

MINUTES

**Nellie McClung Public School
School Council Minutes
October 2, 2013
Nellie McClung Public School Library
6:30 PM**

Attendance

Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?	Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?
Mike Kemper (co-Chair)	Y	Rob Ephraim (Member)	Y
Maria Shtemberg (co-Chair)	Y	Avi Vaxman (Member)	N
Keith Isaac (Treasurer)	Y	Darren Greenspoon (Member)	Y
Roman Kanter (Secretary)	Y	Melissa Glogauer (Member)	Y
John Kennedy (Member)	Y	Gayla Ber (Member)	Y
Mark Jacobson (Member)	Y	Larissa Rajmoolie (Member)	N
Neil Grunberg (Member)	N	Fun-on-the-Run (Member)	N
Avery Zeidman (Member)	Y		

Council Non-Voting Members:			
Wendy Thompson (NMPS)	Y	Cheryl Urback (NMPS)	Y
Traci Shatz (NMPS)	Y	Candice Schlosser (NMPS)	Y

Non-Voting Attendees:	
Aurete Lavie	
Adam Levy	
Jessica Zeidman	
Dalton Morgan	
Sheetal Jogie	

Opening

- Meeting commenced at 6:30

Preliminary Matters

- Approval of Minutes – September 9th Minutes
 - Motion by Gayla Ber to accept minutes, seconded by Darren Greenspoon, all in favour

Welcome from co-Chairs, Introductions

- Review of norms
 - Mike Kemper reviewed rules of how the meeting is run
 - School Council purpose is for parents to come and understand how the school is run
 - The Council is not an open forum for venting issues
 - Items brought up in front of Council may be put to a vote and once the vote is done, discussion will end
 - There is a standing agenda for each meeting
- Protocol for submission of agenda items
 - Mike stated that agenda items can be mailed to the co-chairs, the Secretary or Wendy Thompson, at least a week prior to a meeting
 - Not all items would make it to the agenda

Principal's & Vice Principal's Report

- EQAO Results
 - Wendy discussed how to access EQAO results: www.eqao.com
 - Wendy discussed results of the EQAO – NMPS results were above Board and provincial averages for Grade 3
 - Slightly below Board results and slightly above provincial results for grade 6
 - Grade 3 improved over previous year; Grade 6 mostly stayed constant with previous year, except for mathematics where an improvement over previous year was achieved
 - These assessments will be an indicator of where additional help will be focused on for students
- Curriculum Night (October 9, 2013, 6:30pm)
 - Two sessions: 6:30-7:30 – two of the sessions will be repeats
 - Purpose is to discuss the curriculum; not a forum to discuss children's progress
 - This is an adults-only event; children are to stay home
- School Council Forum (October 30, 2013)
 - To be held at Maple high school
 - Opportunity for council members to get together and discuss different topics
 - There will be a provincial survey; different breakout sessions to discuss focused topics: transitions to post-secondary, student well-being, inclusive education, early years transition, student engagement, technology in 21st century, partnerships

- Wendy is looking for volunteers from council members or other parents to participate
- Quest Conference (November 20-22, 2013)
 - York Region conference
 - People from around the world discussing education topics
 - Students are welcome to come, as well as parents
 - Event will take place at Sheraton Parkway Hotel
 - Wendy and Candice will be going, three intermediate students will be going along
- Funds Request
 - Wendy provided an addendum with a funds request (see attachment)
 - Mark Jacobson wanted to know of any other expenditures in the pipeline around technology
 - Wendy indicated there is carryover for technology from the school budget, so will not need to have to do cost-sharing (around \$7,000)
 - Rob Ephraim asked about Toronto Star subscription and whether they were being given away for free; response was that this no longer happens
 - Question about why students would not access newspaper online at a cheaper price; Wendy responded that this was a good point, but a hard copy may still have a place for greater collaboration
 - Motion to defer vote on Toronto Star subscription (Library) by Darren, seconded by Rob, all in favour
 - A question arose if there was an opportunity to allocate greater funds to technology
 - Mark asked if there was a sub-committee on technology to look into spending
 - Motion to approve funds for author visits by Gayla Ber, seconded by Maria Shtemberg, all in favour
 - Motion to approve library allocation, less the newspaper by Maria, seconded by Melissa Glogauer, all in favour
 - Motion to approve funding for primary division by Rob, seconded by Gayla, all in favour
 - Motion to approve art supplies by Maria, seconded by John Kennedy, all in favour

Treasurer's Report

- By end of December should be making between \$14K and \$15K in profit
- Pizza revenue \$23,635
- Will be eligible for about \$1000 from Funscript
- Opening balance \$4,855
- \$21,475.94 closing balance

Teacher's Report

- RazKids
 - Online reading program
 - Teacher assigns reading level to child
 - Child reads the assigned book and does the activities
 - Parents can keep tabs on their children's reading

- Children can earn points for reading the books and doing the assignments; can then be redeemed for merchandise for kids' rooms
- Assemblies
 - Monthly assemblies will be different; school divided into "tribes"
 - Each month will be tied into one of the character traits
 - Three times during the year, parents will be invited and students will receive the character award.
 - Rob asked why aren't all the character traits being celebrated each month
 - Wendy acknowledged that this was a good point, which was not considered before, perhaps something to consider for next year; currently have Random Acts of Kindness
- Terry Fox Run
 - School has raised \$970 to date, considerably less than last year.

Reports from Committees

- Fundraising
 - There is a database of volunteers from email link provided on the pizza forms
 - A number of parents volunteering for pizza lunches – can get away with two parents, three are ideal
 - Will make about \$15K in profit, from pizza, after Funscrip money
 - 700 slices ordered weekly
 - \$2800 raised through easy donation – can issue tax receipt
 - Aviva Community Fund giving away \$1 million – something to benefit the entire community
 - Darren asked whether there was someone who could take the lead in filling out the application – social media based around crowd sourcing
 - Chapters doing a fundraiser for books for Elcorn Public School – a school in an affluent area – opportunity to do a similar fundraising at one of the Chapters locations
- Positive Climates for Learning Committee
 - Larissa training for You're the Chef program
- Communications Committee
 - Working on a newsletter to be ready for Curriculum Night, Oct. 9th

Other

- Motion to adjourn by Maria, seconded by John, all in favour. Meeting adjourned at 8:07

Action Items (Before Next Meeting)

Action	Responsibility

Adjournment

Council Meeting Dates

Next meeting: Tuesday November 5, 2013