

MINUTES

Nellie McClung Public School School Council Minutes

Nellie McClung Public School Library
February 22, 2017
6:30 PM

Attendees

Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?	Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?
Melanie Saltzman. (Chair)	Y	Maria B. (Member)	Y
Keith Isaac (Treasurer)	Y	Zvi V. (Member)	N
Stacey Reznick-Schipper (Co-Secretary)	Y	Hilda S. (Member)	N
Avery Zeidman (Co-Secretary)	Y	Julia S. (Member)	Y
Shelley V (Member)	Y	Lynne A. (Member)	Y
Gianoula K. (Member)	Y	Maria S. (Member)	Y
Silvia S (Member)	Y	Jennifer B. (Member)	Y
Jody B. (Member)	Y	Katerina (Member)	N
Rebecca (Member)	N		

Council Non-Voting Members:			
Pamela McInnis (NMPS Principal)	Y	Julia Waiser (NMPS Vice Principal)	Y
Lourdes Haist (Teacher Rep)			
Gayle Grossman-Bly (FDK-Teacher Rep)	Y	Brian Gerson (NMPS – Teacher Rep)	Y

Non-Voting Attendees:	

The Meeting started at 6:32 pm.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

There was a motion seconded to approve the minutes from the last meeting, and it was approved unopposed.

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance January 23, 2017	\$20,126.32
Inflows:	
Pizza	\$360.32
Dance	\$6,208.00
Other	
<i>Total Inflows</i>	
Outflows:	
FundScrip	-\$5,000.00
General spend	-\$843.73
Lice Squad	-\$754.28
Dance-a-thon	-\$498.83
<i>Total Outflows</i>	
Closing Balance February 17, 2017	\$19,598.15
Less Approved/not Spent	-\$11,901.79
Available Funds	\$7,696.36

*1 more round pizza and sound system spending not included in above

INITIATIVES

A sound and video system was ordered for the gymnasium with the approximate cost of \$2,000 all-in. Improving the tarmac is estimated to cost about \$1,000. These are the two items for which the Valentine's Day Dance fundraising promoted fundraising, so all dollars brought in from that should be spent on those items.

MOTION: Seconded to approve spending of up to \$2,500.00 on the sound and video system for the gymnasium and up to \$1,500.00 on the tarmac improvements. Motion approved unanimously.

Valentine's Day Dance-A-Thon

This was the first time doing it. Discussion about reactions and ideas for possible improvement.

Students and parents alike loved that they knew what the purpose of the fundraiser was for (i.e. the video/sound system and the tarmac). The children had a wonderful time and lots of fun. The parents liked that donation amount ranges were suggested but that there were no minimums required. The administrators' and teachers' participations in the prizes (e.g. Mr. Bow's hair) was very well received.

A double recess will be scheduled when there is better weather and less mud.

A parent had suggested to administration that we have another way for kids to get ballots whose families don't have money to donate. The following ideas were discussed and should be considered when planning next year's Dance-A-Thon:

- Give 1 or 2 ballots to each child (closer to the date of the dance)
- The staff should nominate students of day in the weeks approaching the Dance and give those a free ballot (to reward desired behaviour or character traits)
- Ballots could be given to parents who volunteer (for this or other prior functions) as an incentive to get volunteers
- There could be a number (perhaps 5) of prizes for which no ballots are needed and every student could have a chance to win
- Ballots could be given out for random acts of kindness
- We could give a small token gift for every student who brings in an envelope (e.g. pencil even if don't win)

Although issuing tax receipts could raise more money, it creates a large administrative burden if it needs to be processed manually. The YRDSB Board mandates a donation of \$20 minimum for a tax receipt. For those who want a tax receipt with minimum donation, they could be directed to school cash online next year, which would make it easier to do, while those below the \$20 or who don't need a tax receipt can still donate manually to student's envelopes, which probably elicits a greater response than online donation.

There was a rush regarding distribution of prizes all at or around the same time. Next year we can distribute prizes over 2 days or by classes to avoid crowding and the administrative burden.

Fun Fair

A Committee will be formed after this meeting for those interested.

Problem is there are the same volunteers for every event. How can we get others or more? Could we use Stephen Lewis students? We have, but it doesn't work.

What incentives can we provide to volunteers or what can we do to increase numbers:

- Free meal or ice cream? Consensus is this is a good idea.
- Give them company coupons eg. Menchie's?
- Given them ½ price on pizza next year? This would be hard to manage
- List specific job and needs
- List shifts – done every year
- Can we arrange family pair-ups so one parent looks after both families' kids while that other parent volunteers and then switch?

The discussion went off topic to discuss the urgent need for Pizza volunteers. There is one more term, for 10 weeks. Council liked the idea of rewarding pizza volunteers.

MOTION: Seconded to give the children of those volunteers (maximum of one reward per family) who did a minimum of 5 weeks (totaling 5 hours) volunteering for pizza day during the second term a free slice of pizza in the upcoming third term, and for those volunteers (maximum of one reward per family) who do a minimum of 5 weeks (totaling 5 hours) volunteering for pizza day during the third term a free slice of pizza in the first term of next year. Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: That those who volunteer for at least one shift at the fun fair get a voucher for a free meal at the fair. Motion was adjourned until meal options were better known, to be discussed at next meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Glee Club: The club has started. There are many participants, all of whom are very excited. There were a few complaints that students below grade 4 could not join, but there has to be some cut off point.

Sound Equipment: This has been ordered from Cosmo. It will have iPad control making it very easy to use and almost foolproof. The order may be ready and delivered on or before the March 1st assembly, otherwise it should be ready for the April 6th concert.

Just Dance: This was for grades 5 through 8 and was the second event held. It happens at recess time. All the students loved it, so there will be more to come.

Sports: The intermediate girls' basketball team won yesterday. The boys' team finished in 3rd place.

Pink shirt day: This was a great success with wide spread participation. Kindness posters were displayed at the front of the school.

PowerStream: There were electricity safety presentations. The children were very attentive and learned a great deal. Many enjoyed the raccoon, which was fake but seemed real.

Grade 8 Funds: Last year Council approved \$1,000 for the graduating trip and graduation dance night. This year's Valentines Dance took away some (\$700) of their earning potential. The cohort is 24-25 students in grade 8, and they need help. Council believes they should come with a parent to request funds. Ms. McInnis will inform them and ask them to present how much they raised themselves and how much need (estimated at \$1,700.00). There is a survey circulated among them about choice of trip location for an extended day trip (e.g.

8am to 9pm). Last year the cost was about \$40 per grad night (which is somewhat low – usually \$50).

Tent: This was approved October 2016. We need contacts. Ms. McInnis will check whether this must go through a YRDSB Vendor, otherwise we can use Council contacts. Size: 10'x10' (better) or 10'x20' (too big to carry and for space).

Miscellaneous: Bought last of 3 iPads – today from last meeting. This is part of carousel of learning and will get to other classrooms. Staff was happy about the \$100 given to spend (plus \$1000 for kindergarten classes).

TEACHER REPORT

Shared make-a-doo items. Used cardboard screws made horses (can be reused). School is always collecting cardboard. The Lego board is up in the library and well received. Maker space also is well-used and enjoyed.

MEETING adjourned at 8:00p.m.

Those interested to stay to discuss Fun Fair if they want to be part of the Committee.

NEXT Meeting April 5, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.