

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier Public School
School Council Meeting #02 Minutes
For Monday, November 6th, 2017 at 7pm in the School Library**

Attendance: Joyce, Juliann, Jerrica, Elisa, Diana, Sufia, Dorothy Tang, Jeff Jin, Kathy Jin, Peter Wang, Ruth Hong, Ada Shing

Staff: Deborah Joyce, Kathryn Gravill

Special guests: Billy Pang, Trustee – Markham Wards 2,3 and 6; Peter Tse, Superintendent

Items	Minute Notes
Welcome, Greetings and Thanks- Jerrica & Elisa	<p>Jerrica opened with notes of appreciation for parents' participation.</p> <p>Jerrica recapped last meeting minutes to approve minutes on the spot to enable us to post online. Council approved last minutes.</p> <p>Questions about movie night came up. Clarified that movie night license straddles two years. Went in with SJAM to get the license last year but not sharing it. Can approach them again and go in together for a better price.</p>
Update from the School Administration - Mme. Joyce & Mme. Gravill	<p>Principal profile due December 31st. Annual task that needs to be completed. Parent council needs to solicit the voice of as many people as we can and then pass back to Kathryn. Deborah will circulate the template.</p> <p>Jerrica asked to circulate attendance sheet to get emails.</p> <p>Update on investment matching. Ordered 42 chromebooks through program.</p> <p>Through the Town of Markham, school has been enrolled in zero management waste program. We will get a green bin added to the school, much like we are used to at home. The Town of Markham will have a representative come in to do a presentation with the students and arrange green bin pick up each week.</p> <p>For the Makers Fair with Intel, the date has been set for December 13th. Eight people from Intel will come. Will start the program with Grade 6's in the gym. There will be two Intel reps in each Grade 6 class.</p> <p>There are three parts to the program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build a computer 2. Build a robot 3. Program the robot <p>Intel will leave all technology behind. Teachers will pass along knowledge to other grades. Intel will not market themselves – promote love of learning of STEM with kids. No Intel logo on letter to parents.</p> <p>Remembrance Day observance will be open to parents to join. Time slots are below:</p> <p>Grades 2-4 – 10:40am</p> <p>Grades 5-8 – 11:20am</p> <p>Deborah mentioned that they have already looked into the concerns that some parents had raised about the washrooms having non-functional hand dryers. This has been checked out and though a few were not working, they have since been fixed.</p>

