# John Mahood School Council

Meeting Minutes January 18th, 2022

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**Present:**

In Person:
Pam Mustin
Christine Martin
Melissa Grimes
Kristen Dorscht
Kandis Walker
Edija Banka-Demandta
Bethany Metzger
Chyenne Vautour
Renee Dick
Catherine Hibbard
Jennie McGovern
Laura Fehrenback
Stephanie Rempel
Mary Blanchard

Online:
Katie Veitch
Natalie Anglin

**Territorial Acknowledgement - Pam**

**Discussion of Previous Minutes - Kristen/Stephanie**

- See last month's minutes here
    - Motion to Approve - Jennie
    - Accepted by - Renee

**Treasury Report - Renee**

- See Treasurer's report here
- Motion to use WEFI Funds for Picnic Table
- Supplement schools kleenex supply
    - Motion to spend $1000 on Kleenex, to come out of 'Other' account - Renee
    - Seconded by: Jennie
    - Vote: Passed
- Net profit from 1st round of pizza fundraiser = $2,111
    - Estimated net profit from 2nd round of pizza fundraiser = $2,297
- Estimated net profit from poinsettia fundraiser = $1,512
- Accrue $1,100 for WEFI technology spending ($300) and outdoor picnic table ($800)
- Charitable donations for $200 ($100 each) made in memory of Mrs. Martin (Grand River Regional Cancer Centre) & Madame Brighton (Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region)
- Skating expenses cheque issued for $437 (net of HST rebate)
- Mabel's Label cheque for $198 received
- Write-off $208 of 2022 PIC grant due to expenses not approved prior to submission deadline

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- Final reimbursements from 2022 fundraising initiative of $882 and write-off of balance not spent $2,214
- VSC reimbursement cheque issued for $20

**Principal's Report - Pam**

- Staffing Changes
    - Mrs Smith moved to Westmount Public School, hired Brigitta Gooch to fill the position. Starts Jan 19th.
    - Hiring DECE - ongoing
    - CYW - Leanne Van Reenan has resigned, Chris Hyland has been hired for the position
- Kindergarten online registration opened on Monday
- Friday Jan 20th - PD - no extended day
- Get Real
    - Organization out of Toronto
    - Virtual workshop for grades 5 & 6 about equity and inclusion, human connection & empathy, unlearn harmful language and teaching 2SLGBTQ+ inclusivity
    - Acceptance and uniqueness of being you
    - Mr Vincent and Jr. Leadership to continue with the theme of equity and inclusivity
- Elmira Maple Syrup
    - Grant application due soon
    - EMSF desperate for volunteers, there is a chance that funding will be granted to organizations willing to help out with the event
- Pro Grant
    - Leanne would like both the PIC and Pro grants used before May for ease of bookkeeping
    - Application for Pro deadline is soon
    - Pro Grant was used for Binary Tattoo presentation last year
    - Ideas for Pro Grant this year
        - Unlearn
        - Binary Tattoo school session
        - Sarah Westbrook, Power of You - day and evening session
        - Jessica Webb - learning styles and executive functioning skills
        - KW Counseling - mental health talk
        - Renee Volunteered to research some organizations
        - Preference is for an in-person session
        - Indigenous artist - Parents and student art night
- From Pam after the meeting Re: Ministry funded tutoring

- I have 3 teachers who are willing to take on this tutoring opportunity. The goal is to work with students in reading or math (per group). Based on those teachers' application/focus of interest they are focusing on reading in the primary division. Student data was collected and submitted by classroom teachers and those students selected will receive a letter home tomorrow.

**Chair's Report - Kristen/Stephanie**

- Pizza Day going smoothly, down 5 slices from the fall order
- WRAPSC Update
  - See WRAPSC meeting minutes here
  - Difficult to hear at home
  - A lot of information sharing
- MahoodFest - it is time to get planning in motion
  - Previous event highlights
    - Cake-walk, Fire Trucks, police cars, sidewalk chalk, Book Fair, Face painting - need new facepaints, dunk tank
  - Fundraising ideas
    - Raffle - Each class donates prize for a theme
    - Silent Auction
    - Grade 6 Bake Sale
  - Food
    - Popcorn & cotton Candy - Free
    - Food Trucks - Kristen to look into, they usually book up quickly after the Christmas break
  - Date Time
    - Thursday June 15th, 5-8pm
    - Revised Date due to conflict with Kindie Night: **Tuesday June 20th, 5-8pm**
  - A separate MahoodFest Committee to be established - reach out to the community for members

