



Highland Public School Parent 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	P
Kany Blair*	Co-Chair 2024-25	P	Ekaterina Borshevetskaya*	Co-Chair from 2023-2024 school year	P
Stacy Weber*	Treasurer	P	Jessica Allen**	Teacher-rep	P
Calyn Nelson*	Secretary	P	Jason Gordon**	Teacher-rep	P
Sean Finn	Principal	P	Kyle Metcalf	Vice Principal	P
Teri Horgan*	WRAPSC	P	Paula Oullet*		P
Tania Gonzalez*		P	Amanda Kamping-Carder*		P

Jessica O'Neill		P	Laura Down		P
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1.	Welcome: - Review and approve Agenda - Review and approve minutes from last meeting (September 2024)	All	
2.	Administrator's Report	Sean Finn Principal	General Updates - 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	WEFI - 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 <i>FlipGive</i> - 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