	<p>Cross country happened in Sept – Jerrica went to cheer teams on and couldn't find our tent. No logo, no branding, no name – we were the only school with nothing on the tent. Jerrica contacted another principal to find out cost for tent. Tent can be used for all types of activities. Council agrees that this is worth exploring. Jerrica to follow up with pricing for next meeting.</p> <p>Deborah mentioned that SWL school entrance looks more bare now – removed furniture and looking for ideas on how to do something exciting and innovative to welcome visitors. Email co-chairs with ideas. Could be a painting, lego wall, plant wall, etc. Should reflect us as a community and tie in with 10th anniversary. Need to be mindful of firecode. Not an immediate need.</p> <p>Question from parent: Is there ability for students to participate? Answer: Yes, students will be encouraged to do so.</p> <p>There will be a subcommittee for 10th anniversary so maybe something different every few weeks. Something related to school spirit.</p> <p>Deborah will try to remember something she saw with a series of clear plastic squares to write on and it becomes dynamic (changeable).</p> <p>Electives – need to be careful with extracurricular activities and how framed with staff. Haven't yet been approached with any staff who wants to be involved. Not feasible this year to have an elective activity. Not because teachers don't want to but they are already too busy doing extra work.</p> <p>Question about whether there is a substitute or in lieu of if no electives. Carnival, winter day, skating day?</p> <p>Phys ed teacher looking to see what can be brought into building (e.g. cricket, lacross). Not a budget issue. Cost would be incurred by families – truly an issue of staff time commitment.</p> <p>Younger grades do Carnivale every year but can't mandate teachers to participate in extracurricular.</p> <p>Billy Pang introduced himself as school trustee to represent parents as policy maker. Name card is on school website for email and phone number. Hiring a director – hoping to have a new director by end of year. Will start interviewing candidates. Trustee is an elected official.</p> <p>Billy raised issue of leisure marijuana to be legalized next July. Proposed to school board to urge ministry of education to stay as far as possible of schools for distributors (5KM or more of radius of school) – at least one parent workshop for education. Joint venture of health, police, social work – so need to coordinate many parties. Will keep us posted.</p> <p>Question about whether legislation will include alcohol (LCBO, Beer Store grandfathered) and fentanyl. And can order online so radius won't matter. People who grow in their own backyard is a federal issue – so outside of jurisdiction. Board meeting is tomorrow so will propose motion and if they refuse, that's all we can do at this time but at least we tried. Will probably host education session in one high school and open up to all parents. For students, already included in health education.</p>
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<p>Treasurers Update - Joyce A.</p>	<p>Joyce did a comparison of last year at this time vs. this year at this time.</p> <p>Pizza lunches is Sept-Jan – raised \$35,583. Dropped a little this year but almost the same. Projected profit of \$12K from pizza lunches alone in 1st term.</p> <p>Sub lunches have taken a drop from \$16K to \$10K – still a \$4K profit with a price increase (10 cents per sub, but this increase in cost was NOT passed onto the parents). Last year, didn't offer Lunch Lady but this year we are doing it from the beginning. \$303 for September only. Should raise \$1500 from Lunch Lady. Didn't push investment in education this year so don't need to put onus on parents to give more so not using as first resort. Someone still gave \$40. Still comes up on Cash Online to make a donation. Didn't need to wait to end of year for computer matching this year.</p> <p>\$18K without any other initiatives. But should be fine if we double that (5 months/5 months). Changed lunch dates this year so that no dates are bumped this year. Cost for each meal and what was offered was the same.</p> <p>Question: Is Kid's kitchen new this year?</p> <p>Answer: No. No council involvement. Outside organization that comes in and does their thing to support parents – don't get money back. Lunch Lady is similar but they offer a percentage back. Kid's Kitchen is for convenience and they send someone to help bag and distribute. Lunch Lady needs parent volunteers to bag and hand out.</p> <p>Elisa has been doing sub lunches for the last two years as well as Joyce for pizza lunches.</p> <p>Some parents mentioned that their children don't like the subs so need to talk about why kids don't like it. Cash online doesn't give the flexibility (e.g. customization of subs with no mayo) – but the reality is there is no limit to customization. All we have to do is add napkins to bag and so company is great because they take care of everything. Not apparent to parents that can customize so this will need to be communicated explicitly.</p>
<p>Fall Forum Update – Jerrica, Elisa and Diana</p>	<p>Nov 1 – invitation to council execs interested in attending first fall forum symposium. Elisa, Diana, Jerrica, Deborah, Kathryn went. Met other parents from other schools. Peter and Billy were there too. Four different sessions available for parents.</p> <p>Parent engagement – parents from other schools presented what they were doing – Aldergrove have a community feedback report – send out physical report cards to get feedback on how they did that year. Want to see something like this implemented at SWJ. So that parents can write feedback on a form. Can do data mining to find out ROI. Aldergrove has a community garden and kids can take turns to grow vegetables. Grow enough to share with community. Community activity night – board game night, badminton night to do active sports or playing games together in gym. Every few months. Teacher and grade 7/8 volunteers.</p> <p>Unionville PS – had an innovative way to get parents involved in school council. Share improvement plan (will be an agenda item in near future). What are exec rights and what are rights of parents and what can be demanded of administration. If any parents are interested, can discuss another time. Jerrica will meet the school council parents to learn from them to start initiatives here.</p> <p>Joyce likes both ideas and really likes the feedback report. Because not every parent can come out to meetings. Report is anonymous. They do it by paper</p>

