

DATE	Tuesday, November 26, 2019	START TIME	7:12 PM
MEETING #	3 (2019-2020 school year)	END TIME	8:38 PM
MEETING LOCATION	library	# OF INDIVIDUALS PRESENT	8 (incl. principal + teacher)
NEXT MEETING	Tuesday, December 17, 2019	# VOTING	7 (quorum = 4)

VOTING MEMBER	NAME	ATTENDANCE	POSITION	RETURNING MEMBER	NEW MEMBER
N/A	PRINCE, Dane	PRESENT	Principal	n/a	
1	AKALJAN, Kana	PRESENT	Member	X	
	AKALJAN, Kirushanth	ABSENT	Member	X	
2	ASIMI, Adam	PRESENT	Chair	X	
3	KHERA, Manju	ABSENT	Treasurer	X	
4	KUGATHASAN, Pirashanth	ABSENT	Member		X
	KUGATHASAN, Shoabana	ABSENT	Member		X
5	MAHALINGAM, Sancha	PRESENT	Secretary	X	
6	PATIL, Vishakha	PRESENT	Member	X	
7	SHAIKH, Saquib	PRESENT	Member	X	
8	SHANMUGATHAS, Abirami	ABSENT	Member	X	
9	SHIVRAJ, Suroj	PRESENT	Member		X
10	TAN, Joshua	PRESENT	Member		X

WELCOME

- sign-in sheet circulated by Secretary
- meeting called to order by Chair @ 7:12 PM
- hoping to get funding for gym mats today

MINUTES

- will adopt via email/next meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Chair sent it out (Treasurer is away today)
- current balance: \$ 7,081.81 – this is a lot more than anticipated (per Chair)
- we have the money to fund the purchase of the mats – we can do it and we will put this to a vote
- income = \$4,303.10; expenses = \$1,018.58
- Pizza Pizza sales = \$2374.56; Paramounts sales (Oct) = \$349.20
- cash deposits include cash purchases on pizza day + cash sent by parents for pizza, etc.
- cash deposits = \$1,152.36 (2 cash deposits: October 11 and October 25)
- **Treasurer's Report approved**

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE: KEY DATES

- picture retake day November 29 (done in the morning)
- Fresh From the Farm delivery December 3
- School Council Meeting December 17
- Winter concert December 19
- Winter break December 23 - January 6

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE: EQAO PARENT RESOURCES

- EQAO provides a variety of examples of assessments from the previous five years
 - example booklets, including alternative formats (for students with permitted accommodations) with actual question
 - scoring guides containing examples of student answers to questions and how the answers are scored
 - multiple-choice keys that provide answers to the multiple-choice section of the example booklets
- if you go to “parents” on the website, you will see examples of assessments (for different years, including for 2019)
 - questions were used in the previous years
 - language
 - multiple-choice, for example, doesn't mean the question is easy
 - there's always open response (they are looking for evidence) – explain your answer using detail from the text
 - why – what in the text tells you the why (to show a complete understanding of the text)
 - math
 - in G3, can't use calculator for certain questions
 - some questions have various steps to get to the answer (even with multiple choice)
 - language is very important: how much more = subtraction (so it's important kids know – you don't want them to think “much more” means addition)
- scoring guide also available online for parents (provides examples of different levels calibre answers)
- no marks taken for grammar, spelling, etc. for reading assessment (for writing assessment marks are deducted for errors)
- NB: students do a review but it's hard to do a review (b/c now you're cramming) – try to revisit topics throughout the year (so instead of reviewing it at the end, teachers try to review throughout)
- NB: none of the Qs on the EQAO should be a surprise – should be everything they've seen before (word, type, etc.)
- website does not have full test and set of answers any more (they used to have it)
- gifted testing is done at the start of the year and EQAO is at the end of the year, so there is no issue of G3 students getting burnt out

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE: SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS SURVEY

- pedagogical documentation mentioned last meeting; but, teachers have been discouraged from using their own phones to document student work
- this is what Principal felt was needed from talking to different people (technology to document student work)
- Principal administered a survey
- staff feedback: first choice (which of the following areas is your first choice to spend these funds? 16 responses rec'd)
 - approx. 69% = supplies, equipment, services (i.e. technology, manipulatives, instruments)
 - approx. 33% = helping to pay for field trips
 - other choices given on survey: guest speakers, presentations; ceremonies, awards, plaques, trophies, prizes; scholarships and/or bursaries; school yard improvement projects
- staff feedback: second choice (which of the following areas is your second choice to spend these funds? 16 responses rec'd)
 - 37.5% = guest speakers, presentations
 - approx. 31% = helping to pay for field trips
 - approx. 19% = school yard improvement projects
 - 12.5% = supplies, equipment, services (i.e. technology, manipulatives, instruments)
 - other choices given on survey: ceremonies, awards, plaques, trophies, prizes; scholarships and/or bursaries
 - by comparing the first choice and second choice responses, we can see that field trips are a strong second choice

