students working
- Climate – how does the school feel when parents come in, i.e. first vibes

Ms. Baschiera asked to discuss at future meeting.

Showcase student artwork, "Artist of the Month," class pictures at front.

Ms. Baschiera: Open House, planning assemblies and events later in the evening.

Ms. Kellner: whole school included in Spirit Days, Recycling Team.

Mr. Pellizzari: EcoTeam, Recycling, Clothing Drive, all things that bring our school together. Extra clothing from the Drive went to Cathy Weaver School. This was student driven, Kindergarten initiative that grew.

Family Literacy Days: Kindergarten and Grade 1 – announce far enough in advance to allow parents to attend more easily.

Ms. Baschiera noted that there has been a noticeable change in climate.

Kindergarten Playtown field trip was a success.

Outdoor Education Grant available. RBG. Must get on it to get money for excursions.

Food Days running smoothly, no complaints.

January 30 – Hold and Secure

- Robbery in neighbourhood for example.
- Business as usual.

- No one in or out.
- 8:45 – no lates will be allowed in until drill is over (10 – 15 minutes). Sign on front door.
- No appointments in or out.

January 31 – Lockdown Drill

- Constable Denning will be here.
- Rattle on doors to see if kids react.

Mr. Al-Ibraheem requested help for daughter in Grade 2 and questioned how she gets ready for Grade 3. Ms. Corbin-Harper said Highview will meet her needs and will work to help with lacking skills.

Treasurer's Report:

Money from Spirit Wear, Chocolate, Food Days, etc.: \$21,708.29.

- \$10.00/students for field trips.
- Grade 8s: \$1,072.56 (this number will increase).
- Brent and Sarah: \$1,000+
- \$14,837.35 left

We need to spend this money as soon as possible. Give money back to students who raise it.

Each teacher will have \$10.00 field trip subsidy. Ms. Corbin-Harper asked what happens to money if students don't use it. Could they use it for something else, for example, a guest speaker?

Ms. Bognar motioned at 6:44 p.m. to transfer funds to field trips, motion seconded by Ms. Baschiera, all in favour.

\$1,740.78 approx. for Green Team.

School Council has a \$500.00 allotment for coffee, donuts, etc. but use it or lose it on an annual basis.

Revisit Portable Stage Funds:

Ms. Kellner asked if everyone liked the Christmas assembly.

News article about temporary stages being banned. Board will no longer allow them.

Ms. Bognar asked if we could re-allocate the funds. Mr. Pellizzari asked which direction we could head in.

Superintendent was in today, asked to see the gym. Are there plans for renovations in the next ten years?

We are short half the space to run a proper Phys Ed program. What does PE and DRA look like? Safety is number one priority, effective programming.

Mr. Pellizzari is hearing talk about renos and will advocate for it. Ms. Baschiera talks to Todd White monthly about it.

Ms. Horton asked what we should do with the money. Ms. Baschiera suggested Apple TVs (two came in today), all classes should have them. Mr. Pellizzari: whiteboards, teacher wish lists incl.: iPads and kits, chargers (\$420.00/iPad, \$30.00/case plus tax, \$150.00- \$175.00 for kit), literacy resources, novel kits, math manipulatives.

Ms. Kellner: asbestos in chalkboards, need whiteboards to go over (from the Board).

Ms. Corbin-Harper suggested giving each teacher \$100.00 to buy books for their classroom.

Ms. Wardle added that the focus should be on iPads and literacy. Ms. Bognar asked about policy, grey area.

Grades 4 – 8 have six iPad kits with Apple TVs, we should have ten.

Ms. Baschiera and Ms. Horton: buy one set of iPads and give every teacher x amount.

Ms. Wardle motioned at 7:12 to allocate funds to buy one iPad kit and give 23 teachers \$150.00, Ms. Baschiera seconded the motion, all in favour.

Ms. Baschiera requested book report, money and number of books. If teachers don't use the money, we get it back. Books are for the classroom, not the teacher.

