

### **James Macdonald School Council Minutes**

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Stephanie Lostanaw Lavin, Chair	Heather Talach
Melissa McCormack, Principal	Stephanie McDonald
Amanda Vernon, Teacher Representative	Fabio Chusyd
Stephanie Hurley, Secretary	Stephanie Hosking
Ban Esho, Umbrella Representative	Pooja Mathuria
Julie Zimmerman	Dipika Patel
Ritesh Patel	Laura Laidman
Jaqui Baker	

*Meeting called to order by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 6:33 pm*

- Land Acknowledgement by M. McCormack
- Agenda approved by F. Chusyd, J. Zimmerman. All in favour.
- Minutes approved from October 24, 2023 & accepted by L. Laidman, S. McDonald. All in favour.

#### **PRINCIPAL REPORT, M. McCormack**

- Weather policy for board: students stay indoors when weather is -15 or -20 with windchill. Conditions of field and playground may impact recess based on safety conditions of field and blacktop.
- Term 1 report cards will be coming home mid-February
- EQAO in May
- Looking for feedback on Friday updates

#### **TEACHERS REPORT, A. Vernon**

- Winterfest activities were held in December. School wide activities included: sculpture building, Kahoot games, school wide BINGO, arts & crafts.
- Carnival will be February 7 & 8. Madam is looking for volunteers. Kinder classes will do an event for Carnival the following week.
- Many opportunities are available for students to participate in intramurals. Basketball, checkers club, art club, ukelele club are some of the activities that are being offered currently during nutrition breaks.
- Extravaganza tentative date is for February 29. Parents are invited to view student performances in the gym. Two sessions will be offered: mid-day and afternoon. Tickets will be available. 4 tickets per family. Wait list for additional tickets.

### **FUNDRAISING, Council**

- Raise the Dough: Family pizza day
  - November pizza day profit of approximately \$240
  - Upcoming family pizza day will be Thursday, January 25
- Pizza day updates for school. Upcoming pizza days are for January 31, February 14 & 28.
- Pita Pit flyers came home today for signups.
- Spring planting – Terra Greenhouses. Easter fundraising package.
  - Spring hydrangea, spring bulbs, planters, pots
  - Minimum order of \$500 required
  - Orders must be placed by March 31
  - L. Laidman will take the lead on this fundraiser. Will present final fundraiser and get approval next school council meeting.

### **PRO GRANT UPDATE, S. Lostanaw-Lavin**

- Family Literacy evening (focusing on grades Kindergarten to Grade 4)
  - Short presentation on the building blocks of reading
  - Families will have an opportunity to visit a few literacy stations set up throughout the school.
  - Families will take home a literacy package to continue their learning at home
- Online quorum sent out to council
- Looking at a May date for event
- Awaiting grant approval. Application will be sent out this week.
- Will need volunteers for planning, tickets, organization of this event.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT, S. Lostanaw-Lavin**

- See attached financial report for account balances

### **NEW BUSINESS, Council**

- Donations – board games needed in the classroom
- Snack bins – awaiting grant for approval of nutrition program to continue. Council discussed supplementing bins with apples, granola bars, snacks.

*Meeting Adjourned by S. Lostanaw Lavin at 7:22 pm.  
Approved by S. McDonald, P. Mathuria. All in favour.*

**Next School Council meeting will be February 27, 2024, in the Learnings Commons.**