Conestogo Public School – Council Minutes: Thursday, Jan 19, 2017

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UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

2016-17 Event Dates:

- **TITLE HERE Mad Science?:**
  - DETAILS HERE, dates, times.
- **JungleSport Student Fitness Week**: April 10-13, 2017
- **Council Meetings** (Third Thursday of each month):
  - Thu Feb 16, 2017
  - Thu Mar 23, 2017
  - Thu Apr 20, 2017
  - Thu May 18, 2017
  - Thu Jun 15, 201

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

Initiative/Project	Action Item	Member Responsible
Principle's Report – extreme weather	**Council requested that when the school is closed due to weather that parents also be reminded to contact vendors directly (Lunch Lady/ESNS) to cancel their orders.**	Brian
Magazine Fundraiser	Sign up for another 2 year contract.	Chris
S'Cool Life Fund	Ms. Fox and students would like to meet with a council member to discuss possible future funding for new playground.	Rebecca and Deb
	Request a quote for a new sound system and send to Deb.	Brian
	Submit grant application for "performance art package" by March 31 and determine when funds would be received if awarded.	Deb
PRO Grant	Follow up with Foodland for water and cups	Agnes
	Contact Laura to help with set-up/clean-up	Council
	Communicate evening details, parking, and determine if grade 7 and 8 students could attend evening presentation	Laura
	Advertise event on WPAPC page	Fiona
	Ask local constable to discuss online safety with younger grades on his next visit	Brian
Emoji Parties	Contact Katherine Sunday regarding borrowing button maker from the art gallery	Chris
	Help running the class parties	Council
New Fundraising Opportunities	Send info to Karen regarding art gallery auction idea	Laura
	Survey council regarding top three fundraisers	Deb
Art Shine	Send flyer to Mr. Beney and indicate that two groups will run assuming sufficient registrations	Karen
Council Constitution and Bylaws	Review bylaws and ethics for procedures that are clearly outdated (this will be a work in progress for a few months).	Council
Environmental Stewardship	Determine if there is any cost to participate	Rebecca
Environmental Stewardship	Get committee together for September (contact interested teacher)	Brian and Council
Elmira Maple Syrup Grant	Find out more details	Fiona
Crossing Guard	Move open position to the top of the help wanted page.	Deb
	Post on School Day	Brian

WELCOME & GENERAL BUSINESS

Attendance

(P present, N absent/regrets. Parent Members must attend 7/10 – 70% of meetings to maintain voting privileges.)

Role	2015-16	Sep 15	Oct 20	Nov 10	Dec 15	Jan 19	Feb 16	Mar 23	Apr 20	May 18	Jun 15
Co-Chair	**Jenny Benham**	P	P	P	**Meeting canceled due to weather**	N					
Co-Chair	**Rebecca Hallman**	P	P	P		P					
Treasurer	**Karen Hofbauer**	P	P	P		P					
Secretary	**Gena Braun**	P	P	P		P					
Principal	**Brian Beney**	P	P	P		P					
Teacher Reps	Carolee Fox	Kendra Platt	Lisa Carere, Laura McMillan	Angela Bauman – P		Thea Kennedy	Karen Larke	?	Melanie Morgan	Shannon Brown	Carolee Fox
Community	Susan Wagler	P	P	P		N					
WRAPSC	**Fiona von Kannen**	P	P	P		P					
Parent Members & Volunteers	**Marsha Ferguson**	P	N	P		P					
	Stephanie Forte	P	N	P		P					
	Agnes Lehtonen	P	P	N		N					
	Chris Sabean	P	P	N		P					
	Katherine Sunday	N	N	N		N					
	Aimee Leveck	N	N	N		N					
	Shawna Gingrich	P	N	P		N					
	Carolyn Rouse	N	N	P		N					
	Juli Chinnick	P	N	N		N					
	Karen Forsyth	P	P	P		P					
	Deb Jones	P	P	P		P					
	Erin Schmidt	P	P	P		P					
	Mel Thompson	P	N	N		P					
	Maritza Roger	P	N	N		N					
	Laura Bredahl	N	N	N		P					

