

MINUTES

James Hillier School Council

March 22, 2016

6:30-8:30 pm

Meeting called by: Chair, Paula Cavan

Present: Doug Ouellette, Paula Cavan, Shannon Curry, Luan Ferguson, Kelly Lunn, Hilary Visheau, Monica Watson, Christine Dickson, Laura Welsh

Regrets: Lise-Ann Kneabone, Jenn Davies, Marianne Schuts

Meeting called to order at 6:30.

1. Welcome

- Paula welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Thank you to Luan for organizing pancake Tuesday which went very well.
- Minutes from the last School Council meeting were reviewed. **Monica Watson made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2016 meeting. Seconded by Laura Welsh. Motion carried.**

2. Principal's Report- Doug Ouellette

- School Improvement Plan- Supporting minds and math (shifting towards thinking). How students can demonstrate thinking in math and how teachers can get students thinking.
- Lottery Account for Fun Fair- application is almost complete. Doug will ask city if funds can be carried over. After much discussion Hilary suggested the lottery funds be used towards trip assist. Doug thinks this will work as everyone agreed this was a good idea.
- New Sign Design and Options- Doug presented three options and noted that we do qualify for a heritage sign as the school was build prior to 1950. There are some narrow guidelines and we can't change text font or colour. Doug had some quotes and suggested this as well for a possible CPIC grant. Everyone agreed that this would be a great long term fundraising goal and Doug will look into it further and clarify the quotes he received.
- 65th Anniversary Update- Choir Performance- this event happened in the beginning of May and about 100 people came out. There will be a science fair in conjunction with education week as well. More information will come home but the kindergarten classes will complete an in-class inquiry. Grades 1-3 will be more formal with work done alone or in groups. Grades 4-8 will be more traditional or a bit of a competitive angle. May 4th will be the science fair.

- Time Capsule- There are two in the building. 1 was opened at 50th anniversary in 2000 and 1 to be opened in 2025. A time capsule will be completed this year focusing on reading and writing to be opened at the school's 100th anniversary.

3. Treasurer's Report- Monica Watson

- Monica reviewed the attached Treasurer's report.
- ***Shannon Curry made a motion to spend \$1000 on graduation. Luan Ferguson seconded. Motion carried.*** Graduation will take place on Monday June 27, 2016 at W. Ross MacDonald School.
- ***Shannon Curry made a motion that up to \$200 be spent on snacks for EQAO. Luan Ferguson seconded. Motion carried.***

4. Fun Fair- Shannon and Christine

- June 15, 2016 is the date!
- Carnival games have been booked as well as the food vendors.
- Volunteers will be needed and Shannon and Christine are also seeking donations if anyone has a business or knows of a business that would like to donate.

5. Buddy Bench- Hilary

- Hilary discussed the buddy bench concept which involves benches designated in the school yard and if you want to play with someone you sit there and then someone comes to ask you to play. There are rules- such as you have to take the first offer.
- Since we already have benches in the school yard we just need a fun and perhaps colourful way of identifying them as buddy benches. Staff need to be on board as there needs to be discussion with students as to how it works. Doug has discussed it with staff and he is suggesting they begin it with primary students first.

6. Kindergarten Gate Area- Hilary

- Doug is waiting for facilities to give a cost of moving 2 sections of fence.

7. Staff Appreciation Lunch

- This is typically done during education week (first week of May). Monica is unable to do it this year.
- Shannon and Luan indicated they may be willing to take this on. A lengthy discussion was had as to if the event could be catered and paid for by parent council. In the past we have been told no.
- Hilary will look into cost of catering as will Luan and emails will follow.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Next Meeting- TUESDAY MAY 17, 2016 AT 6:30 PM