



School Council Minutes

November 16, 2022

7:00pm

Location: Virtual

Attendance

Laura Compton, Laura Kelm, Amanda Joblinski, Shannon Kornago, Amita Kohli, Georgina Ball, Lara Lemieux, Mr. Steven Beasley, Mr. Alfred Stockwell, Ms. Sunita Sas, Ms. Tracy Lakusta, Ms. Robyn Fagarasanu, Rhonda Kelln, Hannah Alizada, Nancy Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Shannon Kornago called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda as presented by Laura Compton. Seconded by Laura Kelm. Motion carried.

Previous Minutes

Motion to accept the previous minutes as presented by Laura Compton. Seconded by Laura Kelm. Motion carried.

Introductions

School Council, Esther Starkman staff, and parent attendee introductions were made.

Presentation

Presentation on the Student Demographic Survey: Tracy Lakusta and Robyn Fagarasanu presented information about the Student Demographic Survey. This survey will help the division know more about division students. This will be conducted next week (late November) in grades 4 to 12 across the division to work towards the *Anti-racism and Equity Action Plan* put in place by EPSB. This data will be confidentially, voluntarily, and not anonymously (linked to student ID) gathered and held digitally at the division level to provide valuable information about the diversity of students within the division to assist the division in future actions for student success and safety. November 1 to December 16 is when the survey needs to be completed and will be done during school time at ESS between November 21 and 25. Parents may wish to opt their child out by contacting the school by phone, in writing, or in person. Questions can be addressed to the school admin team. This information is also being shared with families.

Principal's Report

Principal's Report: Sunita Sas reported that school absenteeism is at 12% today thus the move to an online School Council meeting. It was a busy start to school with 830 students up by approximately 100 students from this time last year. School is getting back to more student activities but is dealing with outbreak status situations as determined by AHS. All safety protocols for the school that are in place are posted to School Zone. Students are to stay home if ill. The Remembrance Day assembly was held online in the school as organized by staff members. Coming up are progress reports beginning on November 25 and these will be posted to School Zone at approximately 3:30pm. Interviews have already taken place. Parents are encouraged to make sure that students have appropriate clothing. Students go out until -23°C with wind chill. Families are encouraged to check Instagram and School Zone to identify lost and found items. Also, please make sure to go into School Zone to update demographic information so that in the case of emergency or absenteeism, your first listed number will be contacted. There are a variety of clubs available to students at all grade levels at this time.

Music Program Presentation

Mr. Beasley, (K-5 music), and Mr. Stockwell, (6-9 band) spoke at the meeting. Mr. Beasley reported about music clubs for students that are well attended and show increases in confidence for students. The performances from this karaoke club will lead into a choir for the elementary students. Mr. Stockwell reported that he is working with the 6 to 9 students in the band program. Junior high extracurricular groups are beginning soon. Sunita Sas also reported that there are considerations being made for the December 7 winter concert to be canceled due to current illness rates. A final decision will be made shortly based on outbreak recommendations from AHS. If this is the case, there will be something presented online and considerations for future concerts. Parents spoke in support of doing what is best for the school community at large.

Communications Report

Laura Compton reported a recap of the work being done in communications. Last year, a social media presence for School Council was created on multiple platforms. Those are updated regularly. Email newsletters by digital parent consent are sent out regularly along with email updates. The *essparents.ca* website is a good place to go as the main hub for School Council and fundraising information. Next steps are looking at how best to reach parents outside of digital platforms. Laura would like to do some in-person communications when the medical climate allows. At times, paper flyers may be sent. Having volunteers to do tasks such as sort flyers is always welcome. Laura would like to consider a more inclusive branding from Parent Council to School Council and Fundraising Associations during this year.

New Initiative Introduction:

Shannon Kornago introduced several ideas for consideration.

Fresh Fruit Program: Shannon Kornago and Laura Kelm would like to support a fresh fruit program by having a sponsorship or partnership to have areas at the school with fresh fruit for students to access. Shannon will look into this.

