

MINUTES

Nellie McClung Public School School Council Minutes

Nellie McClung Public School Library
October 25, 2017
6:30 PM

Attendees

Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?	Council Voting Members	Present (Y/N)?
Melanie Saltzman. (Chair)	Y	Jhony B. (Member)	Y
Keith Isaac (Treasurer)	Y	Julia S. (Member)	Y
Avery Zeidman (Secretary)	Y	Lynne A. (Member)	Y
Beth C. (Member)	Y	Maria B. (Member)	Y
Gianoula K. (Member)	Y	Sylvia M. (Member)	Y
Gilah B. (Member)	Y	Stacey R.S. (Member)	Y
Heather M. (Member)	Y	Zvi V. (Member)	N
Jennifer B. (Member)	Y		

Council Non-Voting Members:			
Pamela McInnis (NMPS Principal)	Y	Julia Waiser (NMPS Vice Principal)	N
Cheryl Urback (NMPS – Teacher Librarian)	N	Brian Gerson (NMPS – Teacher Rep)	Y

Non-Voting Attendees:	
Andrew H.	Y
Debi G.	Y
Maria S.	Y

Approximately 19 people were in attendance. A sign-in sheet was circulated.

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Agenda

There was an agenda distributed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Opening Balance	\$5,382.23
Inflows:	
Pizza	\$19,418.20
Fundraising	0.00
Bingo Night	\$137.00
Outflows:	
FundScrip pizza	-\$7,500.00
FundScrip Walmart	-\$1,000.00
General Spend	-\$270.75
Lice Squad	-\$1,012.00
Closing Balance (October 20, 2017)	\$15,154.68
Less Approved/not Spent	n/a
Available Funds	n/a

Initiatives

The Chair stated that we are open for another event in the spring or to discuss same. No new initiatives were raised at this time. No further event is necessarily needed. Some events already raise money for charities, especially around the holidays, like the Food Drive and Kid Like Me Campaign. We shall review the events.

Bingo Night

There was only one volunteer so far. A signup sheet is being circulated. Eight volunteers for time slots are needed. Calling of Bingo starts at 6:30pm going to 7:30pm. November 9, 2017. Need 8 people for setup and serving; during bingo, need people to check the cards (this year we have tickets for winners who go to the prize table) for numbers to be checked against the big screen of numbers called. Bingo Committee decided to do small prizes under \$3, which were well received last year and lets us have more winners. We will likely be sticking with lines for these prizes.

As of today we have 89 participants, which is pretty good. We were just over 100 last year. Want to have about 150. We bought \$1,000 at Walmart so they can be used for FundScrip and all prizes this year, also for ease of receipts and administration, get 3% back there. Also purchased some prizes at Dollar store.

Question: how is it decided how much to spend on each event? We base it on history. Last year we spent \$700 at Bingo Night, but this year it is a bit earlier. We should be keeping within the budget for last year.

As of today, the following were sold:
15 \$30 packages

12 \$10 packages

Estimate total of about \$734. There will be walk up cards available in limited quantities.

We have spent about \$500 for Bingo thus far for supplies and prizes. The machine will be lent to us this year, so no cost of rental this year. We will try to break even.

New loot bags have been assembled and remade from the ones last year. No questions about bingo night.

Kid Like Me Campaign

Question: Have you used student leaders? At another school, they celebrated with a parade to the truck; police were there; also it will go nicely with kindness matters campaign, part of our new slogan at NMPS; get student leaders in pink shirts going around; there are four teachers who have already volunteered to assist with the Kid Like Me Campaign this year.

Suggestion: can we have standard size shirts that kids can wear when making or helping with campaign or others; get bigger shirts to fit all; also could be used at school events like winter concert

MOTION: To buy 12 pink shirts (kindness matters) at \$8 each; motion brought, seconded, and no opposition.

Suggestion: see what specific toys they may need and have different classes or divisions try to bring in these different types of things. Avery will check with Holiday Heroes on this.

