

Kanata Highlands Public School

School Council Meeting

Minutes of Meeting – December 5th, 2017

Location: KHPS Library
 Time: 7:05 – 9:15 pm

MEETING CALLED BY	Shari Fisher & Spencer Callaghan Co-Chairs School Council
TYPE OF MEETING	KHPS School Council Meeting
SECRETARY	Collette Twyford and Aiza Saqalain
ATTENDEES	Parents of students attending KHPS Shannon Jorgensen - Teaching Staff Representative Pauline McKenna – Principal

Parent Members Present

Anthony Rumsey	Jen Chandler	My-Lien Bosch
Christine Yakimovich	Jessika Mears-Mason	Shannon Clarke
Collette Twyford	Jihane Hoummady	Shari Fisher
Devinder Kaur Trehan	Katie Robb	Spencer Callaghan
Fiona Pingyin	Mary Falzon-Sultana	Trina Simmonds
Jason Sadrian	Meghan Schuler	

Regrets

Aiza Saqalain	Anna Cole	Bushra Fazal
Catherine Birch	Dana Platias	Minzah Rizvi

Item 1 – Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

Shari Fisher

Item 2 – Approval of November 7, 2017 agenda

Shari Fisher

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No hot lunch update – Item 7 struck from the agenda Shari moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Spencer
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Item 3 – Acceptance of October 3, 2017 Minutes & Action Items

Shari Fisher

DISCUSSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action item 5 (information on McDonald's fundraising) to be moved to January Shari moved to approve the minutes and action items as amended; seconded by Spencer.
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Item 4 – Principal’s Report

Pauline McKenna

DISCUSSION	<p>1. Equity and Inclusivity</p> <p>All our grade 2 and 2/3 class participated on field trip to visit various places of worship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- visit at the temple (Hindu Temple of Ottawa Carleton: 4835 Bank street)- visit at the church (Bell’s Corners United Church: 3955 Old Richmond Rd)- visit at the mosque (Jami Omar Mosque: 3990 Old Richmond Rd) <p>Linked to learning through social studies - part of our grade 2 curriculum is to learn and explore different cultures, traditions and celebrations.</p> <p>*From Social Studies Curriculum, 2013:</p> <p>A3.2-identify some different groups in their community (e.g., various religious and ethnocultural groups), and describe some of the ways in which they contribute to diversity in Canada (e.g., different languages, foods, music, clothing, holidays; ethnic neighborhoods with specialized shops and restaurants)</p> <p>A3.4-describe some significant traditions and celebrations of their families, their peers, and their own communities, as well as of some other communities in Canada (e.g., fall fairs; faith holidays such as Easter, Passover, Eid ul-Fitr; special days such as Remembrance Day, Canada Day, National Aboriginal Day, Kwanzaa, Earth Day; religious ceremonies; ethno cultural festivals)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The event was a huge success and students and parents came back with glowing remarks about the opportunity to learn from our communities; a great example of how we are teaching our students/community about equity and Being Open. :) <p>2. No official holiday celebration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Kinders are gathering on Dec. 13th; doing a sing song with students maybe Dec. 18th and celebration of learning on Dec. 21; lead by students <p>3. School Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- from City of Ottawa re: traffic light and safety concerns; see email- Update on school facility - lights being installed along front of school; one has been installed others are on backorder- Painting from Jan 2 - 5th will happen in several of our empty classrooms to improve the quality of paint in the school; over time we hope to repaint most of the school- Update on budget - little change - Cindy has spent the last 95.00 on setting up a green space for filming.- Resources in school<ul style="list-style-type: none">close to \$10,000 on booksclassroom libraries \$6500library \$1000 (chapters event) + \$3500 (school budget) <p>4. Solar panels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Solar panels are undergoing placement on the school roof, so there is some noise but kept to a minimum. The idea is to give power to the school from solar sources.
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- A question was asked about how much power will be supplied and where the extra power if any will be distributed. The answer is undetermined at the moment until solar power panels are up and running.

I wish you all the best wishes for the holiday season and for those celebrating Merry Christmas.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and efforts on behalf of the Kanata Highlands community.

Parent discussion:

- A parent asked about the construction explosions that are ongoing. Pauline said there is a noise monitor in the building which the janitor is watching daily to ensure levels are within acceptable measures. So far it has not been any problem.
- A parent asked about the presence of flies around the school. Pauline said that the flies are now gone and are not a hazard to health nor a symptom of anything suspicious simply nature visiting.
- A parent asked about the main doors popping open and if there was a pressure issue in the school. Pauline responded that there was a pressure issue in the school which sometimes caused the main doors to not close fully and the school was looking into having this addressed.

Item 5- Teachers Report

Shannon Jorgensen

Student Learning Plan (SLP)

Identifying the Multi Grade Needs and Whole School Needs of KHPS in order to have skills which can carry over into each grade of school for a student and creating a framework to support the approach to learning at every age.

The two areas of need are problem solving and math facts.

1) Problem Solving. (STAR)

In the area of Problem solving the school uses the acronym S.T.A.R.

S = STOP

T = THINK

A = ACT

R = REVIEW

At all grade levels students are encouraged to follow the acronym as a frame work to build upon for approaching problem solving.

Stop - read the problem or listen to the teacher explain it

- at the junior level Stop may include underlining key words in the question

Think - think about what the question is asking and how it can be solved

- e.g. a number line, a picture

Act - follow your plan or apply a strategy to resolve the question.

DISCUSSION

Review – review carefully: did you a) answer the question, b) explain the answer, c) label, provide units, etc.

- Edit work for neatness, strategies used and any errors.



2) Math Facts.

Number facts are basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculations that children should try to be comfortable with.

Examples of Number facts being

Adding zero to a number

number pairs resulting in 10

6+4, 7+3, 8+2

Double digit multiplications and addition. 3x3, 5x5

It is important to enlist Parents' help for this student learning plan.

Teachers encourage parents to review Math Facts at home on a continuous basis to reinforce lessons at school. Number pairs to ten and multiplication need consistency and practice on a daily basis.

Making change at the grocery store, games which involve number skills are recommended. Discussion of multiplication facts while having dinner or driving to activities can be a fun and useful way to help reinforce number facts and also demonstrate their everyday usefulness.

Some parents remarked that it was good to know that these STAR strategies are something that can be used at every grade level and age group.

It was also mentioned by several parents on the night that the slide show provided a user friendly version of curriculum expectation at grade levels as parents find the current curricula online a little difficult to follow. Shannon said that an email about this SLP will be sent out to parents with the slide show samples in order to help parents reinforce the STAR program going forward.

Item 6 - Treasurer's Update

Jason Sadrian

DISCUSSION	<p>KHPS Council Funds \$9308 KHPS TD account \$8647 Cashless schools account. \$16,900 Total</p> <p>Total of this amount does not include 3 weeks of Pizza payments nor movie night fund requirements.</p> <p>Shari mentioned that no additional insurance is required for KHPS upcoming movie night as current school insurance was sufficient for the event.</p> <p>6.1 Allocations for Snow Toys Fiona Pingyin</p> <p>Request for snow toys for play yard. Discussion around purchase of better quality sleds instead of yearly replacement and the fact that they are popular toy of choice for students.</p> <p>Allocation of \$200 last year - suggestion of \$400 allocation this year</p> <p><i>Shari called a vote on the allocation of up to \$400 for snow toys for play yard - All in favour</i></p> <p>Other Jihane requested \$200 for a float for the movie night Funds were already allocated at the previous meeting, therefore no allocation necessary.</p>
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Item 8 Fund Raising Updates

Kate Robb & My-Lien Bosch

DISCUSSION	<p>8.1 Insurance Update. Shari Fisher</p> <p>Base school council insurance covers low risk activities that are typical for a school council (e.g. bake sales, movie nights, etc.) Additional insurance is required for medium-high risk activities that are not "usual" school council activities (e.g. bouncy castles). Certain high risk activities would not be covered at all Events which involved activities such as inflatables would require extra coverage should such items arise during trips. If Pauline (or her designate) is on the grounds it can be considered a school event (board preference is that it be a school event because the insurance is better)</p> <p>In any case, we need to seek to mitigate risk (e.g. warning (no running); identifying exists and washrooms; covering cords; etc.).</p> <p>For parents driving kids to school events such a Borden Ball the school board insurance covers what your own individual insurance does not.</p> <p>8.2 Movie Night - Katie Robb</p> <p>123 have signed up for movie night so far. Katie pointed out that many can show up on the night too and hopefully should that happen food will be sufficient.</p>
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There was still a shortage of volunteers for the night if anyone was free and could manage to come even for a short time and the beginning especially as people arrive. Ideally 7 more volunteers required. An email will be sent out asking for volunteers also.

8.3 Future Events

1. Bingo Night

Date: Feb 9 to be confirmed

- "Goods Bingo" Theme so importance is placed on getting prizes for the night.
- Katie Robb's father is a bingo caller and has agreed to help
- Question about if licence was needed for the night? - to look into
- Tables for the night number about 15 to 20 on school grounds with Trina offering 3 tables from her home.
- A canteen/ refreshments stand also planned for the night.
- Discussion around the type of Bingo books needed on the night with prices on the card plus cards for Adults and Kids
- 10 prizes needed as there will be ten games
- A break during the games after game 5 is planned.
- If possible volunteers might ask sponsors for donations of prizes for Bingo and the End of year party.
- Logos of sponsor could be placed on Bingo Cards.

2. International Dance Night

Time 630pm to 830pm

Date June 22nd or April 13th tbd

Meagan Schuler questioned whether we were remaining conscious of our goals and priorities and whether having too many might be too much for both parents and volunteers. A discussion ensued in which it was determined that if parent members weren't feeling too taxed with the number of events we should proceed (there was a desire to not burn anyone out) and that we might want to be mindful in planning for next year so that we try to get the most for our time commitments both as parents and volunteers.

Shannon Jorgenson mentioned that Students wanted to "pitch an idea " to the Council regarding "Dance for a difference" and queried whether the Council was open for the students to present a pitch around thus topic.

Shari also pointed out the need to use Pro Grant money when planning events for the rest of the school year.

3. End of Year

Date : June 22nd tentative date. An email will be sent out to all relevant chairs to confirm booking.

Katie also mentioned that the Junk Yard Symphony may be available to book and she will look into doing this over the break as they book up quickly.

Trina Simmonds suggested that parents with unwanted Christmas gifts are welcome to donate them to the school for Bingo night and End of Year party prizes. A small gift basket could be made up of a collection of any small gifts donated. She suggested that perhaps if each member of the council brought in just one item it would make a big difference and be welcomed no matter how small.

Item 9- Communications Update

Spencer Callaghan and Jihane Hoummady

DISCUSSION	<p>9.1 Traffic Coordination on Terry Fox Road.</p> <p>Spencer read out his letter to Marianne Wilkinson regarding traffic on Terry Fox. All were in agreement with its content with just a small correction noted about the exact road name in the email.</p> <p>Pauline contacted several agencies regarding painting of School Zone on the Road or reduced speed limits signs all of which were turned down due to costs and practicality. There is a possibility of putting an electronic speed notice board in front of the school in order to encourage drivers to be more mindful of their speeds while passing by. This plan is not confirmed yet.</p> <p>Action Item: Spencer to forward this letter on the Council's behalf to Marianne.</p>
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Item 10- Learning Together Initiatives

Shari Fisher

DISCUSSION	<p>Shari had some updates on two of the events suggested in the previous meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Math Night is <u>not an option</u> as the event is about being sneaky with math so kids would not be able to participate• Learning Styles is an option for grade 3 to 6 mainly. Costing \$500 to \$750; Dates are flexible• Spelling workshop proposed by presenter as alternative to math night – could be done as parents and students Costing: \$500 to \$750; dates are flexible• Paint night is also still an option; however numbers are limited (only 40 people at a time) and could be a factor against it. \$10 for paint night supplies per person. Dates for this are flexible.• Bullying A parent had suggested a workshop on this topic Shari contacted Child, Adolescent and Family Centre of Ottawa – they don't currently have workshop but it's possible to create something if we are interested Cost would be \$1000 for a 2 hour workshop <p>Parents agreed to start with the Learning Styles workshop and consider other options at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action item: Shari to confirm with presenter availability for January 25th; how long and how many can participate</p>
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Item 11 - New Business

Shari Fisher

DISCUSSION	11.1 Parent Workshop and School Council Training Day Due to time constraints Shari will discuss the Parent Workshop and School Council Training at the January meeting
	11.2 January meeting date Given that the 1 st Tuesday of January is January 2 nd , Shari proposed that the date of the next meeting be scheduled for January 9 th instead. All members present were in favour of the change.

**Shari moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Spencer.
Meeting adjourned 9.15 p.m.**

ACTION ITEMS – 2017-2018

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	STATUS
1	Purchase of Gloves and Napkins for Hot Lunches program	Anna Cole and Fiona Pingyin	December	CLOSED
2	Set up email volunteering forms for future events	My-Lien Bosch	December	CLOSED
3	Prepare a letter from School Council to Marianne Wilkinson regarding safety concerns at crossing on Terry Fox	Spencer Callaghan	January	OPEN
4	Prepare a template letter to be shared with parents to email to Marianne Wilkinson regarding safety concerns at crossing on Terry Fox	Spencer Callaghan	January	OPEN
5	Get more information on a fundraising event at McDonald's or another restaurant in the area	Minzah Rizvi	January	OPEN
6	Get more information about tailoring learning styles to lower grades and on paint night costs and logistics	Shari Fisher	December	CLOSED
7	Get more information on whether additional insurance is necessary and if so, how much	Spencer Callaghan	December	CLOSED
8	Confirm availability of Learning Styles presenter for Jan 25	Shari Fisher	January	CLOSED