Healthy Hunger: Shannon Kornago wondered if Healthy Hunger hot lunches would be worthwhile. Laura Compton said that these have been used in the past for track dates and the Special Events person is currently looking into this.

Milk Program: Shannon Kornago asked if families are interested in a milk program. There is interest in supporting students at school with healthy choices.

School Dances: Shannon Kornago brought up school and family dances. This is on hold until we are able to plan events for larger groups on the school site. Mr. Beasley has some ideas that are community based with different aspects of the school combined to include fundraising, concerts, other subjects, and a festival feel in the spring. Laura Kelm mentioned that there is some work being done to work on family and school engagement that may work well with this idea. These ideas are tabled until after the new year.

Adjournment

Shannon Kornago adjourned the meeting at 8:17pm.

Future Meetings

The next meeting is January 18th, 2023 in the school library at 6:30pm.



Fundraising Association Minutes

November 16, 2022

8:00pm

Location: Virtual

Attendance

Laura Compton, Laura Kelm, Amanda Joblinski, Shannon Kornago, Amita Kohli, Georgina Ball, Lara Lemieux, Mr. Steven Beasley, Mr. Alfred Stockwell, Ms. Sunita Sas, Ms. Tracy Lakusta, Ms. Robyn Fagaransanu, Rhonda Kelln, Hannah Alizada, Nancy Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Laura Kelm called the meeting to order at 8:17pm.

Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Laura Compton. Seconded by Hanna Alizada. Motion carried.

Previous Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented by Laura Compton. Seconded by Nancy Kirkpatrick. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Lara Lemieux said that \$2200 approximately was spent on gym equipment with about \$1300 left to spend. Approved amounts for Husky Star swag and junior high year-end event are still to be debited with funds from Write-on Stationary and Panago nights to be deposited.

Funding Requests

Sunita Sas went over the process of collecting wish list items from staff which are then shared with members of the Fundraising Association. The music teachers presented their wish list

items. Mr. Stockwell thanked the Fundraising Association for their support and time. The most helpful costs for junior high students would be covering the costs of clinicians and buses for the band camps. Mr. Stockwell is putting costs together for the next meeting. Mr. Beasley would very much like more jambe drums (18) to allow one to one for student participation. 18 jambe drums are approximately \$2790. These would be used for all Division 1 and 2 elementary students.

Budget Update & Financial Motions

Laura Kelm went through the proposed budget. The balance as of November 1 is \$20 000 approximately in general funds. There are approximately \$35 000 of funds in the casino account with the funds from the December casino coming in approximately February. Some funds come in throughout the year from various fundraisers as well. A suggestion came from Georgina Ball to include teacher appreciation in the proposed budget. There is also a Scholastic book fair credit that was used for the purchase of some class library funds.

Amanda Joblinski motioned to cover the cost of 18 jambe drums at a cost of approximately \$2790. Seconded by Georgina Ball. Motion carried.

Band program funds are tabled until the next meeting for consideration.

Rhonda Kelln motions to spend casino funds as available for 17 Chromebooks. Seconded by Amanda Joblinski. Motion carried.

Fundraising Update

Laura Compton shared that the Panago fundraiser totaled \$426.22 and another Panago fundraiser will be requested for February. Tracy Lakusta will look into this for February with Roman from Panago. The Christmas plant sale closed today with about 55 orders for about \$1000 profit. Delivery is scheduled for December 1 and pick-up day is December 2 from 3-6pm. Laura Compton asked if there was interest in a spring plant sale closer to the May long weekend. This will be tabled until the new year. Georgina Ball is organizing the book fair and will report back. The time frame for the book fair is late May/early June depending on availability.

Casino Update

Additional volunteers are needed to fill the casino volunteer positions. 8 on the first day and 4 on the second for volunteers. There were more spaces filled from the school flyer that went home. Please assist in pushing for volunteers.

Adjournment

Laura Kelm adjourned at 9:26pm. Laura Compton motioned and Georgina Ball seconded.

Future Meetings

The next meeting is January 18th, 2023 in the school library at 6:30pm.

