

Edna Staebler School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 27, 2023

In attendance: Tatania, Susan, Rebecca, Stephanie, Alaina, Bjanka, Teresa, Marty, Melissa, Lori, Mike, Kelly, Hanane, Stephanie, Julie, Jamie (16). Meeting was virtual due to inclement weather.

(1) Stephanie approved last meeting's minutes, Marty seconded.

(2) Principal's Report (Tatania)

- As discussed in the last meeting, Edna Staebler was randomly selected for the Pan Can Assessment Program. Notice to families and students going home soon
- We have applied for \$500 from the **Parents Reaching Out Grant** Program to help support our Internet Safety Workshop and are hoping for approval.
- The School Improvement Team is still looking at how to support staff with literacy instructions as per the re-imagining of literacy instruction based on the "Science of Reading" research. Many staff are independently learning strategies to help strengthen their teaching practices.
- Primary Classroom Teachers are meeting to put together a proposal for Council's consideration re: **special programs for primary grades** (ie on-site field trip). They have a short list of ideas and are asking for \$1500 for programming relating to science of social studies. Kathy Chalmers is leading this initiative.
- Safe, Caring and Inclusive Schools Committee (lead by Mme Stjarna and Mrs Fryer-Davis) met in December. Students have shared a thoughtful list of how we can work to improve safe feelings in school. This information will be share with Council soon.
- February has been focused on **Kindness and Gratitude**. The Kindergarten Team asked to add a gratitude piece to morning announcements, so a "moment of gratitude" has been added to help start our day.
- Kindie registration starts soon, initial staffing numbers are due in the spring. If you know ay families who will be starting kindergarten in September, please encourage them to register asap so admin can have more accurate staffing needs sorted out sooner than later.
- The author of "Be Calm Malli" will be visiting this school this week to read their book for our K-2 audiences.
- Grade 8 grad photo retakes will take place at the photographer's studio, not here at the school.

(3) Staff Update (Rebecca)

- Thank you to all volunteers who helped organize and run the Move-a-thon. The children had a great time!
- February is quiet for staff updates as teachers are busy with Report Cards
- The Kindness Club has been leaving positive messages around the school, and these messages have been fun and meaningful to read.

- Boys Basketball team won their ¼ Final Game!!
- Girls Basketball played tonight and won! Next game is the finals!!

(4) YMCA Child Care Update

- March Break Care is full
- This summer they are offering Kindergarten care only, and the program will run July 4-Aug 18. March 20 is when internal registration starts.
- Before and After School Care ends this school year on June 28
- If any families are looking for care starting in September, they need to submit their registration request on the Region's One-List

(5) Move-a-thon Review (Jamie)

- This years' Move-a-thon was a rocking success! **We raised \$8109 in profits!!!** 47% of Edna Student students collected and submitted pledges in support of their commitments to active and healthy living, and the Glow Store at the event was very successful. The Early Bird Draw really encouraged families to submit pledges early, and was a helpful reminder for others to get their pledges in before the event. Jamie and Stephanie have created a detailed Event Summary that ■ will be put in the School Council Binder to help with future events. ■ Jamie will visit Mr. Weibe's class to scoop sorbet as one of his students was the winner for the Early Bird Draw, and ■ Stephanie is working with the families who won the gift card draw prizes so they can choose and receive their Gift Cards from our Flip Give program.

(6) Food Trucks - Spring/Summer Event - JUNE 1st, 2023

- Marty has booked 4 food trucks for June 1st! We are thinking the "kiss and Drop" area is the best place for the trucks, but we are ■ waiting for confirmation that this IS best from Bylaws.
- ■ Marty is looking into movie projector/screen for the movie portion of the event.
- ■ Want to include a Cake Walk at the Event (who's organizing this?)
- ■ Want to include the class Gift Baskets at the Event (Who's organizing this?)
- Note: an OLG License may be needed for any raffle. ■ Admin will confirm
- ■ Mike will send Melissa, Lori, and Teresa a task list from previous years. They will then put info together for this year's event working group.

(7) Financial Report (Stephanie)

- Reviewed Feb 23 Financial Notes. See attached document. These are only estimates. Will finalize at the next meeting.
- want to wait until after the engagement session (on Internet Safety) and review community participation before committing to hold another one.
- ■ Jen will put together a presentation regarding Nutrition for Learning for Council to help us decide whether or not we want to give some \$\$ to this program. ■ Stephanie will reach out to her to arrange it.

(8) Other Business - Grade 8 Graduation

- Council Members asked if the school is planning on doing something for Grade 8 Graduation (as some schools are not doing any celebration/event, and therefore families are stepping in to plan something special for their graduates). Admin confirmed **something will happen for Graduating Grade 8s**, \$2000 has been allocated in the budget for that something, and the Grade 8 teams have started discussions regarding graduation.
- Event will not include academic or sport awards as there is a shift away from individual awards to more inclusive celebrations.
- Note: if it is an after school hours event, can staff be there? Labour issues need to be considered when planning events
- Note: there is a shift towards having security at after hour school events. Council requested confirmation about what is considered “after hours”. Council wonders if security is needed, would off duty Police Officers qualify as security, as we have many Police Officers in the community who would likely volunteer if needed.
- Staff and Admin share that whatever the event is, it need to be unique to our school and meet the needs and interests of the Grade 8s who are Graduating
- Parents/Council Members requested more transparent planning process of the event with families/families should be considered during the planning process too as this is a big moment that families wish to celebrate too. Council is requesting some insight on new board policies and rules regarding events and celebrations, and how we as a school operate with in new Board guidelines.
- Rebecca suggested perhaps we ask **students** what they want (as the purpose of any graduation is to celebrate them), then work with **families** on what their expectations for celebrating their graduating Grade 8s are, then look at **what we can do**.
- Council is wondering what help, if any, the Grade 8 Team wants from Parents/School Council regarding the planning and execution of a Grade 8 Graduation something.

(9) Other Business - Outdoor Shelter

- Stephanie attended the Community Education Session hosted by The Working Centre regarding the Outdoor Shelter that is opening soon in our community. She shared that the intent of the shelter is for it to offer temporary solutions for people experiencing homelessness, and services will be providing on site to assist these temporary residents. **For more information, please visit www.engagewr.ca/outdoor-shelter or email any questions to interhousingsolutions@regionofwaterloo.ca**

(10) Other Business - Hanane suggests allocating 1.5hours for Council Meetings as we are frequently going past the current 1hour meeting time we have been trying to work with.