	<p>because parents may not have internet. Had conducted a survey as to best way to be contacted and 90% prefer paper. Everything is translated into Chinese and English and parent volunteer does translation. Can get reports with statistics. List school plans and goals on report card. Have a community hub room in school which is open to all community members. Just sign in at office and can use wifi and print stuff. Can share and give initiative – clothing and books.</p> <p>Collaboration and networking – Markham Gateway PS – lots of parents and grandparents who don't speak English so everything translated. Outside of school hours – e.g. Sat at Whittamore Farm, bowling.</p> <p>Recruitment of new council and volunteers – recruiting is year round. Make sure council is present at all events. Aligning your special interest with your skills. If parent has a special skill (e.g. ping pong, yoga) can offer to teach the kids for free.</p> <p>Last year multicultural week, Kevin offered to demonstrate tai chi (owns a tai chi school) – parent of grade 8.</p> <p>Settlement and education partnership in York region – can ask administrator to contact this committee to help recruit school council parents. 6 half days of 6 weeks. Have to give back 50 hours of volunteers. Should have more interesting topics (eg EQAO, transitioning to high school) – to help encourage parents to join next Parent Council meeting.</p>
Sub-Committees to be Set Up (+ leader and tentative dates)	<p>Movie night – Jan 18th. Need list for parents to volunteer. Any time you volunteer, you won't be alone.</p> <p>Science family night: \$1K to spend. Elisa helped plan Math night last year and needs volunteers this year. Need to find a date. Plan around April 12th. Elisa to reach out to Sam from Intel and report back at next meeting.</p> <p>Multicultural week – last year was the first year and was very successful. Teachers have been asking if there will be another one next year. A school council event with help with teachers and admin. Because was so condensed, teachers are asking if we can expand from multicultural week to multicultural YEAR. Not enough time in one week. Kids wanted to do more but not enough time. Matching flags to country, matching food – not enough time for teachers to expand on learning. Jerrica helped lead last year. Asking for volunteers. Joyce says too much to do in one week. Jerrica and Joyce had to be in from 8am to 3pm. No breaks for them at all even with volunteers because of setting up displays, running games, performers with each specifications, certificates of appreciation. Had a lot of help from administration but spacing out will be much appreciated. Deborah said that goal is to make multiculturalism more molecular – more seamless and part of every day life. Want kids to feel at home in this building. A way of doing business all year long. Less tokenism – more deep understanding and equitable approach. Resources on display at the appropriate times because of holidays. Should recognize all holidays in an equal way (e.g. Halloween may be overcelebrated). Need to actively solicit parents to come in and teach and bring in artifacts. Make sure resources reflect school community.</p> <p>SWL – tenth year anniversary – Fun Fair is all about fun and concern that fun overshadows every thing else. Jerrica says maybe doing Olympics theme and</p>

	<p>separate 10th year anniversary and showcase what it means to be a student at SWL using recyclable products. Can showcase items in lobby. So every project gets presented. Encouraging teamwork and school. Others feel that having two separate events will be too demanding on time from volunteers. Need to find a way to combine. Pick a date for Fun Fair – 20th rain or shine. Grad is 25th so blackout.</p> <p>Some ideas: Ten year anniversary cookbook for sale created by students for sale at Fun Fair – multicultural and unveil at Fun Fair.</p>
Ceramics Workshop – Joyce A.	<p>Ceramics workshop – fundraising idea. Can have the whole class work on a project to showcase on the hall. Can be a puzzle piece. If everyone is good with that, then we can form a subcommittees.</p>
Closing	<p>Sufia – subcommittees should be open to all parents to join. Error listed as Math for ProGrant. Elisa will look into this but it shouldn't impact plans.</p> <p>Question: For student led conferences, can council sell stuff?</p> <p>Answer: Yes, can advertise food and drinks.</p> <p>Question: Is there a school year book for younger children?</p> <p>Answer: No – only for Grade 8's. Take pictures throughout the year and put them in the yearbook. At Lincoln Alexander, it's available for anyone who wishes to purchase. All photos have to be from teacher's camera for safety and need to start a committee now to catch up for time.</p> <p>Next meeting is Jan 15th.</p>
Outstanding Items for next meeting	<p>Need to check if families would be interested in a 10 year anniversary photo book or yearbook. Already had picture day. Deb needs to check. Put on next agenda.</p>