

Stonehaven Elementary School Council Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Character Matters in our School and Community

Thursday, December 3, 2020 from 6:30 to 8:00pm (Virtual Meeting)

Attendance:

Tim Dunn (Principal)
Jason Eygenraam (Vice Principal)
Melissa Boulet* (Staff)
Cathy Miles* (2020-2021 Chair)
Shameela Hoosen-Shakeel* (2020-2021 Treasurer)
Jennifer Strong* (2020-2021 Secretary)
Julia Beykun*
Kara Bilo*
Julie Brenner-King*
Catherine Cao*
Lorna Coulter
Jennifer Ley*
Lindsay McLeod*
Cindy Persaud*

Absent: Yuanshun (Alex) Li* (regrets sent), Karin Larkan-Hill* (regrets sent), Rafaela Abraham*, Evelyn Morgan*, Peter Wright*, Cynthia Zheng*

**indicates 2020-2021 voting member*

AGENDA ITEMS AND NOTES

1. Welcome – Cathy Miles

- Land Acknowledgement – Jason Eygenraam
- Moment of Reflection
- Review of Meeting Norms
- Sharing Agenda

2. Minutes and Financial Report – Jennifer Strong and Shameela Hoosen-Shakeel

- October Meeting Minutes were distributed in advance for review by Council members

MOTION: “I move to motion to approve the minutes”

Motion made by Shameela Hoosen-Shakeel, seconded by Kara Bilo, all in favour.

- Financial Report review as of December 1, 2020
 - Mabel’s Labels brought in \$50.50
 - X Movement subscription expenditure \$553.70
 - Spring market vendor return \$550
 - Remaining funds (as of December 1, 2020) - \$1,471.03

MOTION: “I move to motion to approve the Financial Report”
Motion made by Cathy Miles, seconded by Kara Bilo, all in favour.

3. Principal and Staff Report - Tim Dunn, Jason Eygenraam and Melissa Boulet

- The 2020-2021 school year has been very different
- 383 students currently enrolled in face-to-face learning in 20 classrooms in addition to four other classes
- Past events included:
 - Treaty recognition week and Holocaust education week events
 - Remembrance Day ceremony – four teachers put together a video incorporating presentations from classrooms and photographs of students work
 - Parent/teacher interviews – this year the interviews were held either through virtual channels or by phone, opportunity for parents and teachers to connect, feedback can be sent to school office
 - Graduation – video sent to graduates, platform changed to GoToMeeting and graduates can register to view video
 - Report Cards – sent out virtually to student Gmail accounts, limiting paper coming in and out of the building
 - Grade 3 Gifted Testing – EVS students completed the in-person component in a portable, face-to-face learning students completed the in-person component in their classroom
 - Crazy hair/hat day – joint effort between School Council and the Community classroom
- Upcoming events include:
 - Jersey day – Friday December 4
 - Tie dye day – Friday December 11
 - PJ day – Friday December 18
- No information about changing the format of learning (in person to online and vice versa) – communication was sent to parent following the meeting
- Currently identifying solutions to address storage of coats, boots and bags given no lockers can be used this year
- Technology
 - A process is being created for students to return technology to the school
 - Received 64 new Chromebooks – determining how this will be rolled out, where are they best to be deployed, equitable distribution based on number of students in the classroom
 - This year, we are fortunate to have enough Chromebooks for approximately half the students in a class. There is a continued need for laptops for students and staff, speakers and LCD projectors for some classes and additional iPads for kindergarten classrooms.
- Food drive commenced – Public Health has provided parameters, the school is welcoming non-perishable food donations

4. Chair's Report – Cathy Miles

- Many activities are up and running
- **Technology Fundraiser**
 - Outpouring of generosity