Agenda – Review & Approval

Adjustments to Agenda:

- Adjust schedule and move teacher report to the end of the meeting

Agenda Approval with changes Motioned by:
1st: Marsha
2nd: Karen

Minutes, November – Review & Approval

Adjustments to Minutes:

- Attendance – change Stephanie Forte from absent to present
- (Karen set a change)

Minutes Approval with changes Motioned by:
1st: Karen
2nd: Rebecca

PRESENTATIONS

Teacher's Report – Thea Kennedy

- Leadership, grade 7 and 8 students – Mrs. Kennedy has been promoting a student facilitated environment and the students have responded very positively: good participation and independence with her guidance as needed. The students encourage each other to meet certain standards (i.e. attend consistently) and have split themselves into teams.
- Kids "try out" for leadership, to make sure they are very committed. Students that where not selected could come talk to Mrs. Kennedy in January and a few did and she suggested additional opportunities (PALS, work on sound system).
- They have participated in and initiated several events (i.e. dollar dunk, spirit days, humane society visit, planned trip to food bank)
- Current initiative: Win the golden ticket for Willy Wonka by donating food for the food bank or donating a dollar and council provided suggestions for sourcing candy (BODE on Parkside)
- The leadership students save been helping with food distribution and Karen F and Mrs. Kennedy discussed solutions for food delivery

Principal's Report – Brian Beney

Extreme Weather Guidelines
The WRDSB / School have a revised policy (2016) that guide the decision making process related to bus cancellations and school closures

- -35C with windchill
- severe road conditions / visibility
- generally all schools will remain open and parents use their discretion whether to send their child/children to school
- Revised guidelines available on our website
- **ACTION ITEM, Mr. Beney: Council requested that when the school is closed due to weather that parents also be reminded to contact vendors directly (Lunch Lady/ESNS) to cancel their orders.**

Recess/Lunch Severe Weather Conditions

- -20C wind chill conditions are monitored to ensure the safety of students
- Temperature (actual and windchill)
- Wind speed and direction to determine if there are suitable areas blocking the wind
- Principal/staff monitor conditions and students outside

Road Construction Coming to Conestogo

- Sawmill Road in Conestogo (April 2017 - November 2017)
- Sawmill Road Improvements 2017 Map
- Bus routes and drop off locations will be impacted starting March 20th
- **ACTION ITEM, Mr. Beney: Information letter will be sent out late Feb / early March 2017**
- Public meeting - Tuesday, March 21 in the gym

Upcoming Activities and Important Dates

- safeTALK Training for Parents - January 25
- Beach Day - **January 26**
- PD Day - Assessment and Reporting **- January 27**
- Kindergarten Registration Begins - **February 1**
- Sigmund Brouwer (author) visit **- February 3**
- Social Media Literacy for Parents Event - **February 7**
- Report Cards sent home **- February 17**
- Winter Carnival **- late Feb**
- Potential Ski Club Trip (weather dependant) **- March 10**
- March Break - **March 13 – 17**
- Public Information Meeting re. Road Construction - **March 21**

Committees & Events – Status Reports
Fundraising update – Chris
Magazine Fundraiser

- Magazines:
  - Two year signing = bonus
  - Ice cream party (thanks Julia, Shawna, Mel, Erin, Steph, and others!)
- Proposal: Sign up for magazines for 2 years, and during this time research and run alternative fundraising as a trail (additional trial fundraising used potentially to push for new playground or outdoor play structure).
  - Motion: Rebecca
  - Second: Marsha
  - VOTE: PASS
- **ACTION ITEM: Chris to sign up for 2 year magazine contract.**

S'Cool Life Find Grant - Deb

- Update from Ms. Fox:
  - She requested reactions from staff and received several suggestions (art and music supplies, sound system).
  - She also indicated that the students have been avidly requesting new outdoor play equipment (unfortunately this grant does not cover playgrounds – council will look for other ways to support this initiative)
  - **ACTION ITEM: Rebecca and Deb will discuss and a parent from council will meet with the students and Ms. Fox.**
- Proposal: Submit grant application for "performance arts package" and use the funds for new sound system.
  - 1st: Karen
  - 2nd: Laura
  - PASSED
- **ACTION ITEM, Mr. Beney: Get a quote from Sherwood Music and give to Deb**
- **ACTION ITEM, Deb: Submit grant application by March 31 and determine when we could expect the funding if awarded.**

