

Stonehaven Elementary School Council Meeting Minutes

Character Matters in our School and Community

Monday, February 5, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Attendance:

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Paul Oabel (Principal) | Susan Wansbrough (VP) | Shameela Shakeel (Chair) | Cathy Miles (Vice Chair) |
| Aliya Syed (Secretary) | Kara Bilo (Treasurer) | Lesley Mercer (Staff) | Ann-Marie Hulse (Staff) |
| Michelle Deboer | Evelyn Morgan | Julie Brenner-King | Karin Larkan-Hill |
| Keri Todd | | | |

Regrets: Celine Morrow; Roni Silbershatz

Principal and Vice-Principal's Report:

- **Second half of the school year** – There will be a push for math professional development for teachers as well as strategies for executive functioning in the classroom
- **February** – Friendship Dance on 14th (Kindergarten through grade 8), Black History Month presentation by Glenn Marais at Newmarket Theatre (grades 7 – 8), STEM Minds activities at school and at STEM Minds (junior grades), Snow Valley snow tubing trip on 20th (grades 4 – 8), VIP Program (grade 6), continuation of Forest School (Kindergarten) and Tea & Chat (for parents)
- **High School Transition** – Grade 8 students going through course selection for high school
- **Report Cards** – Will be sent home on Wednesday, February 14
- **Intermediate Trips** – Grade 7 trip to Camp Muskoka (April 30-May 2) with info session for parents and students on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 PM; Grade 8 trip to Brock University (May 16-18) with info session for parents on Tuesday, February 27th at 6:30 PM
- **Staff & Students** – Growing numbers at Stonehaven; expecting 40 additional students, for a total close to 600 for next school year; possibility of hiring more teachers; numbers are currently being reviewed
- **Transfers** – For the next school year, about 8 SK students have registered for French Immersion and about 5 students in Grade 3 will be moving on to Rogers Public School for the gifted program
- **Buddy Benches** – 2 have been ordered; Board engineering has been trying to find a good location for installation; waiting for the ground to thaw

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance as of February 1, 2018 - **\$3,638.28**
- Actual balance with previous allocations of \$1,000 for snow tubing trip - **\$2,638.28**
- We are expecting another **\$1,000** from Healthy Hunger for January and February

MOTION – “I motion the approval of the Treasurer's Report”

~ Motion made by Karin Larkin-Hill, seconded by Julie Brenner-King, all in favour.

Speaker Series for Parents:

- Most recent event was on January 25, and topic was Getting IEP Savvy/How to Advocate for your Child. Excellent turnout from Stonehaven ES (about 20 parents) and wonderful tips were provided for what to implement at home, transitioning your kids to university, and much more.
- Upcoming Workshops:
 - February 22, 2018 – “Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age” documentary followed by Q&A panel including a Digital Citizenship Expert/Author, Members of Bully Free Community Alliance and a School Community Resource Officer
 - Will provide a good starting point for discussion with your kids about the influence of technology and the impact on individuals and families
 - Event is open to 8 schools as per PRO Grant funding, however this will be made a public event on February 8th; 300 spots reserved already so only about 50 spots left
 - Reservations can be made at www.eventbrite.com using password NPN2018
 - April 17, 2018 – Best-Selling Author/Speaker, Barbara Coloroso with topic of Teaching Kids to Think and Act Ethically
- Babysitting is available for school-aged children
- Please follow Newmarket Parent Network on Facebook and/or Twitter for additional information
- Feel free to email Shameela at chair@stonehavencouncil.com if you have suggestions for Speaker Series topics for next year

Discussion/Updates:

