

ELIZABETH SIMCOE SCHOOL

COUNCIL

BUILDING ON SUCCESS



School Council Minutes – Nov.5, 2015

Attendees:

Arlene Knights, Alicia Edwards, Kim McLennan, Angela Dattoli, Tanya Massad, Kassandra Lake, Maaja Eichfuss-Clarke, Jo-An Wong, Shane McDonough, Stuart Rogers, Maria Luisa Willan, Heather Lin, Anita Wright, Kathy Karakasidis, Roza Mangos, Karlyn Tunbridge, Ren Ciancusi, Angela Hetherington, Jamie Galt, Anita Klubal, Kevin Willan, Peter Wolfheiss, Kim Rogers

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Oct. 1, 2015 Minutes

- Review and approval of Oct. 1, 2015 meeting minutes

3. Principals Report - Arlene Knights

- Arlene reviewed the incident involving the Toronto Police on Nov. 5
- Incident occurred shortly before student dismissal
- A “hold and secure” procedure was performed
- Question: What is the difference between a “hold and secure” vs. a “lock down”
 - *During a “hold and secure” the school’s exterior doors are locked but operations within the school remain normal*
 - *During a “lock down” students stay under their desks and remain*
- Safe practices and proper dismissal procedures were reviewed with the students
- A letter detailing the event will be going home with students later in the week
- Teachers will debrief with students and a social worker will be onsite if needed

Report Highlights:

- Extra-curricular activities are now underway
 - Sports include: cross country teams, two softball teams (co-ed), and Gr. 6 touch football team
 - Great effort from all those involved...students, parents and teachers
 - Primary, Junior and Chamber Choirs have begun
 - Clubs like, chess and art have also started

Labour Dispute:

- CUPE and EFTO have tentative agreements – further negotiations and ratifications in the coming weeks
- Student report cards expected to be distributed in December – Board and Union working together to determine timing

- Parent/teacher interviews will be held in the coming weeks – more information will be available soon
- Question: Will there be a Holiday concert?
 - *Yes, but staff still need to figure out timing*
 - *If it is possible the goal is to have it alongside the annual Scholastic book sale*
- TDSB roof repair and refurbishment program underway at Simcoe. While the repair work is being done, solar panels will also be installed
- The Council funded sound equipment has arrived and is now connected and staff have been trained on how to use it

Playground Purchase and Installation Status Update:

- Arlene continues to discuss the installation with TDSB – once the Council has selected the preferred design option(s) a RFP must be initiated with three vendors, which is in line with TDSB practices
- There is a possibility the TDSB will provide free installation for the purchased equipment however this is done on a first-come-first-serve basis
- Maaja to provide Arlene with equipment details and Arlene will contact the three vendors prior to year-end
- Question: Have we decided what is happening with the playground surfacing?
 - *The TDSB has to inspect the existing area– Arlene believes that assessment will be done closer to the installation date*
- Question: Are there any drawings of the preferred equipment available?
 - *Yes, a new one can be printed and posted in the school and potentially online*

4. Sunshine Childcare Update – Kim Rogers

- Staffing update – new full time and supply staff transition underway
- Vandermeere Nursery fundraiser upcoming
- Enrollment – good but still slots available for after school programs

5. Treasurers Report – Anita Klubal

- Year-to-date summary provided – account balance approx. \$38,000
- Early in the year – only expenditure is the picnic table purchase (\$400) for the kindergarten classes
- Pizza lunch initiative has collected about \$10,000, however, this amount will change per month with expenses – as in previous years, should there be a student who is unable to participate – school council will cover the cost
- Angela D to shadow Anita K for back-up support and in preparation of the 2016/2017 school year

6. Fundraising Plan for 2015-2016

- Stuart reviewed the fundraising sub-committee meeting and discussed some of the proposed activities

- Discussion included:
 - **Technology Foundation** – Campaign to run January – May (2016) Stuart to follow-up
 - **Major events** (sports day, silent auction, summer carnival)
 - **Spirit events** – in addition to stand alone events, some of these events (those which are smaller in scale may be able to be combined with major events)
 - **Passive events** – commission and receipt collection initiatives
 - **Grants** – need to research this over the next year
 - A few misc. options also presented
- The final fundraising plan will need to be incorporated into the Council’s communications strategy
- Council will target a few passive events prior to year-end (one1earth, Samko & Miko, Flip Give)
- Kevin will look into the Funscrip distribution specs
- There will be another fundraising committee meeting closer to the end of Nov.
- Question: We still need to select a major event in order to allow for adequate planning.
 - Ren to look into a potential “Sports Day” plan
 - Tanya investigate venue options and associated pricing for a dinner/silent auction event
- Roza presented the *Big Box Fundraising* program (greeting cards) — there are still spring openings for this initiative—Council will proceed with this initiative
 - Kassandra and Alicia to help Roza
- Question: Do we have a charity number? –
 - No, dollars donated need to go through the TDSB—need to determine whether we /school council can become charity
- Grant applications and allocations are usually administered in the fall – Council will need to research options and prepare for the 2016-2017 school year
 - Heather to look into the various clubs which currently run at the school to see if there are any which may be able to link Grant proposals to (i.e. Eco Club)
- Anita K to check on charitable status rules and regulations associated with school councils

7. Communications

- Communications Committee to include: Heather, Kathy, Mark, Ren
- Question: What about the commemorative plaques and benches? Is this still possible?
 - Communications committee will look into this
- Question: Who has control over the school website?
 - We have had a webmaster in the past but we are in need of a new one
 - Shelia currently looks after the e-blasts
 - Karlyn to send Heather contact info for webmaster
 - The website must align with TDSB protocols
- Committee to look at updating the site – possible additions include Council blog and link to fundraising initiatives
- Mark created a Council logo to appear on our communications materials
- Question: If we don’t have anyone who has the skill for coding then perhaps we can cover the costs for someone external to do this?
 - It’s possible, we may also want to ask the parent community for a volunteer

8. School Council By-law

- Moved to January meeting due to time restraints. A copy of the by-laws will be sent out before the next meeting so that everyone has a chance to read them in advance of the discussion.

9. Other Business

- **School Statement of Needs review**
 - Council needs to sign off and provide any updates to Arlene
 - Need to add in the social justice element / importance of those qualities and how they have been incorporated into Simcoe programming/initiatives
- **Spirit Wear**
 - Kevin and Anita W working on
 - Update will be provided at next meeting
- **Basketball hoop purchase – update**
 - Purchase breakaway – one possibly two.
 - Purchase now and install spring
 - Kim and Ren to discuss
- **Movie Night**
 - Vote -- January 15, 2016
 - Anita K suggested contacting the Optimist Club to donate popcorn and machine
 - Heather to arrange for dvd baskets – these items can be raffled at the event
- **2016 Council Meetings**
 - January 7, February 4

Next council meeting – January 7, 2016