Pro Grant Update - Laura

- Laura heading social media night on Feb 7, Cat from Binary Tattoo, 90 minute presentation, doors open at 6:30, set up at 6 PM (chairs already done by assembly for kids).
  - Cat will present to the grade 5-6 students in the afternoon. Jenny and Rebecca circulating posters
  - **ACTION ITEM: hang advertising posters a several locations.**
  - Chairs and venue confirmed (thanks to Brian), rsvp created by Deb, refreshments decided (apple donations from Martin's Apples).
  - **ACTION ITEM, Agnes: Follow up with Foodland for water and cups.**
  - Creating business cards for student backpacks to advertise to parents
  - Deb has created a survey for parents to do after the event
  - **ACTION ITEM, all: please contact Laura to help with set-up as needed** (Fiona volunteered to help)
  - **ACTION ITEMS, Laura:**

    - **Communicate parking arrangements to Cat.**
    - **Check if it is reasonable for grade 7-8 kids to come along to parent presentation (target audience will be adults)**
  - **ACTION ITEM, Fiona: Advertise on WRAPC page.**
  - **ACTION ITEM, Mr. Beney: Ask our local constable to speak to younger kids about internet safety on his next visit**
  - Note – no child care for this event

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

WRAPSC Report – Fiona

- Meeting dates for the 2016-17 school year are:
  - February 7, 2017
  - April 4, 2017
  - May 2, 2017
- Link to WRAPSC MEETING MINUTES - https://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/get-involved/wrapsc/minutes/#.WIU002lTGUk
- PIC Parent Event – April 8th at Bluevale Collegiate
  - Volunteers are needed. Please contact WRAPSC or Christie Penner Worden (christieworden@gmail.com)
  - Keynote speakers are a father/daughter duo
- Well-being feedback deadline has been extended to March 19th. A new date to meet will be scheduled in February (https://www.wrdsb.ca/blog/2016/12/13/provide-your-feedback-on-the-ministrys-well-being-strategy/#.WIUwuWlTGUk)
- The International Dyslexia Association – looking for new board volunteers
- Parent resource sheet for math – Staff have created a brief document with tips and resources for parents to help their children's math learning at home on the board website (http://www.wrdsb.ca/bipsa/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/Mathematics-Parent-Supports-Final.pdf)
- 2017-18 School Year Calendar – committee has met and tentative dates have been scheduled. Looking for feedback – Mr. Beney will put out on School Day.
- Bullying Prevention & Intervention
  - Peter Rubenschuh (superintendent)
  - What does well-being actually mean? What is the underlying reason for bullying? We used to ask if/how often bullying was occurring – now we want to look into the root causes.
  - Full details can be found in the WRAPSC minutes for January 10th, 2017 meeting
- SCIS
  - Jill Magazine (PIC SCIS subcommittee chair)
  - PIC's SCIS subcommittee's role is to provide support to SCIS teams, especially the parent
  - members.
  - The board will be sending out a survey to administrators to confirm if their schools have SCIS teams. More details to follow.
  - The SCIS resource materials are finished and they are available on the board website.
  - https://www.wrdsb.ca/pic/links/safe-caring-and-inclusive-schools-scis-resources/#.WIUyxWlTGUk
- Special Ed & IEPs
  - Scott Miller (superintendent)
  - The Ministry document governing special education is Learning for All and is available on the ministry website.