Ms. Kellner: DRA kits for teachers.

Ms. Noble: pricing for equipment (sponge dice, parachute, balls, scoops, flag football, and skipping ropes). Sub-committee with Mr. Merifield for Equipment. Ms. Corbin-Harper to talk to Mr. Cochrane to help facilitate. Class number on equipment and bags for each class. Caretaker to retrieve "roofers."

Ms. Wardle: student initiative to help younger ones. Rotating group to help.

Ms. Corbin- Harper: Metal benches at Chedoke.

Mr. Pellizzari will go to staff to ask if a member wants to help, will have to wait until February.

McMaster Venture Opportunity (Ms. Baschiera):

Ms. Baschiera forwarded message about MVO (engineering) camps offering to come into the school for a day for one hour sessions at different grade levels, activities, STEM, coding.

Advocate for more STEM within school, Mathstronauts, hands on coding. Ms. Sakins applied trying to get two days' worth. Mr. Pellizzari had it at Memorial each year.

Planetarium, Art Gallery, Ropes Course, Wall Climbing, Sidewalk Astronomy, great trips.

By-Laws (Ms. Bognar):

12 year old by-laws, not following current by-laws.

Ms. Bognar, Mr. Merifield and Ms. Wagner-Wong to continue to work on it before next meeting.

PRO grant – application opens end of February. What kind of event would we use the funds for? Family Night, STEM, art, healthy living, yoga, Zumba, max \$1,000.00 prefer STEM and Arts (for next school year).

Have to use the money or we lose it. Mr. Pellizzari wants focus on numeracy, literacy and/or wellness.

Ms. Corbin-Harper suggested a Family Game Night.

Ms. Horton will put it on the next agenda.

Ms. Bognar also spoke about the Anti-Bullying Magic Show: who will make the introductions? Ms. Wagner-Wong suggested Grade 8s. Parents welcome to attend.

Fundraising Committee (Ms. Noble):

Ms. Noble brought popular Laura Secord chocolates for Council to sample. \$39.00 profit per \$90.00 box. Many incentives, can be customized if 2 weeks early, register early for more benefits.

Gourmet Lollipops for holidays – 41% of each (\$1.00). The earlier we book, the more money we make.

Santa's Little Helpers – payment before product, more info to come, vote next meeting.

Ms. Noble made a motion at 7:43 p.m. to pass Chocolate Sales, motion seconded by Ms. Baschiera, all in favour except Ms. Wagner-Wong.

New Business:

Last Sherwood Council meeting – pick meeting instead.

February 13 approx. Open House (Free Summer Camps or reasonably priced) up to Grade 6.

Sherwood Update: Option Sheet last Thursday, getting second semester timetables. Changed bell schedule. 8:30 – 2:45. Flipping day schedule.

Crosswalk Update: Ms. Baschiera and team collected approx. 300 signatures for a pedestrian crossing at Upper Ottawa and Queensdale. Ward Councillor Tom Jackson has scheduled this for April. Working with the Director of Engineering to get it in April.

Mr. Pellizzari: sustainable school travel, initiative between City and Board. Get kids who qualify for busses onto them and encourage kids who can walk to walk. Assess neighbourhood, walk to school, bike to school, request crosswalks, etc. Be part of the initiative, next meeting.

Ms. Zimmer asked about getting new bike racks. Is there a grant for them? Also asked about the Hydration Station. Mr. Pellizzari spoke to caretaker and area supervisor; electrical was cut to it. Mr. Pellizzari will follow-up.

Ms. Corbin-Harper looked into grant and filtration system, but none are available right now. They are free, just have to pay for install. Grant available around May. Would love to see one station in each area. Mr. Pellizzari informed Council that they are expensive to run, \$100.00/filter. By lowering water temperature, the filter lasts longer.

Next Meeting/Motion to Adjourn:

Next Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

Ms. Noble made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., Ms. Baschiera seconded motion, all in favour.