**Social Media - Kristen**

- Engagement is low
- People are seeing the posts, just not liking, sharing or commenting

**Fundraising & Community Events - Stephanie**

- Skating Night planning is done
  - Granola Bars, Hot Chocolate

- Volunteers - one more required for ice supervision 6:30 - 7:15, Christine to ask Staff if there is interest in helping, Chyenne volunteered to supervise for both time slots if no one else can do it
- There is no sign-up, open event
- Request that families with young children come earlier, older kids later - message to go out on school day closer to the date
- Grade Sixes to sell popcorn - bring cash

**By-Law Committee**

- See Committee Meetings Minutes here
- Review Proposed By-Laws here
- Due to running out of time at the meeting, please send any questions to the By-Law committee for discussion at the next meeting
- Highlights to discuss
  - WhatsApp
    - Since not all council members are on WhatsApp it should not be used for discussion of official council business. Topics should be brought to meetings or sent via the JMA school council email list - emails sent to jma-schoolcouncil@wrdsb.ca will automatically send to all members
    - Chit-chat, random questions and topics outside the scope of School Council can still occur on WhatsApp
  - Voting rule - can only vote if you were at previous month's meeting
  - Rules for attendance / number of missed meetings
- The by-law committee plans to update the School Council section of the John Mahood website with by-laws and up-to-date school profile

**Open Discussion - All**

- Category 2 field trips need superintendent approval - still waiting for approval for Grade 6 trip
- Safety in Parking Lots and Tennis Courts
  - People are pleased with new measures in Tennis Courts - no one has been parking in the lot
  - Catherine contacted Township about icy sidewalk conditions on Tuesday. Township was responsive, however, ice is not considered a special event and the Township has 24 hrs from the end of the event to clear it
- Eco Club - what is the status with Michelle Smith moving to another school?
  - Mrs Billings is unable to take on running the club at this time
  - Hoping the Kindies can take care of the gardens

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    - Christine expressed interest to carry it on, but would like information on how it was left by Mrs. Smith
- Multi-school Spring Event - Pancake Day - Jennie
    - Elmira Maple Syrup Festival would like to do some school collaboration
    - Provide pancake and real maple syrup for all the Elmira schools the week leading up to the event
    - 1 gal of Maple Syrup donated from EMSF committee to each school
    - Flapjack the mascot will make an appearance
    - Up to each school on how they would like to run the event
        - Need Volunteers and cooking tools / griddles
    - Covering the cost of the event - school council funds, approx. $330
        - Pancake Mix, Oil, Maple Syrup
        - Kids bring their own utensils & plates
    - Idea to purchase griddles for ongoing annual use (above $330) - decision not to purchase this year, hoping to borrow enough griddles for the day from families
    - Motion to approve $330 of spending for pancake day - Christine
        - Seconded : Catherine
        - Vote: Passed
    - 440 students + staff
        - 3 seatings during middle school block, setup during first nutrition break, cleanup during second nutrition break
    - Volunteers - Laura to Coordinate
        - Google form to go out prior to the event
    - Date: Tuesday March 28th
- Jungle Sport - booked May 23rd-26th (Pending category 2 approval)
    - Hoping to make it a free event
- Can we get a Mascot? - discussion for next meeting
    - Re-branding?
    - Pricing for a costume

**Next meeting**

- Wednesday, February 22, 2023

**Additional discussion / activities after the meeting**

- Ross Lacker, former school crossing guard passed away on Monday January 23rd, 2023. Ross was a crossing guard at John Mahood for many years.
    - Motion to donate $100 to Woolwich Community Services Food Bank by Kristen via email on Feb. 3rd to all council members. Vote: Passed

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- Ross's wife was supportive of a School Day message to be sent out to inform the school community of his passing.
- A sympathy card was sent on behalf of the school community by School Council

- With deadlines for the Elmira Maple Syrup Festival (EMSF) and Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grants quickly approaching Renee proposed the following applications;
  - $500 on the EMSF grant application for initiatives focused on community building and inclusion and understanding the diversity within our community, and/or
  - $500 on the PRO grant application for a joint even with Riverside Public School focusing on ethnic diversity and culture (separate vote will be proposed at a later date for the actual event)
  - Motion to apply for the above grants by Renee via email on Feb. 14th to all council members. Vote: Passed