Conestogo Public School – Council Minutes: Thursday, Nov 9, 2017

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UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

2017-18 Event Dates:

- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, January 18, 2018
- Mad Science: Assembly on Jan 25, Program runs from Feb 7 to April 3, 1:30 – 2:10
- Council Meetings (Third Thursday of each month):
    - Thu Jan 18, 2018
    - Thu Feb 15, 2018
    - Thu March 22, 2018
    - Thu Apr 19, 2018
    - Thu May 17, 2018
    - Thu Jun 14, 2017

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

Initiative/Project	Action Item	Member Responsible
Safe, Caring, and Inclusive Schools	Contact Mrs. Baer if you would like to participate.	All
	Communicate meeting times and set well in advance.	Mrs. Baer
	Determine how SCIS information should be communicated to parents (follow up with Agnes to determine what was done last year).	Jenny
	Provide website address related to encouraging mutual respect within the school community.	Jenny
	Include SCIS as standing agenda item in all future meetings.	Gena
Budget - Planners	Send planner info to Council Members.	Gena
Bells "Let's Talk" Day	Ask Ann for discount code for her book.	Laura
WEFI (Waterloo Education Foundation Incorporated)	Look into details on this for potential funding.	Erin
WRAPSC - Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation	If you have any feedback regaring Council and CASL legislation or concerns, please contact Fiona before January 9th.	All
Fundraising	Follow up with Mrs. Bear to determine the percentage of sales taken as School Day fee.	Jenny
Maple Syrup Grant	Ask Maple Syrup Grant for $3500 for remaining books.	Gena
Food Bank	Determine how the Food Bank operates in Elmira and if/how we might assist.	Deb

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 14	Oct 19	Nov 9	Dec 14	Jan 18	Feb 15	March 22	Apr 19	May 17	June 14
Co-Chair	**Jenny Benham**	P	P	Cancelled due to weather.	P						
Co-Chair	**Rebecca Hallman**	P	P		P						
Treasurer	**Karen Hofbauer**	P	P		P						
Communications	**Deb Jones**	P	P		P						
Secretary	**Gena Braun**	P	P		P						
Principal	**Cathy Baer**	P	P		A						
Teacher Reps	Carolee Fox	P	Karen Larke		Carolee Fox	Sherry Morland	Angela Bauman	Elisa Muise and Dougall Newport	Rachel Quickfall	Shannon Brown	Nancy Wagler
Community	**Susan Wagler**	N	N		N						
WRAPSC	**Fiona von Kannen**	P	P		P						
Parent Members & Volunteers	Marsha Ferguson	N	N		N						
	Stephanie Forte	N	P		P						
	Agnes Lehtonen	P	N		N						
	Chris Sabean	P	P		P						
	Katherine Sunday	N	N		N						
	Aimee Leveck	N	N		N						
	Shawna Gingrich	P	P		P						
	Carolyn Rouse	N	N		N						
	Karen Forsyth	P	N		P						
	Erin Schmidt	P	P		P						
	Mel Thompson	N	N		N						
	Maritza Roger	P	N		N						
	Laura Bredahl	P	P		P						

Agenda – Review & Approval

Adjustments to agenda:

- Safe Caring and Inclusive Schools moved to Principle's Report

Agenda approval with changes motioned by:
1st: Jenny
2nd: Erin

Minutes, Oct – Review & Approval

Adjustments to minutes:

- No

Minutes approval with changes motioned by:
1st: Jenny
2nd: Chris

PRESENTATIONS

Teacher's Report – Carolee Fox

- Special Ed with Kendra will be discussed at the next meeting

Principal's Report – Cathy Baer

(Report provided by Mrs. Fox as Mrs. Baer was absent).