- **Friendship Dance** – Taking place on February 14th in the school gym. There will be cupcakes, cookies, candy and chocolate. Volunteers have signed up, however all parents are welcome to come and enjoy.
- **Cake Walk & Artisan Market** – Taking place on April 25th in the school gym. Thank you to Cathy Miles for taking the lead with planning the Cake Walk event this year. Thank you to Kym Sloggett and Wendy Ferguson for planning and organizing the Artisan Market portion
 - New vendors are able to participate. Email to be sent out to school community
 - Families will be asked, via email blast, to either make a cake or send money
 - Local businesses will also be asked to donate cakes or cupcakes
 - Students will buy raffle tickets. Draw will be at 6 PM
 - Volunteers will be needed for this event! Will also need volunteers to pick up cakes and drop off in school gym, and to approach local businesses for support
- **Spring Flowers & Plants Fundraiser** – Will take place April through May
 - Cost will be between \$10 and \$30, which is comparable to retail price
 - Pictures of flowers will be on order forms and colour photos will be on school council website www.stonehavencouncil.com
 - Flowers will arrive week before Mother’s Day
 - Volunteers will be needed to accept flowers from delivery truck, and to setup the orders for pickup by school families.

- **Wellness Day** – Taking place on May 4th
 - For students in grades 1 – 8
 - In the morning, students will attend different health/wellness workshops, which will be led by teachers and community members
 - Motivational speakers from Youth Speak will also talk to the students about mental wellness
 - For an afternoon assembly, we have booked a special presentation with Q-Mack (basketball player) and J-Box (DJ), who will talk to the students about healthy living and positive choices
 - Evelyn suggested that we encourage students to walk to school that day and that we have activities outside for kick-off, weather permitting
 - Suggestions for workshops are always welcome from parents (please email Shameela)
- **Evolve Skateboarding** – Scheduled for May 14 -16 for students in grades 1 - 3. Scooters and wobble boards are set on outside tarmac for racing and timed activities. Each class will enjoy one session for 1.5 hours; cost is \$5-6 per student
- **Coding for Kindergarten** – UOIT graduate working with Kindergarten students to give them an introduction to coding; students are working in groups and each classroom is getting a turn
- **Cell Phone Usage** – Cell phones are no longer allowed in classrooms of high schools, and this information may reach other schools; currently at Stonehaven ES, teachers permit cell phones for curriculum use (i.e., digital math tools; must use board approved apps).
- **Fruit for School Office** – Several School Council members volunteered to buy and bring in fruit every Monday for the remainder of the school year:
 - February – Shameela
 - March – Keri
 - April – Kara
 - May – Michelle
 - June - Julie

The Hub:

- **Activities** – Many engaging activities including Forest of Reading, STEM Minds, 3D laser printing and design, coding (STEM Minds donated 2 Arduino Coding kits!), milk bag weaving, chess, yoga, knitting/crocheting, and more
- **Technology** – 6 laptops, 1 projector, 10 new iPads have arrived (waiting on 5 more iPads); have fulfilled all essentials from Ms. Hulse’s original wish list!
- **Makeover** – Need to focus on making this space flexible for everyone, and to also get more intermediate students interested in using the library. Met with a consultant from School House Furniture and have 2 plans proposed. Needed items include:
 - café tables with higher chairs/stools
 - stools which are curved and have motion (as if sitting on a yoga ball)
 - seating for younger kids
 - moveable shelves
 - more iPads to replace old desktop computers
 - charging stations/iTowers
 - stationary bike for students with special needs

- **Grants** – applying to Best Buy and other places for grants, and tapping into any appropriate resources
- **Student Involvement** – to get students excited, they will be encouraged to participate in the makeover of the library by voting on the potential floor plan and fundraising
- **School Council** – Members agree this is a worthwhile initiative with long term benefits for all students,
- **Fundraiser** – the above is a multi-year project, which will require funding from School Council. After much discussion, it was decided that selling chocolates will be a good fundraising initiative. Shameela agreed to research companies (Purdy's and World's Finest) to determine how to proceed. Keri agreed to help with this fundraising initiative.

Fund Allocations:

MOTION – “I motion School Council allocate \$1,500 for Evolve Skateboarding and \$2,000 for Wellness Day.”

~ Motion made by Shameela Shakeel, seconded by Evelyn Morgan, all in favour.

Reminder of upcoming School Council meeting dates in 2018: **April 9 and May 7.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm