## AGENDA with MINUTES

Ballantrae P.S. School Council Virtual Meeting
Feb. 23, 2023 - 7:00pm
Council Executives: Indu Bains and Anne Dupuis, Co-Chairs | Maria Philp, Secretary | Joy Billington and Maggie Kobold, Co-Secretaries | Robyn Hadder, Treasurer | Indu Bains and Maria Philp, Social Media Officers

Voting Members: Kristy | Marny | Claudia \| Michaela \| Jessica \| Robyn | Maggie \| Anne \| Amanda \| Joy | Maria | Indu
Attendees: Jessica \| Maria \| Indu \| Anne \| Ashley \| Marny \| Amanda \| Nadia \| Maggie \| Cindy \| Robyn \| Robin | Michaela
Staff Attendees: Craig Barton, Principal \| Sue McKnight, Teacher \| Robin Filtsos, Teacher | Betty vanHoogenhuize, Teacher
Regrets: Joy Billington

| Item | Owner | Action |
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| Welcome! | Indu <br> Craig |  |

- Online meeting due to weather conditions
- Approval of minutes from January 12
- Marny and Jessica
- Open Discussion
- No items were added to the agenda

Principal's Report

- School \& Board Status
- No updates to report.
- Spirit Wear
- Orders should arrive tomorrow or early next week.
- School Banner Update
- Found the tent, still looking for the banner.
- The tent size is $10^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$.
- Update on Drop-off Situation
- For parents who drop their students at school in the mornings, parents should park at the community centre, and then parents/students should walk over to the school.
- Parents cannot park on Aurora Rd. because it is a major road, making it a dangerous place to unload/load people.
- Cars also cannot enter the school parking lot while buses are there. Mixing buses with cars is unsafe because it is dangerous for pedestrians to walk between buses.
- Protocol for Evacuating Classrooms
- If a student is acting in a disruptive manner, the class (not the student) is removed from the room.
- Staff cannot physically move students unless there is a safety issue (danger to themselves or others).
- By taking away the audience instead, the student has a chance to calm down.

| Item | Owner | Action |
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| - Children act out for a reason; it is their way of communicating. It is the school staff's job to decode - what does the behaviour mean? <br> - The staff then try to give the students the skills and supports that they need so that the behaviour happens less often. <br> - Parents are not notified every time an evacuation occurs. If something violent happens, then parents are notified. <br> The last 2 years have been incredibly hard for students. They have missed out on socializing and therefore, have been delayed in developing self-regulation skills and their typical growth in maturity has also been delayed. <br> Parent question: How often are classes being evacuated? <br> - Some weeks, there are none, last week there was one. Compared to the beginning of this school year, there has been a marked decrease in these events. <br> Parent comment: Some students feel like they are being punished when they are evacuated from their classroom. |  |  |
| Fundraising Plan Status <br> - Update on money made so far <br> - The dance-a-thon raised an amazing $\$ 6,510.18$ for the school!! That amount is double what Professor Jamz had predicted that a school the size or ours would make! <br> - Playground painting quotes <br> - Now we have the funds to do this. <br> - Craig is continuing to work with companies to obtain quotes. Some companies are quoting online while others want to come to the school in person to take measurements. <br> - Based on the quotes obtained so far, it will cost approximately \$4,000. | Craig | Craig will get 2 more quotes for tarmac painting in the spring. |
| - Next in line: computers and then? <br> - Chromebooks are always in-need, they reach a point where the board no longer supports them and they need to be replaced. <br> - If they are purchased in packs of 10 , they are less expensive (approximately $\$ 3,200$ for 10 ). <br> - Grade 3 s are using iPads, but Chromebooks would be better because students are using apps that are better supported by Chromebooks. <br> - Teacher petty cash: $\$ 1,600$ ( $\$ 100$ per teacher $\times 16$ teachers) <br> - Grad subsidy: $\$ 500$ <br> - Recess equipment: \$200 <br> - Mental Health night: $\$ 500$ (we might be able to reduce it if families can donate supplies) <br> - A new school banner would cost approximately $\$ 170$. Size would be $2^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$. Would be great to bring to off-site events (ie. cross country meets). Jessica will work on this. <br> - Self-regulation equipment grant <br> - Maggie will investigate this grant (she had tech issues and had to log off) |  | Craig will find out the exact number of Chromebooks that are needed. <br> Maggie to investigate grant for self-regulation equipment. |


| Item | Owner | Action |
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| Financials <br> - Review of current financials <br> - Robyn to look at latest report from the school. Petty cash may have already be spent. <br> - Craig/Indu/Sue B. completed past financial audit - $\$ 16,786.05$ is our balance at present | Robyn | Robyn is tracking this year's finances. |
| Teacher Report <br> - Mental Health Family Night - April 20 <br> - The event's title is Mighty Minds. <br> - Families would sign up for 3 workshops which would each be 20 min . long. <br> - 14 workshops have been arranged so far [ie. drumming, yoga, Zumba, | Betty B. <br> Robin F. | Betty and Robin will work to define the dollar amount that they will need for Mighty Minds. |

- Extracurriculars
- Int. boys' basketball had their first game last week and another game is coming up.
- Games club is still going strong.
- Floor hockey has started up for grades 2-5. Grade 6-8 students are the coaches and referees.
- Lego robotics continues to run.
- Leadership Team is working with Mrs. Reynolds on starting up monthly assemblies again.
- Outdoor ed trips are planned (unfortunately today's trip was cancelled due to weather conditions).
- Grade 4 and 5 students worked on a great Pink Shirt Day activity. The students gave people slips of paper so that they could write acts of kindness on them. Then the students linked the pieces of paper together in a chain which is currently displayed in the office.


## Council Business

- Dance-A-Thon
- Congratulations to our volunteers: Marny, Michaela, Jessica, Amanda!!
- Craig to send Jessica numbers for the class that won the prize. Baskin Robins is a good option because they offer nut-free cakes.

Sue M.

## Indu

Anne
Maria $\quad$ Craig to send Jessica numbers for the class that won the prize.

| Item | Owner | Action |
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- February WS Food Bank Drive Results
- \$200 raised
- Big cheque was presented to the food bank this week.
- School Council Forum Recap
- Both Anne and Craig were unable to attend.
- Indu heard feedback from others who were able to attend that the event focused on giving parents strategies to teach their kids at home and not about councils playing a role in the community (dinner was great though!).
- There is no recording of the night that can be accessed to those who did not attend.
- Strategic Planning for 2023/24 School Year
- Google Form can be used to survey parents:
- What would you like us to focus on next year?
- Of what we did this year, what would you like to see happen again?
- What kind of activities would you like to see happen next year?
- Have responses recorded so that we are ready to go next year.
- YRPH You're The Chef (plan for $23 / 24$ )
- This program could run next school year. We missed the training session for this year by a couple of weeks.
- The program provides training to parents and school staff.
- The next training takes place in October.
- The staff room kitchen would be the ideal location for this program.
- Addressing Social Inclusion \& Racism - Motivational Speaker Jeff A.D. Martin with other schools (May)
- We have been allocated $\$ 800$ via our PRO Grant application.
- We will partner with other schools to pool our grant money in order to host a speaker and offer refreshments.
- Harry Bowes, Wendat, Glad Park
- Parent presentation only (no student presentation) will be in May.
- Our children are watching us and we as parents need to set good examples. This speaker will give parents many take-aways and strategies.
- The event will likely be held at Harry Bowes because is central and can accommodate more people.
- Pizza lunch program update
- Spring session is coming up.
- This school year is the last year that Maria will be able to work on the pizza program.
- A new administrator will need to be found for next school year.
- Maria will be posting the opening on Facebook and in the school newsletter.

