



Huntington Park ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *SCHOOL COUNCIL* *Meeting Minutes*

Date: Thursday, January 9, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Huntington Park School Council Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm on Thursday, January 9, 2020 and in the School Library of Huntington Park School at 80 Kingslea Drive, Hamilton, Ontario.

Roll call was conducted. The following persons were present:

Sammie Button (Chair), Tabitha Downey (Vice Chair), Jennifer Lee (Secretary), Jennifer Bain, Marion Garrido, Breanne Graham, Tracy Hunter, Susan Martin, Mark Mundell, Spencer de Man (Teacher Rep), Pat Petruccelli (Principal)

REGRETS: Courtney Botelho, Cindy Bourassa, Cheryl Cader, Sara Haluik, Lisa Hammell, Laura Hill

ABSENT: Hazel Cabrerros, Jessica Henderson, Ashley McLean, Sharon Pynn, Bethany Skerret

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The previous meeting minutes from November 2019 were approved.

10 - approved, 0 - abstained, 0 - denied

An email vote was done in December regarding School Council paying for pizza for the staff as a thank you after the Holiday Concert

11 - approved, 4 - abstained, 0 - denied

III. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – P. Petruccelli

PEOPLE:

- We have a new Long Term Occasional Teacher, Ms. Roud sharing the responsibilities in Grade 1C classroom on Day 1; the Day 2-5 teacher is Mrs. Hurren

PROGRAM

- Technology
 - 48 Netbooks have been deployed in this fashion:
 - Grade 4 to 8 received six netbooks each
 - Mini-iPads have been collected and redeployed
 - Kindergarten 5 min-iPads each
 - Grades 1 to 3, five to 7 mini-iPads each
- School Annual Plan
 - No changes from previous report due to the labour dispute
- New Events
 - Kindergarten Child Vision Screening to take place on January 16, 2020
 - Grade 8 Grad Photo date has been set for Wednesday February 19, 2020
 - Kindergarten Registration begins on February 3, 2020
- Our Student Agenda provider has retired; therefore, we will be searching for a new provider; this will impact our costs last year, we paid \$1700 we are now looking at \$2200. Mark Mundell has a contact. He will reach out to her and give her one of the 2019-2020 agendas to compare and see if we can get a better price.

PLANT

- Snow Clearing - the maps are posted on the school website
- Mohawk College Nurses – Four nurses will be at our school on Fridays to work on Social Skills and Active Recess for approximately three months.
- Library Learning Commons: Donna Millard Manager, IIT System Learning Commons & Training, met with Mr. Petruccelli and gave info which he will share with Tracy Hunter. Our school is on the list for new floors, etc. in the library, but we are not at the top of this list. We do not have a fulltime, always-in-the-library, librarian. Mr. Petruccelli stated there will possibly be a new librarian here next year for the long-term. Donna is happy to come to a meeting if we wish, to discuss Library Commons. The wall that divides the library cannot be removed as it contains asbestos and there would be a very high cost involved. Donna eluded to the fact that our library is basically well-equipped as-is.

- Reach Ahead Programs for Secondary School It is done on a year-to-year basis. The school would promote it for literacy or math.
- Summer programs for grades 6 – 10 working with Arts, sports, literacy and math are offered at four sites throughout the city.
- A new sign for the teacher parking lot has been ordered to replace the one that came down, but has not yet arrived.

IV. TEACHERS' REPORT (Spencer DeMan)

Scientists-in-the-Classroom has been scheduled for January 20 for the Grade Two classes.

Ski Trip and other extracurricular events outside of school time are on hold due to the labour dispute.

No trips will be booked until the labour dispute is settled.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT (Sammie Button for Cindy Bourassa)

Cindy sent regrets shortly before the meeting, therefore, we did not have access to the treasurer's report. Sammie Button did some quick calculations. The School Council Account currently has approximately \$18,850. \$5,000 was carried over from last year. Ms. Russell (Office Administrator) recently received further instruction from the board. All monies carried over must be designated for a specific purpose. They do not encourage holding over large amounts of money from previous years.

VI. FUNDRAISING REPORT (Sammie Button for Cheryl Cader)

Fall/Winter Fundraiser:

The Winter Wonderland Dance-a-thon was a huge success! The kids, staff and parent volunteers loved it and had a wonderful time. The Dance-a-thon brought in \$5,922.50, after expenses, our total profit was \$5,234.51.

The next fundraiser is on hold until the labour action is resolved.

The spring fundraiser will be a read-a-thon if the action is resolved. It will run similarly to the dance-a-thon.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A lengthy brainstorming discussion took place surrounding pizza days and whether it would be possible to move forward with the current labour dispute. Many options were discussed. It was put to a vote. (See Spending & Voting)

Spending: The buses for the Lindley Farm trips in October was approved by council, however, parents had already payed for the buses with the trip cost, so the money is still in the account.

In previous years, we have had quite a few items for purchase approved too close to the end of the school year. It makes reconciling the accounts very difficult. Moving forward, all spending requests should be voted upon prior to the end of April.

Kindergarten Fencing: Mr. Petruccelli stated that the fencing cost were approximately \$5000. He and Cindy Bourassa applied for grants through TD Bank to hopefully cover some or all of the cost. The grant approvals happen at the end of January. If it is not covered, Mr. Petruccelli will be asking Council to help cover the remainder.

Jennifer Lee stated that to her recollection from a meeting last year with Shawn McKillop, Manager of Communications and Community Engagement, fencing would be considered infrastructure and School Council funds are not to be used for infrastructure. This will need to be looked into further if the grant is not approved.

Tracy Hunter asked if it is possible for our school to use Council funds to rent out the gym at Huntington Park Rec Centre for extracurricular team events, such as basketball, as our school gymnasium is quite a bit smaller than other school gyms. Mr. Petruccelli said that there may already be a partnership with the City. He will look into this further.

The Board's Lice Policy was reviewed. More details can be found on the Board Website.

Tracy Hunter reviewed some of the material that Mr. Petruccelli gave to her about the Learning Commons. She suggested that perhaps we could thoughtfully figure out potentially considering creative Active Maker Spaces as an area for spending, especially since we likely will not have a lot of other expenses with the current political climate. Creative Space Bins would be a great place to start to integrate some of the Library Commons ideas. A discussion took place about sharing resources and providing hands-on experience to all students. We could create kits that teachers could sign out to use in their classrooms. Tracy will connect with Laura Hill, as they both come from an education background and have some experience with Active Maker Kits. Many examples were given of how these kits could enhance learning for all students. Tracy will prepare some ideas of kits that she has seen and present the ideas at the next meeting.

Jennifer will send out an email to ask for volunteers to be on the Library Commons Committee.

VIII. SPENDING & VOTING

Motion to suspend pizza sales until the labour dispute ends. It can be restarted immediately once we have the green light.

9 approved, 1 opposed, 0 abstained

Scientists in the Classroom

19 classrooms for approximately \$4000

10 approved, 0 opposed, 0 abstained

IX. UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Next School Council Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6:30pm in the School Library. All are welcome!

The Huntington Park School Council Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm on Thursday, January 9, 2020 and adjourned at 8:08pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jennifer Lee