

Elizabeth Simcoe School Council Minutes – Jan. 7, 2015

Attendees:

Karlyn Tunbridge, Stuart Rogers, Anita Klubal, Kim McLennan, Jocelyn Bamford, Bill Wilson, Jamie Galt, Alicia Edwards, Sabrina Hayden, Tanya Massad, Kathy Karakasidis Anita Wright, Roza Mangos, Maaja Eichfuss-Clarke, Kassandra Lake, Shane McDonough, Maria Christopoulos, Heather Lin, Rich Holt, Tara Kimberley, Ren Ciancusi, Kevin Willan, Kim Rogers, David Knight

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of Nov. 5, 2015 Minutes

- Review and approval of Nov. 5, 2015 meeting minutes

3. Principals Report – David Knight

- David Knight provided a brief school update in Arlene's absence.
 - School operations have returned to status quo following labour negotiations.
 - Report cards will be distributed during the 2nd week of Feb with interviews scheduled shortly thereafter.

4. Sunshine Childcare Update – Kim Rogers

- Sunshine will be hosting a bake sale fundraiser in the coming months.
- Enrollment increasing.
- Information regarding March break programming will be distributed at the end of Jan. / beginning of Feb.

5. Treasurers Report – Anita Klubal

- Year-to-date summary provided – account balance approx. \$36,000.00 (note: this balance includes a large portion of pizza money which will be subtracted each month)
- Scholastic Book Sale successful once again this year – this fundraising initiative allows the participating school to elect to take money raised or books – Simcoe usually opts for the books as the school gets a better return/value.
 - *Question: Why was the Book Sale not open during the holiday concert intermission? --There just isn't enough time to facilitate opening it up and we have found in the past, the crowds make it very chaotic. The sale was however open prior to the concert and following the concert as well as during the week.*
- QSP fundraising dollars raised to date is very low – \$50 dollars – however, this “unofficial” campaign is ongoing and minimal advertising/communication has been done to promote it.
 - Perhaps a reminder note can be sent to parents let them know this campaign is ongoing throughout the school year.
- Anita looking for a replacement for the treasurer position for the upcoming school year.

6. Fundraising Report

- Stuart provided a status update on fundraising efforts:
 - Holiday initiatives generated about \$400 (One1earth, Samko, FlipGive)
 - These initiatives show there is good potential to run again next year – however we will need to start this campaign earlier in the season.
 - As Flip Give is an all year campaign this needs to be communicated more as there is a fairly high return associated with it – need to advertise what the vendors are associated with this campaign.
 - Holiday concert raffle generated about \$500.
- **Playground Update**
 - Stuart, Maaja, Karlyn and Arlene to meet with TDSB rep on Jan. 8 to review playground proposal.
 - Council's intent is still to have the playground purchased during the 2015/2016 school year.
 - More information will be available at the Feb. 4 council meeting.
- **Silent Auction**
 - Various event venues investigated most were cost prohibitive.
 - Council selected the 2016 event to be held at Ace's Place.
 - Proposed date – May 14.
 - Stuart to meet with venue to further discuss event logistics.
 - Committee to be created to oversee this event.
 - Karlyn to provide Stuart with donation letter.

7. Communications

- Heather continues to work on proising updates for the Simcoe website—looking to concentrate efforts on three main updates:
 - Main page
 - Fundraising page
 - Teachers Blog page - council would create a blog
- Council owns the existing Facebook page. A decision will need to be made as to whether a new page is created or should the existing page be updated? Waiting to hear back from Sheila on this issue.
- Council needs to determine if a Twitter presence would be helpful. Karlyn to discuss with Arlene regarding TDSB guidelines.
- Intention is to have a complete overhaul of the website completed by Sept. 2016.
- Anita K mentioned the possible grant which may be available that provides funding and training for website upkeep, etc.– Heather to follow-up with Anita for more information.
- Heather has reviewed a number of possible grant applications. Most of the applications have a Fall closing date; Heather will look to highlight possible applications Council can work on for the upcoming school year.

8. Other Business

- **Ice rink**
 - Bill Wilson – the ice rink is up and running—6th year—the City provided a bigger area for the rink this year— we are hoping to have about 3-4 weeks of use – Bill worked with Home Depot to have some of the rink supplies provided – still trying hard to get the City Council to agree to create a permanent community rink installed.

- **Spirit wear**
 - Kevin and Anita W reviewed the upcoming campaign which will include the sale of sweatshirts, socks, t-shirts, etc.
 - Campaign to begin in Feb.
 - Sample sizes will be available at the school on pre-assigned days to allow for students to try on and pick proper sizes?
 - Question: *What do we want to use the money raised through this campaign for – new school team jerseys? Yes - This will be included on campaign communications.*
- **Pancake Breakfast**
 - Feb. 9, 2016.
 - About 274 students participate.
 - Question: *What mix will be used – is it peanut/nut safe? Yes.*
 - Question: *How does that event work? Kids/classes come down to get pancakes during the morning.*
- **Photo yearbook**
 - Rich looking to put together a digital yearbook – need to be sensitive to those who have not signed the media release forms.
 - Perhaps this initiative can be tabled and brought forward to the fundraising committee.
 - Rich to take photos at pancake breakfast. Evaluate feasibility after this event.
- **Request for funds to support music education purchase**
 - Mrs. Kosa has requested funds to enable the purchase of musical equipment, etc. in support of the Orff musical education program being introduced to the primary students.
 - \$400 would be used to purchase mallets and three xylophones, and replace keys on some of the older xylophones currently used at the school.
 - Council agreed the funds collected through Simcoe’s upcoming Dance-a-thon fundraiser will help cover the cost of this purchase.
- **Alice in Wonderland production**
 - Auditions were held in January and the cast has been selected – great turn out from students.
 - Students very excited to participate and many coming out of their “comfort zones” to audition.
 - Rehearsals start January 8.
 - Production is open to students in Grade 3 and up.
 - May 26 is the performance date – one night for the performance and one performance during the day for the school/students to attend.
 - A refreshment concession will be offered during the show.
- **Movie Night fundraiser**
 - Event flyers have been distributed and money due back in the coming days.
 - Question: Can sunshine kids attend as well? Yes.
 - Question: Do parents have to stay? No but there needs to be a contact name and number for those students attending without parents.
 - There is a sign in and out process for all students.
 - Tickets purchased for the event will also serve as raffle tickets – prizes include dvds.
 - Looking for event volunteers and baked goods donation(s).
- **Dane-a-thon**
 - Feb. 19 Karlyn to speak to Arlene and DJ
 - Theme— 70’s – disco
 - Tanya and Alicia and Shirley b
- **Dates for next meeting:**
 - Feb 4, March 10, April 7

- **Sub-committee for bylaws**
 - Committee to include: Arlene, Karlyn, Stuart, Kathy K, Maaja, Petra, Lucy, Maria

Next council meeting – Feb. 4, 2016