

# 13th November 2018 Hopewell Avenue PS Council Minutes

**Attendance:** Daphne Dumbrille, Debbie Gomes Schultz, Claire Kerry, Martina Sherwood; Trish Stogran, Fran Morrison, Petra Heitkamp, Mike Waddington, Caitlin McIlveen, Heather Barnett, Allison Kelley, Stephanie McNeely, Dara Spate Freidman, Marni Kagan, Virginia Asante, Mike Stewart, Colin Caird and Erik Van der Torre

Regrets: Tanya Trevors, Saira David and Maggie Fawcett

## 1. Welcome, Approval of the Agenda, Approval of October 2018 minutes

October minutes approved by: Mike Stewart; Seconded by: Allison Kelley. Carried.

## 2. Principal's report (Martina Sherwood)

Progress Reports went home on November 8<sup>th</sup> and parent consultations will be taking place this Thursday evening and Friday morning. Our goal continues to be to give parents an overview of how their child is progressing in parent-friendly language. The Progress Report is not a final assessment, it is a discussion of their progress at this point.

Budget presentation and sharing of draft Team Wishlists. Both School Budget and School Generated Funds were discussed.

School budget allocation from the School Board is based on enrolment. This was projected at 879 students in the school but actually is 843, so School Board will ask for some budget allocation to be returned.

Budget lines reviewed to account for the \$58 875 school budget (for example, photocopying, books, renovations, office and PD supplies, furniture and equipment)

There is a multi-year financing carry forward debt (we are in year 3 or 4 of that) \$12,000.

In addition to basic School Budget, there is an allocation for Music Repairs and Consumables and School Supplies

\$8000 has been committed to tech to get classes up to 6 Chrome books per class.

\$18000 has been allocated for photocopying

Occasional Teachers budget \$101, 500 once this is used then it comes from a central allowance.

School Generated Funds (SGF). A live budget for students field trips e.g. Quebec city, milk program contributes. SGF must be spent on items that directly support students funds in this area can be used to purchase technology/phys-ed equipment.

School fees. Families very good about supporting this voluntary contribution. Kinder \$1669 Primary \$3123, Junior \$2717 Intermediate \$1689. This will be less once paid for agendas (Grade 3 onwards) This has been a better amount than previous years.

Staff provided Wish list items for their allocation of funds from School Council.

Some of wish list were things voluntary school fees pay for but teachers felt they would need more than the school fees generated,

## 3. VP / Teacher Report (Trish Stogran / Caitlin McIlveen)

### VP Report

Bus evacuation practice normally happens for all bussed in students. This year it will be conducted for all students. Teachers will show a video to students prior to the day of the evacuation practice. A mix of older kids and younger kids. This will happen on Tuesday 20th November. Link to be sent to the video in Friday email.

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Positive feedback on the hydro electricity safety presentation that took place earlier in the School year.

Play structures are now closed due to the ground being frozen.

Remembrance day services/assembly went very well.

Trish announced that she will be retiring at the end of December. She stated that she has enjoyed her time at Hopewell very much, but also excited to enjoy her family that will be growing - in the spring she is expecting her first grandchild.

## Teacher Report

Caitlin described some of the many activities that are taking place in the school.

Intermediate volley ball inter-murals.

Grade 7/8 to help with primary games.

Grace Kennedy - Students who knew veterans shared their stories on Remembrance day.

Snowsuit drive for Charles Hulse School is happening again this year – high population of new immigrants/regugees who are in need of warm winter clothing; new/gently used clothing is needed - more information will be supplied via weekly email from school.

Writing club for grade 5 - 8 has started.

Book club grade ¾ is happening; they are currently reading The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe.

Kinder classes elephants/alligators had City workers come in to do a session on Bridges, kids designed their own bridges!

## **4. Yard committee report (Mike Waddington)**

### **Yard committee**

Sent a card to say thank you to “The Dreamers” (a local group of gardeners who volunteer their time to tend to public garden spaces) for helping clean up outside areas of school they featured this in their newsletter.

Yard Clean Up didn’t happen due to the inclement weather

Virginia and Stephanie presented their project for the kinder yard.

Last year they attended a “Greening the Yard” workshop hosted by the school Board.

Drainage and lack of shade play structure are main concerns, The yard is very tiny for the number of bodies running around! Any renovation is to be a phased approach, the play structure has plenty of life 2/3 years.

There is a need to recruit parents that have kids that are coming through kindergarten. Need to figure out what the project would include, the workshop they attended encouraged participants to consult with the Kinder children.

Will need a fundraising drive for project.

*Question.* Do we have a sense of how much of the drainage issue can be fixed without the removal of the play structure. *Answer* this is not clear.

Suggested that University students might be able to provide innovative solutions, we should tap into this resource.

*Question* Is there any funding from EDP? *Answer* Glebe parents day care leases the space - They paid for the renovation of the rooms for the toddler program in the basement and the shed in the Kinder yard.

*Question* Can the sand toys be shared *Answer* This information is in the lease and we will look into it.

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In the primary yard fundraising, it was key to show the accessibility and should be community yard, open outside during out of school hours, Questions raised on Do the EDP have the right to kick parents out of the yard. Need to consider what that means for after hours play.

Initial meeting to go ahead with Dan Fournier and then discussions with kinder classes.