- Goal was \$500 by December
- \$1,310.00 has been raised as of November 30th
- Fundraiser will stay open until the end of the school year (goal = \$2,500)
- Thank you to Julia for creating the communication
- **Random Acts of Kindness**
 - Timing of this campaign worked well because some staff members were also running a kindness campaign in November
 - “Be the reason someone smiles” board placed near the school’s entrance – full of post-it notes, collecting the notes to be sent to School Council as part of the kindness campaign
 - We are in the process of combining the ballots that were received online with those that were shared in the classrooms
 - There were entries from nearly every grade
- **Monthly Newsletter**
 - Purpose is to keep community up-to-date and share stories/events
 - Adding a section called “Council Highlights”
 - Parents are asked to share pictures of their children for future newsletters
- **Cooking Class with Mary Tang - December 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm**
 - Communication was sent to the school for review and will go out to families once approved; registration will be required
 - Decided on sushi theme (veggie roll, hand-roll and sushi sandwich)
 - Shopping list and preparation guidelines are being sent to families so they can cook alongside Mary
- **Artshine in a Box**
 - Launched earlier this week
 - Communication sent to families via email
- **Spirit Days**
 - Ms. Prentice’s class planned four spirit days (1/week leading up to the winter break)
 - Council will plan one spirit day per month from January to June using the themes prepared by Ms. Prentice’s class
- Big thank you to the subcommittee members for all their hard work with the planning and preparations for the events/fundraisers.

5. Requested Items

- Proposal to cover food expenses for Mary Tang who offered to lead the virtual cooking class

MOTION: “I move to motion to cover the cost of supplies of \$50 for Mary Tang, facilitator of the virtual cooking class”

Motion made by Jennifer Strong, seconded by Julia Beykun, all in favour.

- The Angel fund supports the purchase of food for the office. Proposal was made to contribute money to this fund.

MOTION: “I move to motion to contribute \$250 to the Angel Fund with the understanding that the funds would be revisited in 2021”

Motion made by Shameela Hoosen-Shakeel, seconded by Julia Beykun, all in favour.

- A suggestion was made to reach out to all teachers, principal and VP to understand the school needs to better understand how to allocate future funds. A discussion took place given the complexity of collecting needs given all programs have needed to change and fundraising possibilities are limited this year given the pandemic. Future needs will be brought forward to a future meeting
- Support for EVS students – A discussion took place regarding the additional supports that could be provided to students doing on-line learning. Support for EVS is challenging because students are from different schools and parts of York Region.

6. Sub-Committee Report – Julia Beykun, Cathy Miles, Shameela Hoosen-Shakeel

- Review of January-June event and fundraising calendar
- **January – Theme “Winter Fun”**
 - Snowman building contest – send in photos for voting and prizes
 - Teleparty – watch a family friendly movie
- **February – Theme “Literacy”**
 - Read-a-thon – students can fundraise
 - Virtual story time – staff and/or parents would read books virtually to students
- **March – Theme “Health and Wellness”**
 - Plantables – organic plants delivered to your home, return to school is 10%
 - Allstar Martial Arts – virtual martial arts fitness class
- **April – Theme “Diversity and Inclusivity”**
 - Recipe book fundraiser
 - Families can share recipes including photos, art, stories and poems
 - Recipes will be compiled in book and shipped to families directly
 - Substitution for a yearbook this year
 - Printing costs have been explored
 - Will be paired with an engagement event (TBD in the new year once we examine all cost-effective options; still doing more research)
- **May – Theme “Family Fun”**
 - Virtual bingo/trivia night
 - Virtual spelling bee – sourcing platform
 - Science night
- **June – Theme “Celebrating Achievements”**
 - Talent Night
 - Ongoing fundraisers
- Events will be revisited as need be to assess feasibility

MOTION: “I move to motion to continue to plan the scheduled fundraising and engagement events”

Motion made by Cathy Miles, seconded by Jennifer Ley, all in favour.

7. Other Business – Cathy Miles

- Julia Beykun will explore options for a School Council webpage
- An email will be sent out to Council members to ask for participation on the Council Constitution Review Sub-Committee

Cathy Miles motioned to adjourn meeting at 8:04 pm