

Elizabeth Simcoe School Council Minutes – Jan.12, 2017

Attendees: Alicia Edwards, Anita Wright, Arlene Knights, Cindy Kosa, David Paton, Heather Lin, Jamie Galt, Jennifer Vogan, Karlyn Tunbridge, Cassandra Lake, Kathy Karakasidis, Kevin Willan, Kim McLennan, Kerri Commisso, Lucy Medeiros, Maaja Eichfuss-Clarke, Maria Christopoulos, Melissa So, Ren Ciancusi, Rich Holt, Roza Mangos, Sabrina Hayden, Shirley Bernardo, Stuart Rogers, Tanya Massad, Fritz Toch, Larissa Bholaramsingh

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Nov. 2016 Minutes

- Review and approval of Nov. minutes

3. Principal's Report – Arlene Knights

- Welcome back – fantastic festive season during the month of Dec. with students participating in many initiatives including the annual concert, sing-a-long, Santa post office, Angel Tree and shoe box toy box collection. Initiatives continue to support the greater Scarborough community and beyond.
- Proposed playground construction expected to begin spring 2017.
- Staggered start-time for Kindies: further discussion held at an upcoming meeting.
 - Arlene, parent reps and staffing committee will discuss current start-time logistics and review alternative options.
 - Parent reps will include: Ren, Heather, Maria, Melissa.
 - Ren read and submitted a parent letter discussing current start-time logistics.
- TDSB Pupil Accommodation Review (PARC): each impacted school to select/nominate four parent reps to participate in committee discussions.
 - Parent reps will be working with TDSB staff, administrators, superintendant, and trustee (as an observer) and operate with a mandate of sharing info and developing different options for the targeted schools.
 - Seven proposed meetings scheduled: Feb. 2, 9, Mar. 7, Apr. 20 -- public meetings Feb. 21 Apr. 20, May 2.
 - Elizabeth Simcoe JPS parent reps: Maaja, Larissa, Fritz and Kathy.

4. Sunshine Childcare – Kim R

- Holiday trips went well – positive feedback received
- Dramatic centres looking for play crib and stroller
- Preparing for March Break programming

5. Treasurers Report – David

- Current council budget: \$54,624.12.
- Scholastic book fair successful campaign in Dec. – generated \$4,038.14 – proceeds will be paid to the school through books.

- Holiday concert raffle collected \$475.
- Spirit Wear funds to be used to purchase a volleyball net and a set of hockey jerseys for the school team (15 jerseys, approx. \$20-25 per piece).
- Lucy to look into the cost of a branded pop-up tent to be used at school events/functions (i.e. bbq, track and field meet).
- Skating rink expenses: \$465.56 to be divided between Council and TDSB donation.

6. Communications Report

- Website updates ongoing—be sure to check the calendar for events, updates etc.
- Sabrina will be administering the Council communications – Heather to edit material – Rodney to continue to update website.
 - All notices and e-blasts should be sent to Sabrina who will send to Kathy for distribution
- Heather reported on a successful Nov. workshop (anti-bullying) – good turnout and productive discussion – positive feedback.
- Some suggestions were gathered and will be applied to the upcoming workshop(s).
- Youth mental health issues proposed for Feb. workshop – discussion could focus around anxiety, etc. Heather investigating potential speakers and resource material.
 - Workshop proposed date is Feb. 23 – Thursday – 6:30-8:30
 - Parents are encouraged to contact Heather with suggestions for topics of discussions or logistics for the workshops.
- ***Question:*** *Was there a slide deck or workshop materials handed out in Nov.? No, but this is something we can look into for the upcoming workshop(s).*
- Workshop funds acquired through the grant need to be applied/divided over the four workshops (15% of the funds can be allocated to refreshments).
- ***Question/Suggestion:*** *Paul Davis may be a good speaker to contact for a future workshop – social networking and bullying.*
- ***Question:*** *Is there an area in the school that can serve as a holding space for resource for parents? We could look at posting material on the school website.*
- ***Question:*** *Can you use the grant funds to purchase text books – no, but perhaps we can look at other resources and/or classroom materials which focus on the workshop topics.*

7. Other Business

- **New Fundraising Initiative(s):** Looking into hosting a “Friendraiser” event. Some fundraising options could be incorporated into this event (i.e. raffle, auction items).
 - Karlyn to look at Ace’s for availability.
 - Alicia, Jamie, Tanya, Melissa, Shirley, Karlyn, Stuart, Cassandra, Sabrina and Kathy to meet to further discuss options.
- **Valu-Mart Fundraising:** Pilot program to run Feb.1 – Apr. 14.
 - Sign-up form will be provided to students mid-late Jan.
 - Completed form to be brought into the store to receive discount/loyalty card.



- 5% discount provided to cardholders.
- Store to match total discounts acquired through program to school.
- **Dance-a-Thon:** Feb. 16 - Shirley, Melissa, Tanya, and Alicia organizing
- **DVD Yearbook:** \$700 approx. cost to produce hardcopy for all students (one per family).
 - Looking at potentially allocating funds generated from movie night and Dance-a-Thon fundraisers to cover costs of this initiative.
 - Rich to also look into the cost of creating a dropbox for the images as an alternative.

Next Meeting: March 2