The School Board Trustee is someone who might be useful to engage. Board does have money for outside improvements so it's useful to find out what the amount is and how funds might be allocated.

## 5. Treasurer's Report (Allison Kelley)

No report due to end of financial year

## Budget Proposal (Erik)

Erik presented previous Budget for 16/17 and 17/18 and actual for 17/18

Opening balance of \$17k looks high because large amount allocated for Grass Yard improvements to be carried over.

Pizza, Subway and Mazzola projection, based on first couple of months, is \$20k. We have a higher projection than last year because pizza prices were raised due to Panago's higher costs and parents are now paying their PayPal fees.

Grocery coupon sales kept at \$2k. Last year we conducted two drives, as felt there was going to short fall so went with a second drive. If need be we could do a second grocery card drive.

Council applied for a Pro grant (A grant from the province for parent involvement initiatives e.g. mindfulness presentation) but the province might cancel this grant.

Ski/skate and Bike Sale are expected to happen but we need to be mindful that if volunteers are not available they will not happen.

Kirsty Hanna indicated that she will run the 67s & Fury fundraisers (expected that OSEG will sell us tickets for \$10, we sell them for \$15).

Snack pack replacement fundraiser: A parent suggested that we get rid of snack packs sold with hot lunches due to environmental impact and agreement to offset the loss and hold a fundraiser to raise approximately \$1000.

Movie night - run by diversity committee the purpose is to have a community building event and not meant to raise money.

Yard Expenses: Approved by previous council: \$10k, Maintenance contract pre-approved, Watering contract for the new trees. Allocated \$4k for future kinder yard. - saving for the yard good for communicating for fundraising that we have some money set aside.

12k for Divisions: previously divided evenly by the four divisions, but this year proposing to allocate based on number of students in each division.

Phys ed. equipment allocated \$1k

Library allocated \$2k

Principal's "say yes" allocation is for something that is too good to say no to (e.g. a speaker available for limited time): \$1k

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Safe and caring initiatives allocated \$4k

Grade 5 cross country annual ski trip: \$2500 more students in grade 5 this year so we may need to increase that fund.

peanut free cake line is going into the Graduation fund.

Staff appreciation gift: no one retired last year so money not spent.

Staff appreciation will be a lunch instead of breakfast.

Grade 8 Grad: \$500.

Photocopy budget the same.

A new safe is required to be in the office for school council to deposit funds raised: \$400

Voting members of Council

**Co-chairs:**

1. Deborah Gomes Schultz
2. Daphne Dumbille

**Treasurers:**

3. Allison Kelley
4. Colin Caird

**Secretary:**

5. Claire Kerry

**Parent Reps:**

6. Petra Heitkamp
7. Fran Morrison
8. Tanya Trevors
9. Patrick Hunter
10. Kristy Hannah
11. Marni Kagan

**Yard Committee:**

12. Mike Waddington (Chair)
13. Katie Breen

**Safe and Caring Committee:**

14. Heather Barrett (Chair)

**Members at Large:**

15. Maggie Fawcett
16. Jeannine Hall
17. Erik Van der Torre
18. Mike Stewart

**Teacher Rep**

19. Caitlin McIlveen

Motion passed for approving the budget.

## 6. Inclusive, Safe and Caring committee report (Heather Barrett)

Inclusive Safe and Caring Committee should line up with the school's wellbeing plan. New committee will be called Safe and Accepting School Team. Team will include students (when appropriate), a community member (which will be Heather, since she doesn't have a child attending Hopewell at the moment), a teacher, the principal and others.

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Upcoming event in January: All Grade 8s will benefit from a five week workshops from Hopewell Eating Disorder Support Centre (<http://www.hopewell.ca/>) - topics to be covered include positive body image, respect in relationships and mental wellness.

Training series "Parenting, Attachment and Collaborative problem solving" provided by Churches in the neighbourhood, not a Religious event but the space to hold the events is in neighbourhood churches. Workshops are free of charge for the community by the community. Speakers are Denise De Latt and Phil Ritchie.

Pro Grant - this money is not coming. If there are issues that are up coming that parents would benefit from sessions on and you know speakers that are "free" please contact the School Council.

Next Movie Night - January 24th Thursday (PD day on the Friday)

### **7. Division Rep Report - Petra H.**

Teacher reps have been introduced to Division Reps.

Marni (Intermediate Rep) was contacted by Kelly Adams who wanted to conduct a presentation to parents on "how to pick a sports coach". Consensus by council and school administration was that it wasn't a fit for the school. School Council is approached many organizations to promote their events and the blanket approach is usually to say "no" as it's not appropriate for council to promote individuals. Marni will contact Kelly Adams to thank her for the offer but we will have to decline.

Unfilled committee positions

1. Allgery rep
2. Ottawa Carlton Assembly of School Councils Rep.

### **8. Other Business**

Deb attended OCASC's monthly meeting where they discussed the Board's plan to update their 5 Year Strategic Plan. Deb wanted to let people know the Board is reaching out to parents to get their ideas for the Plan and the Board will host a community conversation called "Building Brighter Futures Together" using "ThoughtExchange", an online discussion tool that allows parents, staff, students and community members to have a conversation about learning and well-being. You can find information on the OCDSB's website.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th December.**