- staff feedback: third choice (which of the following areas is your third choice to spend these funds? 16 responses rec'd)
 - 1st: school yard improvement projects
 - 2nd: guest speakers, presentations
 - 3rd (25%): helping to pay for field trips
 - 4th: ceremonies, awards, plaques, trophies, prizes
 - other choices given on survey: supplies, equipment, services (i.e. technology, manipulatives, instruments); scholarships and bursaries
 - staff feedback: specific items (is there a specific item that you think should be purchased that is within the guidelines? 8 responses rec'd)
 - iPads for digital documentation
 - iPads for taking pictures (for each junior classroom teacher to take photos of instruction)
 - iPad minis
 - Magna Tiles
 - art supplies b/c all art supplies, other than construction paper, come out of each teacher's \$250.00 classroom budget (including intermediate)
 - iPads
 - Math Up
 - iPads
 - staff feedback: summary
 1. supplies, equipment, services (i.e. technology, manipulatives, instruments)
 2. guest speakers/helping to pay for field trips
 3. school yard improvements
 4. specific items: iPad minis for assessment, art supplies, Magna-Tiles, Math Up
 - Principal has gotten feedback from teachers that they prefer iPad minis to the iPad touch (this was discussed at our last meeting, whether we should consider purchasing iPad touch devices)
 - **re: art supplies: Principal has to check to confirm whether Parent School Council can fund purchase of art supplies**
 - Magna-Tiles have been purchased in the past; therefore, they are not a priority since the school already has two sets; however, if we have remaining funds (once our priority items have been purchased), we can purchase more sets – discussion ensued re: parent donations (and it was confirmed parents can donate specific items to the school)
 - Math Up is a math program that Principal would like to get (however, he's going to use school funds to purchase it b/c it is a curriculum piece item and, therefore, has to be purchased with school funds – b/c of equity issues)
 - administrator proposal for school generated funds
 1. gym mats (already earmarked for this year)
 2. iPad minis for pedagogical documentation
 3. field trip support (bussing)
 4. art supplies (if within our board guidelines)
 - NB: January is when Cost Sharing opens
 - program where we don't have to pay full price for technology
 - YRDSB contributes 1.5 of whatever we contribute up to a cap
 - usually, around March, Principal looks at his budget to determine how much \$ he will have leftover to make additional purchases
 - **next meeting: Principal will show us Math Up program and Ms. Brown will come in to discuss as it's a resource for teachers**
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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE: WORK TO RULE – KEY MESSAGES

- this is the first phase
 - ETFO (Elementary Teacher's Federation of Ontario) has announced that the first phase of work-to-rule strike sanctions is largely administrative in nature and, at this time, is not expected to significantly affect student learning
 - so: for now, it's just administrative and hasn't gone as far as extracurriculars – at this time, life of students isn't going to be affected that much
- job actions are a result of the bargaining process at the provincial level, and board employees are required to follow the direction of their provincial federations
- we respect the bargaining process and employees' rights to bargain collectively
- examples of administrative items that are affected include
 - EQAO related activities
 - Term 1 Report Cards (if it continues, teachers will only provide marks to Principal and not input any marks or comments) – kindergarten is different as there are no marks and it's comments based
 - not participate in any planning activities related to our School Improvement Plan
 - no staff meetings (Principal doesn't call staff meeting right now)
- ETFO has stated teachers will continue to focus on, and support, the learning of students, maintain contact with parents regarding students and continue to provide scheduled supervision and duties
- the phase 1 WTR will continue until the labour dispute is satisfactorily resolved or ETFO's provincial executive deems that further actions are required
- NB: fundraising, handling of funds, etc. won't be affected b/c CUPE issue was resolved
- NB: per questions asked:
 - Principals are not part of the union
 - Principals have a council they are part of and that's where they have representation if they need it

GYM MATS

- our gym mats are not up to code b/c they are too thin and are have been worn down
- NB: new code in place, per the government (mats now have to be thicker b/c of a greater awareness of concussions)
- government has given schools time to replace mats (however, government will not assist in funding the purchase of the new mats)
- cost of gym mats: \$4,043.14
- we currently have \$7k in funds
- we will need to leave some funds in the account to pay for Pizza Pizza, Boston Pizza, etc.
- per Chair: we are in a good position right now to fund the mats
- taking the approx. \$4k out will leave us with approx. \$3k
- come January, when we start Subway and Term 2 pizza, more funds will come in and that will go towards funding for Cost Sharing for technology and for field trips
- **vote to fund purchase of gym mats for \$4,043.14: motion passed all in favour (unanimous)**

FUNDRAISING

- we hope to begin Subway lunch program in February
- usually, Term 2 pizza isn't as popular as Term 1 (was approx. \$2400); we can assume about half will purchase plus \$300-\$400 for subway
- **Chair will have options for Subway for next meeting**
- discussing sending a donation letter to parents
- parent input: experience is important and parents are more likely to donate if they know their child will directly benefit and they can see the benefit (i.e. an experience of some kind)
- **more information on the Parents Reaching Out Grant (PRO) at the next meeting**

- we want funds raised by PSC to benefit as many students as possible
- new Member Shivraj provided some ideas for us to consider: jungle gym, movie night, art express, etc.
- we also discussed bringing previously held events back (i.e. Bingo Night)
- **to discuss further: fundraising ideas**

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- meeting adjourned @ 8:38 PM