

Highland Public SchoolParent Council Meeting

October 9, 2024

Start Time: 6:30 pm

End Time: 8:05 pm

Location: Highland Library

Facilitator:

Author: Calyn Nelson

Mission Statement: "To support the Highland School community in its dedication to the encouragement of life-long learning, the pursuit of personal best, and the fostering of respect for self and others, through the nurturing of responsible behavior and cooperation in a secure, motivating atmosphere for all."

Members: *voting member

Name	Role	P/R/V	Name	Role	P/R/V
Whitney Ellis*	Co-Chair 2024-25	P	April Lindemann*	Co-Chair from 2023-2024 school year	Р
Kany Blair*	Co-Chair 2024-25	Р	Ekaterina Borshevetskaya*	Co-Chair from 2023-2024 school year	P
Stacy Weber*	Treasurer	Р	Jessica Allen**	Teacher-rep	Р
Calyn Nelson*	Secretary	Р	Jason Gordon**	Teacher-rep	Р
Sean Finn	Principal	Р	Kyle Metcalf	Vice Principal	Р
Teri Horgan*	WRAPSC	Р	Paula Oullet*		Р
Tania Gonzalez*		Р	Amanda Kamping-Carder*		Р

Jessica O'Neill	Р	Laura Down	Р

1.	Welcome: - Review and approve Agenda - Review and approve minutes from last meeting (September 2024)	All	
2.	Administrator's Report	Sean Finn Principal	- Highland not affected by recent Board re-organization - Arcadian assessments now complete - Hiring new level-C secretary; Wendy leaving for another site - Open House: good turnout; book swap was successful - Terry Fox Run: met fundraising target of \$2700, all funds raised go directly to Terry Fox Foundation to support cancer research - Fall Play Day: Oct. 10 - Second Annual school-wide Pumpkin Drop challenge - Photo Day: Oct. 8; make-up date TBD - Upcoming opportunity for school apparel purchases EQAO
			 Results will be printed out and sent home GR 3: 61% at/above standard for math 58% at/above standard for reading 39% at/above standard for writing GR 6: 58% at/above standard for math 68% at/above standard for reading 60% at/above standard for writing EQAO results alone are not a reliable indicator of student comprehension; rather, used to

			give teachers/school a gauge of collective level - Method of assessment is not consistent with how kids learn in the classroom, which may also impact results
3.	Fundraising initiatives and their impact on office operations	Corinne Kaufman	- Method for parents/families to make cash donations to Board for disbursement to schools, or to school directly (online) - Tax receipts for \$15+ donations - Money must be used for a group of students or school-wide initiatives - WEFI funds cannot be transferred to PAC account - Suggestion from Sean: run WEFI parallel to other PAC fundraisers for parents who wish to make a direct cash donation Feasible Fundraising Options per school admin - As much as possible, avoid fundraising activities that require office staff to count cash - Parameters for future fundraisers: low/no draw on school staff time and resources, fewer than six items on School Day, or items that only need to be added one time (e.g. popcorn) - Unfortunately, Bingo is not a feasible fundraising option at Highland due to limited resources and the level of administrative support needed Actions for follow-up:
			 Corinne to explore whether it's possible for parents to purchase extra items for other kids (e.g. "donate" popcorn to another student) PAC to brainstorm fundraising options and check feasibility with Corinne/admin

4	Teacher's report/requests	Jessica Allen/Jason Gordon	 Teachers would like to run chess club again, potential for 80-100 kids with checkers options for younger kids Need to purchase chess boards: 20 roll-up boards + 20 sets of chess pieces + 20 sets of checkers pieces Approx. \$783 Sean: offer to split cost with PAC Brantview Orchard Trip: bussing costs meant families were asked to pay \$5/child for this trip however, PAC subsidy helped to keep this cost down Jungle Sport: will discuss at next meeting if we want to book this year for next winter, \$1000 deposit
5.	Treasurer's Report	Stacy Weber, Treasurer	 Acknowledgement that PAC previously approved field trip subsidy Currently \$3800 in available funds, plus \$11750 for playground reserve which council can vote to move if needed Opportunity for \$500 from Board for parent council, plus additional opportunity for parent involvement grant MOTION put forward to allocate \$500 Board PAC grant toward chess supplies. Motion passed.
6.	WRAPSC report	WRAPSC Rep	Playgrounds - Crestview's (Kitchener) new playground: \$100K fundraising enabled new \$120K playground - Natural playgrounds are 3-4x more expensive Fundraising Events - Example provided of events where suggested donation for parents help to cover school events Misc Highland PAC aligned to best practices for PAC meetings

			 Working on group letter to Board pushing for policy that would require notification to parents when kids are exposed to violence/traumatic events (drills, extreme violence) Many grants available for school/PAC grants
7.	Sponsored activities/fundraising initiatives for 2024/2025 school year ■ Mabel's Labels? Flip Give? Others? ■ WEFI Fund	All	- Nutrition for Learning: budget has been significantly reduced. Opportunity for PAC to fundraise for this. Fundraising Ideas & Initiatives FlipGive - Actions for follow-up: - Sean to consider and report back on how PAC can support Nutrition for Learning program - Once fundraising initiatives have been decided for the year, PAC to develop promotional flyer/content to distribute via student backpacks, FB groups, School Day, etc. - Agreement to establish fundraising committee. Volunteers: Jessica, Paula, Calyn
8.	Misc.	All	- MOTION put forward to make Laura voting member of PAC. Motion passed.
8.	Agenda Items for next meeting: Parking lot for the items brought in for discussion, to be included to the next agenda	All	- Review recommendations from Fundraising Committee

Future meeting dates- mark your calendar!

November 13, 2024 at 6:30pm