

JPS Home and School Council Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2016

Present: Doug Ouellette, Sarah Butcher, Diana Hedges, Angie Campbell, Carol Krier, Lynn Alliston, Karen Craddock, Miranda Montague, Katie Rex, Katie Labrie, Heidi Dawson

Regrets: Sarah Hardy, Angie Smuck

Next meeting: Monday January 30 @ 6 pm Staff Room

1. Opening;

Council listened to Mrs. Grant and Ms. O'Donnell share their thoughts and ideas regarding JPS working at becoming more Eco friendly school. JPS was awarded silver for their overall Eco actions last year and would like to strive for the gold standard. The proposed project is to create an outdoor class room/nature space for the school to use. The ideal area would consist of an area for the children to sit, preferably with some shade, enhanced by plants/trees. Council was asked to consider supporting this project. The first part would require volunteers for brainstorming and in the future funds. Facility services would need to be the first contact to investigate the options available to the school for this type of project. Many other schools within the board have created these areas so they should have an idea of the process. Katie L. and Angie C. both voiced that they are interested in helping the teachers brainstorm ideas.

2. Welcome;

Sarah welcomed us all to the meeting and offered a big welcome to our new member Heidi Dawson.

3. Previous Minutes/ Outstanding items;

September minutes were distributed both via email and hard copies were provided. Carol motioned that we accept the minutes. Katie L. seconded, all were in favour carried.
ACTION –Diana, minutes summary for the school calendar.

4. Business from the previous minutes;

- Thanks to Sarah for creating the school council bulletin board. She reminded those who still need to forward a picture of themselves for display.
- The council now has its own email dedicated to the chair it is chairjar@outlook.com. (New contact list attached)
- Council Start Up session was held at Waterford High school in October. The multi-year success plan was shared and breakout sessions occurred. Sarah's session was engaging principals and Angie's was regarding parent council and social media. She noted that it is recommended that council have their Facebook separate from the school. We need to change ours (Diana has done this.) Council needs someone to manage our Facebook page, adding posts/reminders, taking on the admin responsibilities. (ACTION-everyone to consider.)

- A Communication survey will be sent home to all parents. Sarah shared a rough draft of one and everyone shared their ideas. This will be used to gather information about parent's thoughts on becoming more involved within the school.

5. Treasurer Report;

The general account currently holds \$12146.51
 Chocolate Bar sales generated \$7141.00
 Catalogue profits were; \$2606.00

This still includes \$927.50 that has to be re-assigned to 7/8 students for their trip and prize money.

Katie reported that 138 full boxes were sold and there were 55 catalogue orders with 34 choosing to sell both. There were 50 prizes for the 1st fully sold boxes, 2 random draws were for \$100 Indigo gift card and a 5LB chocolate bar. The top sellers sold 3 boxes and each will receive a \$50 gift card. A big thanks to those who volunteered to help make the fundraiser a success, Katie Labrie, Miranda Montague, Sarah Hardy & Sarah Butcher. Special thanks to Mrs. Carroll for her part, collecting, depositing and tracking products!

6. New Business/ Dates to Remember.

Our current council constitution was distributed and needs to be updated. Sarah suggested a sub-committee form to make decisions and present council with an updated document. Angie C. Heidi and Diana will set a date and meet to discuss. (Has been set for January 10th) Adding job descriptions to the constitution was suggested. Each member in a position is asked to note the actions and duties of their role to help with this process. ACTION- Council

Fundraising opportunities, Katie share the idea of Fundscrip. With this fundraiser the school is rewarded a portion based on the purchase of gift cards. She has contacted the rep and is able to get us up and running at any point. Quite a few questions were asked by members, Katie will forward more information to council before we decide on this. (See Attached.) Angie is aware of healthy fundraising options that are offered through the health unit. She will forward information for council to review. (See Attached.)

Sarah Hardy asked Sarah to bring forward the concern of potholes. Mr. Ouellette will look into the problem areas and see what can be done. Some areas the board will handle and others are on the school. Katie also asked about the problem area the walkers are faced with crossing the parking lot. ACTION: Mr. Ouellette.

Council will wait for another year to reach out for funds towards a parent engagement event. The deadline is Dec 22 for the GEPIC grant.

During the winter months the climber is off limits due to safety concerns. The JK/SK toys are needed to keep little hands busy. Mr. Ouellette will ask the teachers about specific needs. ACTION: Mr. Ouellette.

7. Principal Remarks

EQAO results are in forwarded to the schools in the fall. The grade 3 reading/writing and math were close to the board level and slightly off the province. Grade 6 reflected strong results in reading/writing but lower results in math. The math scores were still close to the board and

province standards. Math continues to be a large area of focus for the school improvement planning. Areas for concentration will include building number sense, understanding math problems and engaging children to work through them. The board will stress different ways and approaches to achieve children success. Parents will be included in this push moving forward. Communication will be sent home each month to allow parents to encourage and help children work towards understanding within their everyday activities.

The Ace program has been set up and running to recognize the greatness in our school and the wonderful children JPS has. Parents are contacted prior to the award recognition assembly and invited as their child will be receiving an award.

Dec 15th the school will enjoy a Christmas dinner catered by Knechtles. Upgrading from the breakfast has increased the cost to \$1200.00. Volunteers will be needed for the event, about 20 people would be great and only those with police checks will be selected. Diana motioned that council donate \$500 towards the dinner, Lynn seconded, all in favour, carried.

The milk program at this point will stay as is. Debbie was asked about different options but with only a volunteer to count the funds it isn't possible to change.

The gym benches were a concern, replacing them is at a cost of \$350 each. Mr. Taylor has volunteered to re-furbish the old wooden ones. The mats on the gym walls need attention. Some are missing and a few could be refurbished for \$75. Replacing them costs \$100 so this is a more sensible option. ACTION: Mr. Ouellette will get a quote for replacing the mats.

The school plans to put on a musical in the spring, they have requested support from the council. Mr. Ouellette will find out more regarding this before a decision is made.

Next meeting Jan 30, 2017 at 6pm.

Follow up/ Action items:

- Facebook volunteer
- Quote for school gym mats
- Musical production information- support?
- JK/SK toys needed?
- Pot hole update
- fundraising options
- Fundscrip
- Healthy Fundraising options
- constitution/job descriptions

Future Meeting Dates

March 20, May 8, June 12

*Reminder to RSVP if childcare is needed for the January Meeting to Diana. Thanks