- Work together, use creativity. Fairness is not sameness.
- Supports in our board are accessed through Student Support Teams and Multi-Disciplinary Teams. If you suspect your child has special education needs, start by contacting your child's teacher.
- Full details can be found in the WRAPSC minutes for January 10th, 2017 meeting
- SEAC – Special Education Advisory Council - Angela Sider
- IPRC – identification, placement, and review committee looks to identify who would benefit
- from being in a congregated class.
- Philosophy – every student is entitled to an education in the most beneficial learning environment available
- Exceptionalities include behaviour, communication, intellectual, physical and multiple
- Ranges from accommodations and supports in regular classrooms to congregated settings
- Approx. 14,000 students require some form of special education assistance
- Established to make recommendations to the board about programs and services
- Also has community associations example - Autism Ontario, Parents for Children's Mental Health, Association of Bright Children (12 in total)

Treasurer's Report – Karen

- Balance as of Dec 13, 2016: $9187.75
- Expenses: Magazine prizes, fun fair, payments for plants
- Incoming: Magazine money, lunches,
- Water bottle filling station cost less than expected, still waiting for installation.
- Current expenses and revenue as expected.
- May add line item in the budget for playground or adjust line items to provide additional finance assistance for students to attend Mad Science and similar extra-curricular clubs (Mr. Beney is conduit for determining financial need)

OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

Emoji-theme party ideas - Chris

- **J**an 19: Start here
- Need 4 class parties and decided on Emoji buttons
  - **ACTION ITEM: Chris to contact Katherine Sunday to ask about button maker (lend from art gallery) and she will need some volunteers**
  - Budget = $120

Alternate fundraising opportunities – Karen F and Shawna

- If planning to replace the magazine fundraiser, it should be something that gives back 30-40% over a fairly short period.
- Ideas presented include local veggie box, chocolate, coffee, etc. (something parents may be purchasing already).
  - Level ground – 35% return ($16 on pound of coffee)
  - pancake breakfast, winter carnival, spring event? (not on the scale of fun fair)
  - Art gallery action fundraiser, each class creates a piece, have a show night, and each student creates another to decorate (bigger school…)
  - **ACTION ITEM: Laura to send info to Karen**
  - Running event (Erin):

  - Entry cost to provide t-shirt and treat/metal at the end (like Mud puppy)
  - Easy way to do activity, costs about $1000 to have company run the race
  - Little Caesars frozen pizzas? $5 per box for school (comes as frozen kit)
- Karen Forsyth to help Chris with magazines this coming fall
- **ACTION ITEM: Deb may survey council for top three fundraisers?**
- (maybe I want to work with Shawna and Karen)

Art Shine Program – Karen

- Offers to bursaries and two scholarships
- Minimum number is 9 students, 20 students per instructor, we have one room to work with
- Mad Science is on Wednesdays
- We have a brochure to go on school day
- DO ON THURSDAYS or on Thursday and Friday morning and break into age appropriate groups, registration online, etc., info on the flyer, kindergarten to grade 6. – DECIDE dependant on demand
- **ACTION ITEM: Karen to send flyer to Mr. Beney. – advertise two groups assuming minimum registration met** (deadline at end of January), start week of Feb 8th. (And will give parents option to switch between mad science and art given late notice).

Update Council Constitution, Bylaws, and Vision/Mission – Jenny

- Jenny posted new guiding principles on our website
- Bylaws in process

Environmental Stewardship – Rebecca and Jenny

- Looked at it further – apply only in September, and ramp up categories, water station, garbage separation
- Need student, teacher, and parent committee
- In March, going to green bins and decreased garbage…
- **ACTION ITEM: Any costs to participate? – Rebecca to check**
- Teacher that may be interested – Mr. Beney to follow up
- Revisit boomerang lunch – health and safety issue and garbage is becoming a problem and something to consider…
- **ACTION ITEM: get committee together for September**

Elmira Maple Syrup Grant - Fiona

- Open for the month of April, we can apply as member of Woolwich township
- What do we apply for – new home reading books? Mr. R for the gym?
- No specific requirements for application.
- **Action ITEM: Fiona to determine details**

Crossing guard:

- need to post application on the help wanted page,
- **ACTION ITEM: DEB to move open position to the top,**
- **ACTION ITEM: Brian to post on school day, required for September.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by: Deb
1st:
2nd: