



Parent Council – Sifton

Meeting Minutes

18 March 2025 / 7:00 PM / Learning Commons

STARTING TIME: 7:02

Attendees : Jody Songhurst, Danielle Braim, Anne McIntosh (note taker), Laura Doyle, Kathleen McLennan, Terry Kennedy

Regrets: Petra Cegiely, Danielle Braim, Tawnya Williamson, Cassie Dey

Introductions

Agenda

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Battle River School Division is located on Treaty 6 territory, and that we respect the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Metis, Inuit and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Old Business

1. **Spring Fundraiser** (Laura) - need to make sure we are filling out the forms for school generated funds.

Fundraiser summary:

- Little Caesars - only have 22-25 orders so far. The Comp just did this so that could be contributing to low numbers. Closes on Sunday. Could try to collect at parent teacher conferences as well for Wednesday and Thursday. If don't sell 100 units then will have to pick up in Edmonton. Reminder being sent out this week.
- Westway Gardens - Run two weeks in April - delivered for May 1st when they open. April 4 is when the newsletter - deadline is April 2.

Action Item - Laura to get the information to put in on Rycor - send to Cheryl - it acts like hot lunch - a \$25.00 gift card option and people can buy as many as they like. Dates April 4-18 and then delivery on April 28th. Potential to send home with the kids or pick up at school. Laura will make newsletter ad as well.

2. Ongoing Fundraisers

- Labels - Loveable labels
- Bottle Depot

3. Carnavale/La Tire

- Update - thanks shared in the March newsletter - 8 bags of ice was lots for turning into La Tire - lots of notes taken on what to do next year! Email with photos and newsletter info sent to Purity Water by Anne. Jody found some notes and put them in our shared drive - for next year - would be good to get a new induction tall pot and/or new burner.

Action item - Purchase a new tall large volume stock pot that is compatible with induction burner - use hot lunch funds for this. Then if need be also get induction burner. Have leftovers that will still be okay for next year.

****Overall a great fun day and lots of volunteers. Coverage in the county booster too.

4. Hot Lunch Update (Cassie shared notes in her absence that we have posted here)

- Teacher appreciation week in May 5-9th - maybe we could arrange to bring in a meal for the teachers on the Friday and volunteers could cover supervision so the staff is able to eat together - I would arrange this with the hot lunch volunteers - can we use our funds though to do this - not sure if it's allowed. Have 28 staff. Potluck as another option.
- Rules around parent-cooked hot lunch items - spaghetti, chili, hot dogs, taco in a bag etc. Could be an opportunity to raise funds without relying on external vendors. This would involve food handling safety needs.

Action item - for next meeting - talk about using some of the funds to buy a hot lunch for everybody. E.g., Subway done previously (did that come out of the nutrition grant?). Used to do hot breakfast and school would open earlier before COVID. Parents would come in and pick. Let's leave that for now. The regulations have become stricter since COVID.

- Would like to purchase juiceboxes and extra disposable utensils as it seems we are often shorted these items. Let's do that - we are in agreement.

Action item - Cassie to share information on what to order with Kathleen and will get that ordered through Superstore.

5. Council of School Councils

- Upcoming sessions: Killam Public School April 15 (can join online). Information was updated on the school website to ensure our parent council is properly noted as April 22 so we don't interfere with this date. They do reimburse mileage. Danielle as a maybe to attend.

6. 2024 ACSE Grant

- Math games night - going to be on May 27th 6:30-7:45. Total cost including fee, taxes and mileage is \$818.25. Remaining amount of expenditure will come from bottle depot funds.

7. Yearbook sales

- Update: have sold 89 yearbooks - if sell 11 more will sell and get a surplus. Can use for something or refund value back to the parents.

Petra shared notes in her absence that we've posted here: I was supposed to give the group an update on the old (retro) yearbook sales. It turns out that Principal McLennan asked me NOT to advertise the OLD yearbook sale until this year's yearbook sale was completed. We don't want people to get mixed up! I think the deadline to purchase a 2024-25 yearbook is March 21, so I will make an announcement to advertise the sale of the few remaining old yearbooks for the April newsletter.

New Business

1. Wishlist

- a. Update: Kathleen shared information on a parent council funding survey.
 - Gym timer and clock - for example is something that everyone agrees. Lots of customization on the fancy one that is of interest.
 - Art programming - looms, kiln would gather dust - but art kits for stitching things like that would be money better spent.
 - Also increasing the number of chromebooks or pods of chromebooks.
 - Others: Musician in residence. Playground equipment - e.g., Terry at previous school bought color coordinated equipment - particular color for a particular year - e.g, soccer balls, frisbees, - you know which grade left it out and have to work to get it back. When purchase equipment and they disappear... the color coding helped with ownership and care.
 - It more so matters what the parents want given lack of direction.

Action item: come up with list of what things cost and then make some decisions - vote on what we want to support.

Prizes for the roar draw at the end of year - lots of purchases in the past - it was a lot of Sarah purchasing thing - 2 scooters, footballs, books, etc - launch into summer. ?\$300 - probably comfortable donating around \$400

Action item: Vote/decide on prize budget next meeting.

2. Food allergy awareness week/month (Tamsin)

- Tamsin wasn't here so can move this to a future meeting.

Additional action item for next time - look at current hot lunch profit margin - make sure it's not too high.

3. Kindergarten recruitment

- Update- Pre-school event was on the coldest day in March and very cold. Another event on May 14th. Division has an event on May 9 - for those already registered. We will follow the next week - try and promote the English program - they don't know we have English program - boundaries - usually is County kids and South side park. English catchment has been really small.

Principals Report (Kathleen)

- Ownership month (March) with story reading together, daily announcements, and activity at end of month
- April will be Respect
- Basketball season finished
- Moving into next year we're looking at ways to add dedicated social emotional learning (SEL) time to the timetable
- Single night - one long night of parent teacher council - sending out for QR code about this - another option could be also to facilitate having on Zoom.
- Stakeholder and Alberta Education Assurance Surveys
- Audio equipment repairs - broken pieces were fixed with no cost to the school.

Trustee Update

No trustees came so no update

Action Items

1. Please see sections above (labeled with blue font) for actions prior to next meeting
2. April email will be sent Apr 4 - deadline for information to Mme Grant by Apr 2!

Next Meeting: April 22; 7:00pm

Upcoming meetings:

- May 20
- Jun 17

ENDING TIME: 7:47 pm