

MINUTES

James Hillier School Council

January 19, 2016

6:30-8:30 pm

Meeting called by: Co-Chair, Laura Welsh

Present: Shannon Curry, Luan Ferguson, Lise-Ann Kneabone, Kelly Lunn, Doug Ouellette, Jenn Davies, Monica Watson, Christine Dickson, Laura Welsh

Regrets: Hilary Visheau, Graham Corrigan, Paula Cavan, Marianne Schuts

Meeting called to order at 6:30.

1. Welcome

- Laura Welsh welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Minutes from the last School Council meeting were reviewed. **Luan Ferguson made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Christine Dickson. Motion carried.**
- Follow-up items – Jenn Davies reviewed her attached information on Remembrance Day wreaths. **Monica Watson made a motion to spend up to \$100 on a new Remembrance Day wreath. Luan seconded this motion. Motion carried.** Jenn Davies will take care of this purchase.

2. Treasurer's Report- Monica Watson

- Monica reviewed the attached Treasurer's report. Monica reminded everyone that in order to use money from petty cash the purchase has to stay under \$75 or we are subject to the board's purchasing guidelines.
- **Monica Watson made a motion to pay for supplies needed for the kindergarten class from the Lunchbox account. Shannon Curry seconded this motion. Motion carried.**

3. Principal's Report- Doug Ouellette

- Doug was asked by Mrs. Coon to let council know how great the sound system was to have during the Christmas concert.
- Mrs. Metcalfe is now heading up the eco-schools program. Mr. Ouellette noted there is a lot going on at the school right now with three basketball teams starting plus the intermural basketball program. There is also a colouring club and choir going on right now.
- Kindergarten Registration- the last week of January is set aside for new students to register and Doug encouraged everyone to let families that have kindergarten age students to register early. These registrations help the school start staffing plans for next year.

- Report Cards-full report cards will go home on February 11, 2016.
- School Improvement Plan- 2 parts- first is math and trying to connect jump math with problem solving. Second part is the Safe and Caring Schools Program- which will identify 8 different things (such as anxiety) that everyone faces and the guide will assist teachers with practical ideas to how to assist students and families facing these mental health issues.
- Cage for Projector - Doug spoke with someone from Brant Stereo who brought him in a pre-fab unit which will cost \$1100 plus installation. Brant stereo recommended we would be better to go to a local vendor which would cost about \$600 installation included. Christine and Shannon both wondered if they spoke with their husbands could come up with something that would work. They will discuss with them and provide information at the next meeting.
- GPIC Grant and Anxiety Workshop for Parents- Doug has applied for the grant but has not yet heard back. The information night has been set for February 17, 2016 from 6:30 to 7:30pm at Landsdown and Heather Carter, Mental health Lead with the board will provide families with a good understanding of normal versus not normal anxiety and tools to use.
- Additional PD Day- As a result of the contract settlement an additional PD day is required this school year. Friday February 26th will be the additional PD day. Lunchbox orders for that day will be moved to Thursday.
- Doug noted that the Canadian Hearing Society sent a very nice letter thanking Lee Watson and the school for the money raised through the selling of popcorn.

4. Skate night- All

- Shannon and Christine will head up the skate night to be held on Thursday February 25, 2016 from 6-8 pm. Volunteers to help would be greatly appreciated. Doug will post this information on the school sign and in the newsletter. As in previous years hot chocolate and marshmallows will be served. ***Kelly Lunn made a motion that up to \$50 be spent on supplies for skate night. Monica Watson seconded. Motion carried.***

5. Pancake Tuesday – Lise Ann

- Pancake Tuesday is on Tuesday February 9, 2016. Luan will purchase the supplies. Shannon and Monica will assist on the date and other volunteers would be appreciated. ***Monica Watson made a motion that up to \$75 be spent on supplies for pancake Tuesday. Luan Ferguson seconded. Motion carried.***

6. Spring Food Drive- Monica

- It was agreed we would like to hold a spring food drive again this year. To be held during the week of April 11 thru 15, 2016. Monica will take care of organizing this and Laura will make a flyer to go home. ***Shannon Curry made a motion to spend up to \$75 on an ice cream party for the class that wins the food drive challenge. Lise-Ann Kneabone seconded. Motioned carried.***

7. Fun Fair- Shannon and Christine

- June 15, 2016 is the date! Lots of plans are underway for the fun fair and Shannon and Christine encouraged everyone to look at Air Bounce Inflatables (Caledonia) website to check out the different games they have. The board will not allow a rock climbing wall this year so they are looking into alternatives.
- Shannon and Christine have letters ready to be sent to businesses to request donations and will send a flyer to the school community to see if any families have businesses that would like to donate.
- Shannon and Christine wondered if there could be an option for families to send in money instead of items for baskets both for ease of parents and to eliminate getting several of the same items.
- Doug will pursue lottery license again.
- Monica agreed to sell popcorn again.
- Shannon and Christine are looking for baskets to put prizes in if anyone has any.
- They would also like to get more cakes this year for the cake walk.
- Fun fair to be placed on next meeting's agenda so discussions can continue.

8. Pizza Day Recycling- Shannon

- Doug contacted the city and if the pizza boxes are bundled they will take them with the recycling.

9. Gates at primary end- Hilary (not present)

- Doug states he spoke with Hilary who brought to his attention that there is a bottleneck of people happening there. Doug spoke to facilities to see if there are other options and the cost of these options.
- To be discussed again at next meeting.

10. Buddy Bench- Hilary (not present)

- To be deferred to next meeting.

11. Lunchbox orders vs. School Cash online- Hilary (not present)

- Doug indicates any money that goes through banking has a 1% fee levy annually by the board. We were given a two year exception from this but Doug believes the exception will be over after this year.

12. Fundraising Discussion

- **Short term- trip assist- Monica**
- Monica advised last year every class took advantage of the bus provided by trip assist. Teachers enjoyed this assistance as did many parents.
- Monica presented three options which were discussed.
- ***Shannon Curry made a motion that council pay for option C (attached) of the trip assist program this year. Monica Watson seconded. Motion carried.***

- **Long term - All**
- Discussed perhaps getting a new sign for the front on the school. This could be a long-term fundraising goal as it can be very costly. Doug estimated ten thousand dollars.
- Doug will begin with the board and look into rules they have surrounding signs and notes we may be considered for a heritage sign as the school is more than 50 years old.
- It was mentioned that this may also be a way to use up remaining greening committee money.
- To be discussed further at next meeting after Doug gathers some more information.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting- TUESDAY MARCH 22, 2016 AT 6:30 PM