

Edna Staebler School Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, November 21, 2022

(1) Community Learning Series - Ms. Stroud

- Opportunities to invite families back into the school by offering learning sessions about topics families may be interested in learning more about (i.e. media literacy and internet safety, science, literacy, numeracy, anxiety, etc)
- funds are available through the PRO (Parents Reaching Out) Grants.
- step 1:  poll families to find out what our community may be interesting in learning about.
- Teresa has the contact info for a good media/internet safety speaker (Cat Code)
- Stephanie, Jamie and Rebecca Scott will meet to prepare a plan to offer a learning session/workshop in January 2023
- would be great if students could learn about the session during the day, then the workshop is for parents/guardians in the evening. This could help promote continued communication about the subject at home.
- need to give lots of notice to families and decide if the evening session is in person or virtual.

(2) Fundraising

**BookFair Update - Teresa**

- BookFair is next week! Monday: Set Up, Tuesday: Student Preview, Wednesday: shop (open until 7pm), Thursday: shop (open until 630pm) and prize draw (2pm), Friday: pack up and count sales \$\$
- Teresa is still working on **scheduling volunteers** for the sale (several council members are having trouble completing the vulnerable sector check online).
- requested that we  send out another call for volunteers for the BookFair on School Day and attach the Vulnerable sector letter (for reduced fees) in the message.
- Storm Squad is going to help with the BookFair too
- BookFair is going to be different this year due to new Board policies - no parents/people are allowed in the school during the day while the children are there. Therefore, **Teresa is expecting less sales** generated as parents/caregivers are not allowed in the school during the day (many parents would come shop after drop off & before pick up). BookFair will also not be open during nutrition breaks as there aren't enough volunteers to work the book sale during these times.
- Teachers need to know when parents are allowed to shop, and the days the BookFair is running.
- A letter re: BookFair is going home with the Report Cards this Wednesday.
- **Teachers have requested we take the 25% in cash from the sale** (not the 60% of sales in products), to purchase more home reading books. Council supports this request.
- Scholastic is now charging a **\$25 delivery fee**, so we need to expect that deduction from our sales too.

- Teresa is going to make a document about how to run the BookFair to assist Council next year (as Teresa won't be at Edna Staebler next year).
- Teresa needs an email/contact to give Scholastic for communications next year.

### **Pizza Days - Tara/Stephanie**

- Melissa was going to talk with Andrea. Council's understanding is that the pizza company has been selected (same company as last year).
- Carys is working on getting pizza days set up and running on School Day
- Aim now is to have our first pizza day in January (we need the pizza day sales to start rolling in ASAP)
- info needs to be sent out to families re: **Pizza Days before Winter Break**

### **Flip Give - Stephanie**

- School gets 2% of gift card sales (great timing for Christmas shopping!)
- Stephanie will touch base with Marty and will then send a letter to admin outlining the flip give fundraiser which will then be sent to families ASAP to get things rolling

### **Move-a-thon - Stephanie & Jamie**

- Need to book DJ (Professor Jams, The Beat, Rebecca knows a former Edna student that DJ's)
- Jamie and Stephanie will meet to start firming up details. Tentative date: Wednesday, Feb 15, 2023.

### **Mable's Labels Ms. Stroud**

- \$100+ cheque has come in so far!
- Susan will send out another reminder about buying labels to families
- Admin will include Mable's Labels fundraiser info in Kindergarten registration packages for next year.

\*\* Council is open to any and all other fundraising ideas to help raise \$\$ for our school this year.

### 3) YMCA Update - Kelly

- Monday, November 28 is a Regional Professional Learning Day for all Early Childhood Educators (ECEs), so the YMCA Child Care will be closed that day (and fees not charged to families)
- Child Care Centre is closed December 26-30 for the holidays and is running a full program January 3-6.
- Canada-wide Early Learning and Child Care (CWELCC) Plan is starting to roll out (\$12/day max for children under 6).

### 4) Admin Update - Ms. Stroud & Ms Fryer-Davis

- 1 projector and 1 document reader has been purchased. Projector has arrived already!

- **EQAO Results** are now available. Grade 3, 6, and 9 students from last year will get their results with their report cards this week. Assessment was different than in years past, so it is hard to compare the results from past years.
- CBC is hoping to profile the **Food for Kids** initiative!
- **Sock Drive** will be held again this year leading into December.
- PD Day was successful. Teachers had a Thinking Classroom in the morning to learn about and discuss Identities in the Classroom, and afternoon was mandatory training sessions.
- **November 23: Report Cards are going home.**
- Safe, Caring and Inclusive School Committee is forming. Students are making a survey for other students to fill out to discover how people feel/do they feel safe/like they belong at school.
- **IEPs going home November 30**
- Display Case: last month the display case featured Islamic Heritage. Wanting to highlight more multicultural celebrations therefore families have been invited to share their traditions/celebrations via the display board. It was suggested that we ask students if they want to create displays for the case, and the Council thought that was a good idea.
  - Jamie asked a question about Halloween not being celebrated at school. Admin shared that children were able to wear non violent, culturally appropriate costumes if they wished, but Halloween is not part of the curriculum so it is not the focus of the day. The school's main goal is that every child feels safe coming to school. Some children have experienced trauma, disruption to regular routines can be hard for some students, we have families that don't celebrate Halloween... Council members thought communication and consistency in messaging about Halloween was difficult to understand. The appropriateness of Halloween celebrations in schools is more of a Board level conversation.
- **Strong Start Volunteers** - Grade 1 assessments by teachers are done, and Strong Start consent letters have gone home. Admin is busy organizing volunteers... program is starting on Monday!

#### (6) Staff Update - Rebecca Scott

- Winter is here, reminder that every child needs to wear indoor shoes to help keep the school clean.
- The Remembrance Day Assembly went well, kids did an amazing job. One of our bus drivers served, and he attended the assembly so it was great for the children to connect with Remembrance Day and those that serve our country with him.
- Grade 7&8 Camp Trip went well... except for the weather! It was a fantastic experience for everyone. No one contacted the school to use the funds available to assist with the cost of the trip.

- Question was asked if there would be a Grade 8 Trip this year. Nothing has been planned yet. Waiting for guidance from the board, and busing is a huge issue...

(7) Other Business

- 12 computer mouses (mice?!) have been donated so far!
- Comment was shared that communication was not good regarding the Hold and Secure last week. Several Members shared that they learned of the incident through social media, not the school/the board. Admin shared that the communication department is responsible for communicating info about these incidents as Admin and Staff are busy keeping students safe by following Hold & Secure protocols. Council asked if communication can be improved regarding these situations and Admin shared that this is a Board level conversation about policies regarding communications. Council Members asked what messaging was shared with students the next day as 1 member shared that their child was scared to go to school the next day because of the incident. Admin shared that if your child is feeling anxious, it is best to let their teachers know so they can follow up.
- Correction to last month's minutes: School purchased 1 projector and 1 document reader, not 2 projectors.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 19th, 2022.

Jamie Harland, Secretary