



John Mahood School Council

Meeting Minutes February 28th, 2024

Present:

Online:

Pam Mustin
Kristen Dorscht
Stephanie Rempel
Tabatha Nicholson
Mary Blanchard
Meaghan Hachey
Christine Martin
Kacheena Morrison

Emily McConnell
Alicia McGuire
Sarah Reger
Laura Fehrenbach
Catherine Hibbard
Natalie Anglin
Bethany Metzger
Kandis Walker
Tammy Wagler

Voting Members Absent:

Cheyenne Vautour
Angie Melchin
Courtney Dyer
Katie Armstrong

Territorial Acknowledgement - Pam

Discussion of Previous Minutes - Kristen/Stephanie

- See last month's minutes Here
 - Motion to Approve - Stephanie
 - Seconded by - Kristen

Principal's Report - Pam

- Kindergarten registration numbers are looking good
 - May 9th Kindergarten information night
- Vision screening for SKs next week
- Next Friday March 8 is spirit day - Beach Day
- March break March 11-15
- Safety audit team from the school board came into the school - 3 hour walk through. List of things to be fixed, some by WRDSB facilities supervisor, some by staff. Safety review happens once every 5 years.
- Four Kitchener Rangers members coming in to talk to the grade fours. Talking about goal setting, staying in shape, etc.
- Electric Larry coming in for the 5/6s
- Lockdown and/or Tornado drill soon
- Solar eclipse on April 8th, some boards have moved their pd day to the eclipse day, waiting for communication from the board for what they are doing about eclipse, as of now, school as normal on April 8th
- Multi-year board literacy plan Acadien training/assessment provided by board to any teacher who has volunteered for K-2. Six JMA teachers and two CERTs took the training.



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Teacher's Report - Christine

- D&D clubs runs on Thursdays
- Friendship day was celebrated on Feb 14th
- Kindergarten classes held concert
- Humane society was in with dogs - talked about being safe with animals
- Landfill and recycling center field trip for three classes
- Choir is meeting weekly, singing at beach day assembly
- Basketball intramurals have just ended
- Grade 4, 5 and 6 students were invited to write a poem about home. With an opportunity to win prizes. Ella from our school submitted a poem which was read aloud

Literacy Presentation

- Our literacy consultant will come and be a part of the community presentation
- Presentation was given to staff, to bring staff on board and encouraging them to use the same language as in the decoding posters
- Posters from IDA training
- Decoding strategies that can be used from K-6, making it consistent across all grade levels.
- Would like to use PRO Grant money to make copies for an in-classroom binder and a take-home packages with the decoding strategies
- Hoping to have the presentation sometime in April
- Council could help possibly with setup
- Hoping to have some teenagers offer childcare for volunteer hours - pre-registration would be required
- Even date should be different week than bingo, thinking week of April 11th
- Ask parents to RSVP for literacy night, if there's enough space, open it up to Riverside families

Chair's Report - Kristen/Stephanie

- WRAPSC meeting - new literacy program
 - Talked about UFLI & Acadiens. A lot of schools aren't doing it yet
 - How school council can help and help fund literacy in school
 - Magnet letters, whiteboards, decodable texts, home reading programs
 - Talked about the Importance of the comments on report cards and parents reaching out the teachers to discuss report cards
 - The literacy mark used to be broken into oral, writing and reading. It is now lumped all into one mark.
- Third round of pizza days coming up soon - 11 weeks of pizza, email coming out this week
- We have applied for the EMSF grant



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- Pro Grant was awarded
- Mahoodfest
 - Committee has met twice
 - Has come up with proposal for events
 - They have make lists of items with no cost vs costs associated
 - Items with costs to be presented to council to make a motion for the spending for Mahoodfest
 - Traditionally Mahoodfest has made a profit. Last year was over \$2000
 - This year's proposed budget is \$2885
 - popcorn/cotton candy or free food items \$900
 - Balloon Artists 3 hours \$750
 - Dog show \$815
 - Raffle \$200
 - Face paint, water, etc
 - Money makers
 - Cake walk
 - Raffle tickets
 - **Motion to give Mahoodfest a budget of \$2885 for this year by Kristen**
 - **Passed by majority vote**

Treasury Report - Kristen

- [See Treasurer's Report here](#)
- Still sitting at a negative balance. Cash from last round of pizza sales and new money raised from coffee will put it back into a positive balance

Fundraising/Community Events - Emily

- Baden Coffee Fundraiser
 - 377 items were sold
 - Over \$4000 worth of product sold with a \$988 profit for school council (minus school day fees)
 - Pickup 3-6pm on March 5th
- Taking a pause on fundraising because pizza, bingo and Mahoodfest are all coming up
- Some people have expressed that they don't want to buy fundraising items but would like to just give cash.
 - In the past a message has gone out to families inviting them to donate to the John Mahood WEFI account (which is tax deductible)
 - Could send a message out with all future fundraisers
 - WEFI funds go into an account available for the school to use
- Pancake Day



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- Planning is underway
 - EMSF is providing pancake mix and syrup
 - Costs should be less than what was previously requested
 - Have volunteers already
- Bingo in April

Open Discussion - All

- Sun canopy - no update, asked teachers what they would like, but have not heard back.
- Track and field pinnies - Mr Hutton will connect with council regarding final pricing and get these ordered soon to beat the summer sport rush
- Home reading
 - The home reading library that the school presently has is level based, which contradicts decodable skills.
 - Would be very time consuming to take the leveled texts and make them decodable
 - Two trains of thought - just get books in the hands of kids to foster the love of reading. Or, using decodable texts which would support the methods being taught in the classroom
- A lot of discussion about the desire for the council to provide decodable texts for the home reading program. Does not fit with the current fundraising initiative, so possibly a fundraising goal for next year.

Next meeting

- Wednesday March 27, 2024 at 6:30pm in person in the school library and online

Additional discussion / activities after the meeting

- Motion to pay \$127 for snacks and refreshments from the family day Kindergarten Concert - by Stephanie via email on March 1st
 - **Passed by majority vote**
- Motion to use PIC Grant funds for Kindergarten Information night as has been done in the past - by Stephanie via email on March 1st
 - **Passed by majority vote**



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