- Thank you so much for the Staff Appreciation Lunch!!!
  - Carolee may purchase some containers for left over food.
  - Note from Council: The next Teacher Appreciation event will be **APRIL 11.**
- Playground Update - "hand over hand" climber has been installed.
- Portables are now locked all day – When a student who has a homeroom in the portable arrives or leaves during the day, office staff need to escort that student to the portable. As a result, we may be away from the office for a few minutes. We appreciate your patience.
- Planners – we would like to go with the Esteem Planners but they do cost a little more.
  - Note from Karen H: Current budget is $2400.
  - Esteem planner preferred by the teachers.
  - Teachers use the planners regularly and will build from the themes in the planners.
  - Question: Deadline for ordering?
  - Council would like to order for all grades, including 7 and 8.
  - **ACTION ITEM, Gena: send planner info to Council Members.**
- CAER – Community Awareness Emergency Response – I am a representative on that Woolwich committee. Plans are to have an Emergency Management Open House in May 2018 for our Grade 7 students and a Siren Test in October 2018. When you hear the siren go indoors and remain there, keep your phone lines open and tune in to local radio or TV.
- School Communications Report – I have requested information from the Board office but have not received a response yet. I would like to defer this report until our **January meeting**.
- Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Committee Update
  - Last year the SCIS Committee was Brian, Jamie , Linda , Agnes L, Andrew B and two students
  - So far this year there are a number of initiatives that have been implemented to support the objectives of Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools such as inviting Tad Milmine to speak to the students, Pink Shirt Day (November 14), Friends for Life, displaying the Unlearn posters in the hallway outside of the staff room, Equity and Inclusion staff lanyards, "Safe Spaces" poster, locking the portables, and PALS
  - Next Steps – There will be a meeting of the SCIS Committee in January to review the survey results of the Grades 3, 5, and 7 surveys, parent surveys and staff surveys. We have also planned a Me to We Assembly and Rangers Assembly. If you are interested in being on this committee, please let me know.
  - **ACTION ITEM, all : contact Mrs. Baer if interested**
  - **ACTION ITEM, Council: request that the meeting times be set well in advance.**
    - Should include community members, teachers, parents

- Focus on encouraging mutual respect within the school community (a very important topic but can we defer this to our **January meeting** so that I can be part of the conversation?)
    - **ACTION ITEM, Jenny: provide website address related to this discussion.**
- Field Trips and Special Events:
    - Dec. 7 and 8 – Humane Society Visits – we raised $1069.15 plus two full benches of supplies for the Humane Society
    - Dec. 11 – 15 – Food Drive
    - Dec. 13 – Skating at RIM Park for Grades 7 and 8
    - Dec. 13 – Grades 4/5 and 5 Choir singing at St. Matthews Church
    - Dec. 14 - Dairy Education for Rooms 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10
    - Dec. 14 – Artshine – we have 10 students participating
    - Dec. 15 – WE Day Presentation for Grades 7 and 8 by Hannah and Daniel Carr
    - about their trip to Africa this past summer
    - Dec. 18 – Holiday Concert Dress Rehearsal at 2:15 pm
    - Dec. 19 - EDSS Concert at Conestogo in am
    - Dec. 19 - Holiday Concert at 2:15 pm
    - Dec. 20 - Holiday Concert at 9:45 am
    - Dec. 22 - PJ Spirit Day
    - Jan. 16 - Mad Science Assembly at 10:00 am
    - Jan. 17 – Intermediates Skating at RIM Park from 1:00 – 2:00 pm
    - Jan. 17 and 18 - Caribou Math Contest
    - Jan. 18 – School Council at 7:00 pm
    - Jan. 19 - Grad Photos
    - Jan. 24 – Basketball Teams to see the KW Titans at the Aud
    - Jan. 25 - Mental Health Assembly with the Kitchener Rangers
    - Jan. 25 - "ER" or "OR" Spirit Day
    - Jan. 26 – PD Day
    - Jan. 31 - Bell Let's Talk Day
        - Use pamphlets that Jenny ordered for PRO grant event
        - **ACTION ITEM, Laura: Ask Ann for discount code for her book**
    - Feb. 7 – Apr. 4 during Second Break on Wednesdays – Mad Science
    - Added during meeting: Kodaly – 1st Tuesday or Wednesday in May
    - June 25 - Grade 8 Grad
    - June 26 – June 28 - Intermediate Trip to Montreal

