Esther Starkman School

Parent Association

www.essparents.ca

General Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2025
Esther Starkman School Library

Attendance:

Jonathan Tunde-Wright, Cindy Lim, Hycheu Lim, Rita Robinson, Heather Petruk, Milie Tang

Board - Georgina Ball, Laura Compton, Stacey Staron, Farina McLennan
Staff - Kyril Mueller

Quorum *(3 board members, 2 of whom must be elected officials)*: **YES**

Call to Order

G. Ball called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.

Approval of Agenda & Previous Minutes

Motion by F. McLennan to accept the agenda for February 12, 2025 as amended. Seconded by L. Compton. Motion carried.

Motion by H. Petruk to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on January 15, 2025 as presented. Seconded by F. McLennan. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

L. Compton provided a financial update on the group's accounts. Please see the link for the details - Financial Update - February 12, 2025. Balances are accurate as of February 12, 2025.

Standing Business

Completed Fundraisers

Panago Pizza Nights

A. Kohli was absent, no update was provided. L. Compton noted that the first two dates have already occurred, and the final date is tomorrow (February 13). She noted that it will be advertised on social media in the morning. J. Tunde-Wright asked about whether it had been advertised on the announcements as discussed, L. Compton noted that she had not had an opportunity to connect with Ms. Leclerc about doing this, so it had not, but it will be noted for future pizza night fundraisers.

Scheduled Fundraisers

Healthy Hunger

L. Compton provided an update on the next Healthy Hunger lunch on Feb 21, as noted previously both she and G. Ball will be away for this event. L. Compton reported that she has confirmed that A. Kohli will be the coordinator for this lunch and she will provide all of the information required once the lunch closes on Feb 16. She also noted that there are currently 12 volunteers signed up to help, which is enough for the lunch to go ahead, but more volunteers are certainly encouraged to come if they are available.

Volunteer Sign-up Link

J. Tunde Wright noted that he could provide additional support on the day as well.

H. Lim asked about the bubble tea hot lunch and L. Compton noted that the vendor is still waiting to be confirmed on the Healthy Hunger website. Once they are set up, a date for a bubble tea lunch can be confirmed, either by adding it to an upcoming lunch that is already scheduled or, depending on volunteer support, by having it on a separate day.

Scholastic Book Fair

G. Ball reported that the next book fair will be on March 17-22. She noted that she was hoping to have the volunteer sign-up form ready for the meeting, but will have it available as soon as possible. She also noted that if anyone is interested in getting involved with planning the book fair, there is a webinar available to take online.

Purdy's

H. Petruk reported that the spring Purdy's fundraiser is set up and ready to accept orders. The deadline to order will be March 30, delivery will be April 8-11 and the order pick-up will be April 15. The school store will be used for pickup again.

Orders can be placed at Purdy's Spring Fundraiser, using customer # 66777.

Growing Smiles

H. Petruk reported that the spring Growing Smiles plant sale fundraiser is set up and ready to accept orders. The order deadline will be May 12, delivery is May 27 and order pickup will be May 28.

Fundraising Ideas

Five Guys Burgers & Fries

S. Staron says that Jen from Five Guys is interested in hosting a fundraiser similar to the Panago pizza nights and noted that we could pick a weeknight where families would get a code to order.

Discussion was held about dates that would work, and it was felt that the week of April 8 or 9 would be a good fit. It was also noted that Panago is held over three nights at Panago's request so this can be done for Five Guys as well, depending on what the vendor would prefer. L. Compton noted that if it does get split into three nights, it is easier for communications to have it on the same day of the week for three consecutive weeks.

ACTION: S. Staron will follow-up with Five Guys and book the dates.

Staff Appreciation

F. McLennan reported that the Valentine's Day hot chocolate bar is ready for Friday morning. She noted that she is planning to set it up first thing in the morning, around 8:30am.

F. McLennan reported that the massage date for June cannot be confirmed until the end of March, but will do so as soon as she can. She also noted that a sign-up for teachers to choose a time slot will need to be made.

G. Ball noted that there is a parent at the school that has a small catering company that asked if she could work with us to put on lunch for the June appreciation event.

New Business

F. McLennan noted that she drafted a letter to families to ask for businesses that might want to partner with the PA or might have ideas for additional fundraising and will send it to the group for review. F. McLennan suggested offering incentives for responding to the survey to encourage engagement.

Ideas for volunteer engagement and participation were discussed including winning write-on supplies, a draw for a prize for volunteers, a small gift for all volunteers, a popcorn party, and VIP seating and parking at a concert or event. L. Compton noted that there is a $500 budget already approved for volunteer appreciation, it just needs to be decided which idea someone would like to coordinate and move forward with.

A discussion about events such as carnival was held, and it was noted that someone will need to volunteer to lead and organize a large event like this. G. Ball suggested forming a planning committee.

K. Mueller noted that a May 27 concert date is already set for grades 4, 5, and 7, and so it would likely be too close to that date to ask staff to add band or music to the carnival, and it would be best to go ahead without the music portion of the event.

Other suggestions for events were offered including a outdoor movie night similar to what the Terwillegar Community League does, or an indoor movie night in the gym.

ACTION: Event discussion will be tabled until the March meeting to see if there is anyone interested in leading a planning committee to organize a special event.

Adjournment

G. Ball adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:30pm in the Esther Starkman Library.