Food Drive

Stacey has done it for the last two years. We did it by class, whatever class brought in the most was given a pizza party, but we did not visit the bank last year. Pizza party is all you need. Principal suggested we should plan for 2 or 3 parties, perhaps one for each division (kindergarten classes usually wins because more students in them).

Last year we tried to tally donations every day, but some classes may have been hoarding or holding back things so they could deliver a huge amount at the last minute and win the pizza.

Question: Why is the food drive in December at the same time as Kid Like Me? Food Drives are done all year. Why not do the food drive in January or some other time so as not to cannibalize from the toy drive? The winter concert is in January, so maybe we could ask for students to bring food items for drive at the same time. The book fair also is in January 2018 and we could do the same thing.

Stacy will see if January is a good time for the Food Bank and bring it back to Council.

Pizza Volunteers

As incentive last year, if a person volunteered more than 5 days a term, they would get a free slice of pizza for their child for the next term entirely. Should we do the same this year? We only really gave 5 slices of pizza last year as part of this, and we believe it worked.

We did not broadcast this reward before, and some do not think we should start now, while others think we should broadcast.

MOTION: To use the same reward this year and for people who volunteer 5 or more times per term, their child will receive a free slice of pizza for the next term entirely. Motion brought, seconded, and no opposition.

Spirit Wear Clothing

This is the second year running. There are hats, toques, youth sizes of baseball hats, long sleeve t shirts, short sleeve shirts, sweatshirts and pants. New this year is a baseball type shirt with $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeve. We are using the same styles and same suppliers. We did not buy samples this year. There is a website which is on newsletter, and there is a sizing chart for youth sizes (bit.ly/2017nelliespiritwear). All the items available are there.

It is hard to predict sales. The NMPS kindness matters shirts are new and featured. The clothes lasted well, and all materials Gildan.

Staff Appreciation Certificates

Last year we gave each educator (or set of them) \$100 to spend on their classes. The educators loved this! Many bought craft items (that they usually buy from their own money), many bought games, and everyone loved it! We did it late last year, but this year we want to give them the chance to spend the money now (or the whole year to use it).

There are 34 educators or sets of educators (this includes all EAs for example).

The certificate from last year was shown. Certificate was given to each educator or set last year. Certificate was read.

MOTION: To approve \$100 certificates for this year for 34 educators or sets of educations. Motion brought, seconded, no opposition. Total \$3,400 spend approved.

Valentine`s Day Dance-A-Thon

Kids take home envelope and get pledges. For each \$5 raised they get raffle ticket that they then put in prize that they wanted at the dance. Last year we had discussion that not every child got a ticket. Options this year for that (even if they don`t raise money), we can table that for next time. There was a request for people to decide if they want to be on the committee. We also need about double the volunteers that we had last year.

Question: Shouldn`t we choose a focus for this fundraising?

Last year we did, and it helps raised funds when people know what they are contributing toward. There is a school fundraising plan, and draft of same is being reviewed with staff input. There is still need for technology and musical instruments (we are growing – next year we have 7 more classes than this year); outdoor equipment (consumables); guest speakers (adding cultural awareness – kindness matters – some have been purchased already).

The purpose or target for this fundraising likely will be technology and musical instruments, but possibly outdoor equipment as well. This was the best fundraising event last year where NMPS makes money. Next meeting we can brainstorm what items to include.

Fun Fair

We need donations for this and the Dance-A-Thon, whether sponsorship, items, services, etc. We need a communal letter and each party to send it to 10 people. Last year there were things purchased for the Dance-A-Thon but everything was donated for the Fun Fair. Goal is to have all donated this year for both if possible. There was discussion about including both in one letter requesting for donations.

There is a list of companies that donated last year with contact information. Anyone interested in contacting them to ask if they are willing to donate again? There are about 20-30 companies, and we can communicate by email. We also can approach local businesses. Volunteer came forward and took task on.

Question: Will there be tax receipts for donations in kind? Principal will look into that and respond.

Dr. David Walt willing to be Platinum sponsor again this year for \$1,400.

We will bring the letter next meeting. Signup sheet for Dance-A-Thon and Fun Fair was circulated. Last year DJ was free with Grow Program, this year we have to pay for the DJs, but it will be worth it.

