# Conestogo Public School – Council Minutes: Thursday, January 16, 2020


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# UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS

### 2019-20 Event Dates:

- Fun Fair: Thursday, September 19
- Handmade Show: Saturday, October 26
- Lions Bingo: Thursday, January 30
- Next Council Meeting: Thursday, Feb 20, 2020
- Council Meeting dates for 2019-2020 (the third Thursday of each month with some dates adjusted for events and holidays):
    - Thursday, Sept 12, 2019
    - Thursday, Oct 17, 2019
    - Thursday, Nov 7, 2019 (Thursday, Nov 14 Parent Teacher Interviews?)
    - Thursday, Dec 12, 2019
    - Thursday, Jan 16, 2020
    - Thursday, Feb 20, 2020
    - Thursday, Mar 26, 2020 (March Break: Mar 16-20, 2020)
    - Thursday, Apr 16, 2020 (Easter Fri Apr 10, Mon Apr 13)
    - Thursday, May 14, 2020 (Victoria Day, Mon May 18)
    - Thursday, Jun 11, 2020

## ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

| Initiative/Project | Action Item | Person Responsible |
|---|---|---|
| Craft Show | Create a separate Gmail account for craft show e-transfers and document the details in the main CPS account. | Erin/Shawna, Gena |
| Workshops and fairs for students | Contact the Center in the Square for more information on their school music workshops.<br>Share information about the "Explore Your Future" fair with the school community. | Jessica, Mr. Sendrea |
| SCIS Committee | Confirm membership requirements (regarding community member participation). | Mr. Sendrea |
| Fundraising | Flipgive: Follow up with Deb to send a reminder to the school community.<br>Confirm rink availability for Family Skate social event. | Gena<br>Rebecca |
| February Agenda | Library bag follow-up | Gena (Colleen/Jenny) |

# 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 12 | Oct 17 | Nov 7 | Dec 12 | Jan 16 | Feb 20 | March 26 | Apr 16 | May 14 | June 11 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Co-Chair | Jenny Benham | P | P | P | Meeting cancelled | P | | | | | |
| Co-Chair | Rebecca Hallman | N | P | N | | P | | | | | |
| Treasurer | Karen Hofbauer | P | P | N | | P | | | | | |
| Communications | Deb Jones | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| Secretary | Gena Braun | P | P | P | | P | | | | | |
| Principal | Michael Sendrea | P | P | P | | P | | | | | |
| Teacher Reps | Carolee Fox | P | Lori Hillman | Kristyn Keyes | | None (due to ETFO job action) | Jade MacPherson | Lisa Carere | Carolee Fox | Shannon Brown | Carolee Fox |
| Community | n/a | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| WRAPSC | Jessica Gordon | N | P | P | | P | | | | | |
| Parent Members & Volunteers | Stephanie Forte | P | N | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Colleen Heinrichs | P | N | P | | P | | | | | |
| | Gloria Ramage | N | P | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Christine Sanchez | P | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Amy Hertz | P | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Sandra Clank | P | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Ian Howlett | P | P | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Kristen Kent | P | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Katie Misener | P | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Marsha Ferguson | P | N | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Agnes Lehtonen | P | N | P | | P | | | | | |
| | Katherine Sunday | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Shawna Gingrich | N | P | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Karen Forsyth | P | P | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Erin Schmidt | P | P | P | | P | | | | | |
| | Mel Thompson | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Laura Bredahl | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Jenn Metzloff | P | P | P | | N | | | | | |
| | Amy McDowell | N | N | N | | N | | | | | |
| | Julie Oitment | P | P | P | | P | | | | | |

## Agenda – Review & Approval

**Adjustments to Agenda:**

- None

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

## Minutes, November – Review & Approval

**Adjustments to Minutes:**

- None

**Minutes Approval with changes Motioned by:**
**1st:** Erin
**2nd:** Agnes

# PRESENTATIONS

## Teacher's Report – N/A

- Due to the ETFO job action, a teacher's report could not be provided at this meeting.

## Principal's Report – Mr. Sendrea

- Kindergarten Registration: Began this week and we have higher enrollment than usual at this time of year. Encourage parents to register!
- Mad Science: Begins with an assembly next week. Following the assembly, information on the program will be sent home and students in JK to grade 6 can participate during the nutrition break. Payment can be made online, and Parent Council can provide some funding for families that would otherwise be unable to participate (if desired and as indicated by staff).
- Office renovation: To begin in the spring. It will involve installing AC in some classes, a new water fountain, room movement, and roof repairs. The mural in the intermediate wing will be removed unfortunately, but pictures have been taken for posterity/as part of the school's legacy.
- Hiring: Interviews for LTOs are currently being conducted to fill one vacate position and one upcoming vacancy for teachers going on maternity leave.
- Grade Eight Graduation: The parent planning group is responsible for the celebration aspect, but there is collaboration between the groups (ceremony primarily planned by staff).
    - Currently considering the Conestogo Golf and Country Club, lower floor (accessible)
    - Adjustments will be made if the teacher strike action remains in place at the end of the school year (i.e. have the ceremony during the day if needed).
- Labour action update:
    - Teachers Union has been proceeding in phases, currently in Phase 3 impacting trips and report cards.
        - We did not have a lot of trips planned, but skating had to be cancelled.
        - Montreal trip:
            - Based on consultation with the Board Office and Superintendent, staff and admin are trying to plan as much as possible, but making sure parents are not incurring financial loss (i.e. putting accommodation payments on hold for as long as possible).
            - Parents can't take students if it remains a school trip due to liability issues (unless parents organize a trip completely independent of the school).
            - Students have asked to "still do something fun" and this may be an option if the trip can't proceed as originally planned.
        - Report cards:
            - Comments will not be provided, but marks will still be provided (in Kindergarten, a short comment will be provided).
            - Report card date may be moved (date not confirmed yet).
            - Parents can always request a meeting with the teacher for follow up.
        - Striking action by ETFO and OSSTF would impact CPS when each group goes on strike, due to the union overlap between the two groups.
    - Pancake party in grade 1, Funtastic Fridays, and intramurals will continue (all activities that can

happen during the school day).
    - Inter-school Kodaly will not be happening this year due to the labour action. The music that was purchased for this year by Parent Council will be used next year (NOTE: Council will not need to budget for this next year).
- Planners:
    - Discussion has indicated that planners are still desired, and the school will request that parents pay for them (this is very common at other local schools).
    - Planners will be ordered based on need as determined by teachers.

# STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

## Treasurer's Report – Karen

- December:
    - Holiday flower income (approx. $950, which is higher than last year). Selling more to the community was briefly discussed but it was agreed this would be difficult to coordinate for product pick-up at the school.
    - Library book bag ($250) and library magazines ($413) were paid for.
    - $455 revenue from ESNS this month
- For the Craft Show next year we will continue to process payments through Shawna using a dedicated Gmail account.
    - Request that e-transfers be sent to the CPS account, then deposited into a personal account and then write a cheque to the school account. **ACTION ITEM: Erin, discuss with Shawna.**
    - **MAKE A SEPARATE ACCOUNT for each event → i.e. CPSHandmadeShow@gmail.com (ACTION ITEM: Gena)**
    - Set up the e-mail account to auto-deposit to Shawna's bank account.
    - Then archive all e-mails to a folder on the e-mail account
    - Make a document in the standard CPS account with all login details, etc.

## WRAPSC Report – Jessica

- Center in the Square: presented on a program for in school music workshops for different ages.
    - This is a free program and we can sign up by contacting the person in charge. **ACTION ITEM: Mr. Sendrea will contact them for more information.**
- Business Career Fair called Explore Your Future will be taking place on April 8 at Bingemans, 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM. Please register in advance.
    - For grade 7 and up.
    - **ACTION ITEM, Jessica: Forward information to Mr. Sendrea to share with the school community.**
- Summer Learning Program from grades 1-2: For students at risk for not completing their grade. Focused on reading, writing, and arithmetic. Schools with the highest number of at-risk students participate and our school does not currently qualify.
    - This started as a research program and indicated that struggling students benefited from additional instruction over the summer.
    - Participating schools are clustered so there is some community building this way, and transportation is

coordinated accordingly.
    - The program has expanded every year and is expected to continue to do so.
- The Board is looking for feedback on curriculum focused on Human Trafficking, Cannabis, and Mental Health (for older grades).

## Safe, Caring, Inclusive, and Healthy Schools Committee – Steph

- Reviewed data from previous year surveys and this led to discussions regarding other questions to ask students to support personal and mental health.
- Question: Should the committee include a community member? **Action Item, Mr. Sendrea: Confirm membership requirements.**
- The Council report needs to include a report on the activities of this council.
- Note that the Umbrella Project can not be run due to current labour negotiations, but positive messaging will always be a part of teaching at CPS.

# COMMITTEES & EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS

## Fundraising Update – Fundraising Committee

- Holiday Fundraiser – Erin
  - See notes in budget report.
  - This company was good to work with and recommended for next year.
- Bingo – Rebecca
  - No volunteers from CPS required, just encourage family and friends to come!
  - $25 for a beginner package to participate, with additional "mini games" throughout the night.
  - The event begins at 6:45 PM and usually goes until about 10 PM.
  - Note that children are not allowed.
  - Food is available for purchase.
  - Part of the proceeds go to CPS.
  - A poster will be provided by the organization and can be put up at CPS.
  - Bring your own dabber or purchase there.
- Flipgive – Gena
  - Sent out the flyer and School Day message in early Nov and had the highest revenue in November (3x previous months).
  - We have earned $629, with approx. 16 families participating. Several other people have signed up but not shopped yet.
  - Send out a reminder in Feb before Mother's Day. **ACTION ITEM, Gena: Follow up with Deb.**
- Clothing Drive – Gena and Erin:
  - Further research into clothing donations reveled that a significant proportion may be shipped overseas with potentially negative impacts on local economies and environment.
  - Last year CPS gave donated clothing to the Kidney Foundation (who sell it to Value Village), and CPS earned approx. $300 through this event.
  - Given the potentially unethical implications, Council decided against running this event this year. Alternative events may be considered (i.e. a clothing swap combined with a documentary film screening).
- Family Skating:
  - This social event was received very positively last year and Council decided to run it again this year.
    - Could offer fun items for kids to buy – including candy.
  - Date – last year it was March 23. Plan for March 28 (Saturday).
    - **ACTION ITEM, Rebecca: Will check with rink for date and time availability.**
  - Pizza: We ordered 6 Extra Large last year and it sold well and could do the same this year depending on the time of day for the event.
  - School Day message will emphasize that helmets are required for all skaters; both adults and children.

# OPEN DISCUSSION ITEMS

## Library Bags – Jenny

- **ACTION ITEM, Gena: Put on agenda for next month. (Colleen and Jenny to follow up).**

## Author Visit – Mr. Sendrea

- CPS not paying for author visit – we arranged with our own authors this year (teachers on staff).
- Going forward, the school values this visit and Mrs. Goodwin would like to have external authors again in the future (up to $1200). Council will consider for the 2020-2021 budget.

# ADJOURNMENT

**Motioned by:**
1st: Karen H
2nd: Steph