



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

Date: Thursday, September 28, 2023

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Huntington Park School Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 28, 2023. Roll call was conducted. The following persons were present:

Tim Illman (Principal), Mandy McDermott, Jennifer Anthony, Crystal Seager, Andy Dhargyal, Marion Garrido, Yvonne Rieck, Rebecca Cardwell, Jennifer Cumbo (Teacher), Susan Martin

*ABSENT:n/a*

*REGRETS:* Laura Hill, Tim Lawson, Jennifer Koops Bain, Cassandra Ballantyne, Leanne Dean, Courtney Botelho, Joanna Beckley, Kolar

## **II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Huntington Park School is located on Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe lands under the Dish with One Spoon Treat. Staff and students are grateful and honoured to share the land and resources with everyone.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

There are no minutes from previous meetings to be approved.

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS FROM LAST YEAR:

Chair – Laura Hill

Vice Chair – Vacant

Secretary – Natalie Rendall

Treasurer – Rebecca Cardwell

## **IV. COUNCIL MEMBER STATUS – REVIEW OF MEMBER AND VOTING MEMBER AND EXPECTATIONS OF EACH**

Mr. Illman outlined the role of School Councils in Ontario. Applications for members at large were received. There were a few that were unable to make the meeting sent their regrets and a few forms that need to be confirmed as required.

## V. EXECUTIVE VOTE:

During the meeting, the following people volunteered to represent the following positions:

- Chair – Laura Hill
- Vice Chair – Vacant
- Secretary – Jennifer Anthony
- Treasurer – Mandy McDermott

A vote was taken for each position and the motion was carried.

There will be an additional Fundraising Sub-committee to focus on fundraising events for the year. This will be lead by Susan Martin.

## VI. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Tim Illman

The school will recognize **Orange Shirt Day** on September 29. There will be learning relating to Indigenous people and history in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The **Terry Fox Run** will take place during the last 2 periods on October 6. All students will be able to participate and can fundraise using School Cash Online or by bringing "Toonies for Terry". Grades 1- 2 will be on the field and Grades 3-8 will do a circuit around the city block.

**Meet the Staff** open house event will take place on October 12, from 4:30-6:00 pm.

There will be a continuous focus on Reading and Math, with several key reading initiatives taking place this year. The **Empower Reading** intervention program will continue this year with the Learning Resource Teachers. **Lexia Reading Intervention Programs** will be run in specific classrooms. The **Neighbour-to-Neighbour** reading program partnership has been re-initiated this year. Volunteers will be in the school each week to read with students.

The school will **not be reorganizing** this year and is closed to out-of-catchment students. A permanent DECE has been added to the school due to growing numbers in Kindergarten. **New Language Curriculum** was introduced by the Ministry of Education at the end of June. Staff members are receiving learning time for this new document. Report card #1 in February will reflect some of the changes. Students will receive one mark in Language instead of four marks in separate strands.

The school will be having a special **Music Night** prior to the Winter Holiday in December. The event will take place on Wednesday, December 20 at the Mohawk College auditorium. School Council has covered a large amount of the cost of the rental for this special night.

There will be a Grade 5/6-8 trip to **Theatre Aquarius** on December 20.

Mr. Illman and the Council discussed the accessibility of field trips for all students. School buses have been difficult to secure in recent years. The HWDSB has four approved companies for use.

Last year, Council approved several expenditures. Council supported the purchase of new iPads with a total of \$4209. Teachers were able to purchase games/activities for their classes and spent a total of \$4461.39. Daily physical activity (DPA) equipment was also purchased for a total of \$1694.02. It was requested that this future purchasing of this type be done earlier in the school year to avoid the busy month of June.

There was a question about chairs and coding materials that were approved for purchase last year. These items did not get purchased. Teachers will submit their request lists for items to be purchased by Council. These may possibly be ready by next meeting. The Fundraising Report needs to be handed in by the end of October.

## **TEACHER'S REPORT – Jennifer Cumbo**

### Athletics:

- Junior swim team (Grades 3-5) has begun. Their first practice was today and their swim meet is on October 11.
- Volleyball season is approaching and tryouts for Grades 5-8 have begun. The season will begin October 11.
- Softball tournaments took place this week. The girls team made the Championship Game and came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The boys played earlier in September.

### Student Council:

- Student Council elections with Mrs. Harding are taking place this week for intermediate classes (56, 7A, 7B, and 8A) with the first meeting planned for next week.

### Other:

- The Terry Fox Run will take place next week on October 6, organized by Mrs. Vice. Donations can be made on School Cash Online (available as of Monday). Toonies will be collected on the day of the event if families wish to donate at that time.
- Mrs. K and Mrs. Economou have inquired about School Council and pizza days. They were thinking about doing some fundraising for graduation after Thanksgiving.

## **VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – *These values need to be updated and confirmed.***

- School Council= \$521.76
- Fundraising = \$12 710 (less the \$4461.39 spend by teachers for games/activities)
- Pizza= \$6418.40 (some of these funds were set aside to cover Jungle Sport in May)
- Jungle Sport = \$4750 (booked for May 2024; the \$1000 deposit has been paid)

## **VIII. FUNDRAISING REPORT**

Ideas for this year have been floated and as we are getting close to needing this all to start, the below were discussed as main initiatives for this year. Other ideas may be presented at a later date. Susan will be leading a separate Fundraising Sub-Committee. Volunteers are needed to help with the events that take place this year.

**Pizza Days** will resume this year. Marion and Mandy will organize the details. Communication with the Grade 8 Grad committee will occur to possibly team up for this fundraiser. Discussion occurred about paying for pizza using School Cash Online only (no cash accepted) and having four blocks for orders (Nov/Dec, Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, and May/Jun). Parent volunteers can help with the distribution of pizza. A flyer could be created to send home with students and post on the website.

Susan brought forward the ideas of Factory Shoe and Krispy Kreme fundraisers. Marion brought forward the idea of frozen Little Caesars pizza. MacMillan's Cookie Dough was also shared as a possible fundraiser.

The Basket Fundraiser (December) and Dance-a-Thon (February) were successful fundraisers last year and are being considered again for this year.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

Meet the Staff evening is coming up October 12<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to reach out to other parents and gain interest for Council meetings. Council will have a space available in the front hallway. Susan and Jennifer will help with posters to promote School Council and provide information to apply for Police check for those parents interested in volunteer opportunities.

Council Meeting dates for the year will be finalized next meeting when Laura Hill (Chair) is present. Meetings will be held at the school in the Learning Commons at 6:30 pm. Meetings may be changed based on feedback from the council if required. All meetings will be posted on the electronic board and on the school website under POSTS.

**School Council Welcome Night** to be held at the board office by the PIC Committee October 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 pm. This is open for anyone who would like to attend. RSVP to [communications@hwdsb.ca](mailto:communications@hwdsb.ca).

Families are reminded to subscribe to the school website to receive updates.

## **X. SPENDING & VOTING**

No requests yet.

## **XI. UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES:**

Next meeting is **Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ 6:30 pm** located in the **Learning Commons Room**.

*Minutes submitted by: Jennifer Anthony*