MOTION: To approve up to \$6,000 loss contribution towards costs of the Fun Fair; motion brought, seconded, and passed unopposed. Total spend up to \$6,000.

Comment: Last year was the best Fun Fair of all. Discussion last year about getting Bounce this year, and they were approached and reserved the date with them (and Tiffany would come herself). Want a price for all inflatables etc., and their price was lower (by about \$1000) than Superfly, which was used for the last two years.

The Fun Fair will be held on Thursday June 7, 2018.

Requests for Funding

Technology

Request for \$6,250. We 529 students now, which gives us \$12,500 worth of technology with cost sharing. NMPS will take input on what exactly to buy, but we tend to do Chromebook and iPads.

MOTION To approve \$6,250 for technology spend; motion brought, seconded, and passed unopposed.

Kindergarten

Question about French immersion: There is a year 2 Kindergarten parents memo. NMPS should be getting four grade 1 classes next year (two from other schools). They will stay at NMPS for grades 1 and 2. There will not be a further grade 1 class underneath it (this will be bundled for 2 years for the French Immersion Program). For the new school north of Major Mackenzie, it will hopefully open in 2019 and will be a dual track school – potential approval in January 2018. This population will leave when that group is in grade 2.

Kindergarten classes would like \$100 for each of the five classes for photo printing, and \$100 for each of the classes for playdough supplies. It was noted that photos were not spent last year. **Total request = \$1,000.00.**

Outdoor Equipment

Principal already spent \$470.06 on outdoor equipment. **Total request = \$470.06.**

Force of Reading

Ms. Urback requests one for set for Force of Reading: total cost of \$922.65 plus HST (question as to whether HST is chargeable for this) plus \$50 registration costs (we will assume 13% HST for now). **Total request = \$1,099.09.**

Robotics Kit

There is a school robotics kit. There is a plan to register the students for competition, and one more kit is requested at a cost of \$500. Two teams could then be formed, which could go to two competitions. Request is for one robotics kit for \$500 plus \$75 registration fee for each team plus possibly HST. **Total request = \$649.75.**

Speaker Series

There was a request of \$1,830.60 for the prologue speaker series. Every grade gets 2 of the 3. NMPS already pre-approved this and paid for it, but is seeking reimbursement from Council. **(THIS IS TABLED UNTIL NEXT TIME)**. The two remaining speakers are in February and April 2018.

COMBINED FUNDING REQUESTS MOTION: To approve funding requests (except technology, which was already approved, and except for the tabled requests of field trips and speakers) in total amount of up to (depending on HST applicability to some items) \$3,218.90; motion brought, seconded, and passed unopposed.

Principal's Report

Jungle Sport

Jungle Sport is coming last week November and first week of December. They set up indoor climbing apparatus applicable to different age groups. There is a \$10 cost to cover three visits per child. The grade 4 to 8 students use higher equipment, but this is open to all grades, including kindergarten, for which there is lower equipment and apparatus on the floor. The equipment is cleaned or sprayed after every use. The kids love it!

EDSPY

This is an educational portal service. There will be a November 10 opening, and then you can just go to the site and pick your slots for the student lead conferences. Updated emails will be sent about this in the weekly newsletter. The Student Lead Conferencing will be like previous years. There will only be conferences for year 2 kindergarten, not year 1. This portal will eventually take over attendance and other administrative items, by for now just conferencing.

Past & Upcoming Events

The grade 8 visit to Stephen Lewis High school is coming up.

Winter Concert will be held on January 25, 2018. The Spring Concert will be held on May 3, 2018. The classes will be divided in a similar fashion as they were last year. More details to follow.

There will be a Remembrance Day assembly on November 10, 2018 at 11:10am. People are welcome.

Students will attend Youth Voice and Peace Tree conferences on November 7 & 9, 2017.

Kindergarten students will have a field trip on November 14 & 15 to the Community Safety Village.

Quest attendances.

Six students from NMPS cross country running team made it to regionals.

Lettuce is growing at front of school; kids were excited to try it; cucumbers are forming.

8:11 p.m. Meeting Adjourned