Maria

| Item |
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| FUN-raising |

- Grad Trip, Grad Night, Council Funds
- This year's Grad trip will be a day trip. Mr. Horvath is looking into options.
- Grad night will be held on June 26. The ceremony will be at SDSS, followed by a trip to a restaurant (private room, photo booth, etc.) Craig is looking into possible venues.
- Some students may have food allergies, so a venue will be chosen that can accommodate.
- At present, no students in grade 8 have formally reported allergies. If students do have allergies, they are strongly encouraged to inform Mr . Horvath.
- Family Games Night
- Maggie, Nadia, Marny, and Jessica will organize the event.
- Some possible games: Twister, cards, puzzles, board games, balloon tennis, Pick up Sticks, Connect 4, Taco Cat Goat Cheese Pizza
- Families bring board games, etc. to the library or gym.
- Possible date: March 30
- A flyer could be posted in Facebook, in the newsletter, and could be sent home with students
- Keep it simple, no cost to families.
- Little Caesar's Fundraiser
- Students can share the Little Caesar's link with family and friends (might boost sales).
- April 5 (Wed.) is the delivery date.
- Brochures and posters are at the school already.
- Orders will be accepted March 1-20. March 22 is the last day to submit orders.
- E-mails can go out with informational flyers. Ashley can edit last year's flyer.
- This fundraiser's results would go specifically toward the purchase of technology (ie. Chromebooks) and community engagement.
- If our school sells 200 units, we qualify for delivery.
- Council agrees that no individual prizes should be given as some students have a distinct advantage over others.
- Orders can be made in cash (exact amount), via SCO (credit card), or using the Little Caesar's link (credit card).
- Virtual Book Sale by Scholastic
- Is Robin Filtsos organizing a book fair? Craig to find out from Robin tomorrow.
- Can Anne work with her as a team?
- Duckling Hatching Program
- The program costs approximately $\$ 250$.
- They set us up with the whole kit.
- After incubation, we have the ducklings for 7 days.
- 35 days total.

Restaurant to be chosen.

Ashley

Craig to find out if
Robin will be holding a book fair.

Craig to find out if this program is allowed to run in schools still.

| Item |  |
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| $\circ$ | Very little work is needed until after the ducklings hatch. |
| $\circ$ | Teachers can take the ducklings home over the week-end |
| $\circ$ | They will take the ducklings back at the end of the program. |
| $\circ$ | Craig will ask all teachers for volunteers if council agrees to fund the |
|  | program. |
| $\circ$ | Anne will send out an e-mail with the information and we can vote via |
|  | e-mail. |
| $\circ$ | Amanda found a farm that will donate the program to us!!! Amanda |

- Kernels Update
- $\$ 3$ per bag. Would run once a month, so if we run it for a 4-month period, total cost would be $\$ 12$ per student.
- Need to decide on day of the week. Wed. or Thurs. would work.
- Would run on SCO.
- Flavours we'd offer would be butter and white cheddar.
- Popcorn would need to be picked up the day before from the mall (Newmarket).
- Popcorn would be handed out to students at lunch.
- Kernels needs to fill out a food vendor form.
- If people like it, then we can start it right at the beginning of next school year.
- Country Stop Family "Take-out" Nights
- From sales made on a certain night, a percentage of each sale would go to the school.
- Country Stop likes the idea.
- Amanda will find out which day of the week would work for Country Style (maybe their slow night would work best?).
- Mutually beneficial.
- Country Stop would give the school the agreed upon percentage of sales in the form of a donation for which they would receive a tax receipt.
- June Community BBQ Update
- June 15.
- Would be a bigger event than Games Night.
- Could hold activities in the gym (ie. freeze dance and Just Dance could use the projector and screen).
- Would run on SCO (ie. food choices, etc.) so that we know how much to buy/cook.
- Big News
- Sub B. is retiring at the end of April!!
- School will organize an assembly dedicated to her.
- We could hold a Staff Appreciation luncheon and dedicate it to Sue (Sue Appreciation Day?)
- April 19.
- Indu, Marny, and Michaela will organize it.
- Can we run a potluck this year? (COVID protocols had prevented us from holding potlucks.)

A day needs to be set.

Need a completed food vendor form from Kernels.
Anne will send out an e-mail with the information.

Craig will find out if we can hold a potluck.

| Item | Owner | Action |
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| - Michaela can bring a cake <br> - In the next few days, Craig will find out if we can hold a potluck. |  |  |
| Meeting Adjourned | Indu |  |
| Future Meeting Dates: <br> April $13^{\text {th }}$, June $1^{\text {sh }}$ |  |  |
| - Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. Thank you all! |  |  |