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Treasurer's Report – Karen

- Note – new software has been implemented by the Board and the current buget details were not available at

the meeting. A complete update will be provided at the next meeting.
- Dreambox – pay in the Spring and "top up" – Jenny to follow up with Karen
- Grad:
    - Karen to follow up with Cathy for clarification on grad costs, etc. and follow up with Chris on report format.
    - Grad funding ($500) used by teachers for grad event.
- Current status (including savings for playground) – 5K playground, 14K operating
- Request from Cathy Baer for funding for Funtastic Fridays and the Harry Potter club:
    - Motion:
        - $100 fun Fridays, $50 for Harry Potter – motioned by Rebecca
            - Harry Potter - $50 - seconded by Fiona
            - Fun Fridays - $100 – seconded by Erin
- WEFI – Waterloo Education Foundation Incorporated (run breakfast programs, etc.)
    - They give out grants for $500.
    - **ACTION ITEM: ERIN to look into for details.**

COMMITTEES & EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS

WRAPC Report – Fiona

News on what other Parent Councils are doing in our region:

- Rainy day class baskets and outdoor class baskets – each class is responsible the items in their own baskets
- For teacher funding requests, some school councils have a form that the teacher has to complete with the details of the funding they are looking for. This needs to be provided to the chair a week in advance of the school council meeting so the chair has an opportunity to review and circulate prior to the meeting where decisions have to be made on providing funding.
- A principal, Steve Sherlock, came in to speak to the group about interaction between school principals and school councils. Very positive, very appreciative of what school councils do for their school community. One of the ideas he shared was having a student voice at school council meetings. Have students in to speak about different initiatives in the school, what they are excited about, what the current themes are, what they need. We already saw this last year with our compost initiative. What he did say is that with those children coming in to speak, come parents, who might stay to see what the school council meeting is all about and end up being regular members.
- Information was provided on the SCIS and asking us to find out if we have one at our school – can see from the Principals report this is being looked at. They also suggested that since each school is mandated to have one that it be a **standing agenda item for each school council meeting** to hear from a member of the SCIS or principal on what is being looked at by this team. Each school should have received the results of the survey that was completed at the end of last school year and should be reviewing this. Question from Council: HOW do we get this information out to parents **(ACTION ITEM for Jenny: Ask Agnes).** There will be some links to resources for SCIS in the minutes when they are available.
- Encouraging that all future school events like our PRO event be sent to the communications department of the school board to post on their events calendar page – our event is already there – they are hoping that parents will see this as a place to look for information
- Next WRAPSC meeting is about CASL – the Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation. They will be providing information on how the board interests CASL and looking for any feedback on how this legislation handicaps

school communication. If you have any feedback provide it to me – this meeting is not until January 9th **(ACTION ITEM for all)**.

Magazine/Fundraising Update – Chris and Shawna

- Magazines:
  - 657 magazines sold this year - $6900 profit expected approx.
  - 53% families participated in the fundraiser, 92% of purchases done online.
  - Multiple parties to celebrate success – thank you to all council members involved!
- Christmas fundraiser:
  - Increased sales over last year, $1440 profit.
  - Sold 187 items.
  - Erin, Steph, Deb, special thanks for helping!
  - 28% participation.
- Question from Council: What percentage of sales is taken off as School Day fee? **(ACTION ITEM for Jenny: follow up with Mrs. Baer).**
- Kiwanis Grant:
  - $500 for books – cheque coming in May (Chris to pick up cheques, and would like another council member or volunteer to come with her).
- Ask Maple Syrup Grant for $3500 for remaining books **(ACTION ITEM, Gena).**

Pro Grant – Laura

- Deb to submit report.
- Feedback survey provided positive reviews.
- Early event in the year led to improved attendance.

OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

Safe, Caring, and Inclusive Schools Team – Laura/Cathy

- Postponed discussion for **January meeting**.

OTHER:

- Food and treats provided by the teachers/staff (Carolee, Chris Bauer, Nancy Wagler, Lori Hillman) for Council at Nov 15 meeting. THANK YOU!
- Suggestion: Name tags for Parent Council
- Events for grad:
    - fundraising, etc. is parent run for additional grad activities.
    - Parent Council will be supporting awards, cake, and items planned by teachers (budget of $500).
- Food Bank: **ACTION ITEM, Deb to follow up:**
    - Locally run through Woolwich Community Services, and they also offer many other services.
    - (Different than Waterloo Region Food Bank)
    - Maybe a bake sale by donation?
    - Assembly? Education?
- Humane Society – adjust curriculum question.

ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by: Deb
1st: Jenny
2nd: Gena