
School Council Meeting Minutes

Abraham Erb Public School

November 21, 2018 - School Library 7pm

Members Present: Alison P., Amy W., Becky L., Carolyn M., Deb B., Jennifer K., Karen H., Kelly S., Lan W., Lee R., Leena S. (Minutes), Megha M., Melinda H., Sheila S., Tamara C., Tracy M., Vera J.,

Absent: Amanda I., Anuvarna, Dan L., Deji S., Farzana D., Jing X., Julie I., Vaidhehi K.

Guests (signed in only): None

Agenda item: Welcome and October Action Items Presenter: Jennifer K.

Discussion:

- JK motioned to approve October minutes, CM seconded motion. All were in favour.
- Karen and Lan were officially acclaimed members by unanimous vote.
- JK reviewed action items from October minutes. The following were complete:
 - Website updated with School Council Roles and Meeting Minutes.
 - Review guidelines for funding classroom supplies .
 - Review teacher wish list.
 - Post EQAO results - available on EQAO website.
 - Discuss need for more ukuleles.
 - Send out volunteer sign up list for book fair. (Julie sent using doodle)
 - Review and offer feedback on school Newsletter.
- The opt-out letter will go out on Monday pending decisions of this meeting.
- Brainstorming ideas have been summarized and on the agenda for this meeting.

Decisions:

- 2 more parent members (Karen H. and Lan W.) were acclaimed by a unanimous vote.
- September minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Action Items:

	Person Responsible:	Deadline:
<input type="checkbox"/> Send school day message with location of minutes.	JK	Dec 19
<input type="checkbox"/> Investigate spirit wear options to present to council.	DB	Dec 19
<input type="checkbox"/> Send opt-out letter.	Megha	Dec 3

Agenda item: Treasurer's Report Presenter: Carolyn M.

Discussion:

- CM reported that we have \$16,801.55 with everything reconciled and up-to-date.

Decisions:

- Accept Treasurer's report as submitted.

Agenda item: Principal's Report

Presenter: Heather

Discussion:

- Today was the first full day in the full portable. All went smoothly.
- Gratitude assembly was led by Mrs. Wentworth this month.
- Mr. Maloney and Mrs. Watson will be sharing mindfulness practices for next assembly (Nov 26), calming bin activities will be shared for the month in classrooms.
- Progress reports and interviews were completed last week.
- We had a moving remembrance day assembly; a Veteran came in to do teachings with grade 5/6, great messages of peace offered through a personal connection, choir sang, artwork from classes was shared.
- Donations for food drive were received, a big thank you from HS. Continuing to get warm winter clothing in for the drive.
- School board has approved moving phase 2 of the boundary study earlier from 2020 and will happen now instead. This means that we are looking at where our grade 6s will transition for grade 7 in September 2019. Options are Vista Hills or Laurelwood. JK and CM are on the working group for Abraham Erb starting in December and there will be opportunities for feedback. Decision will be made by spring for September.
- In discussions and working with constable David Chen as well as community, bylaw officers for parking issues, parking resource office to work on issues with parking in fire route.
- David Chen making connections with students in a positive way and will be back in December to do a presentation on being a good citizen on the internet.
- Trips this month: outdoor ed, music concert, safety village.
- Jr volleyball club wrapping up and intramurals on-going.
- SK parents received info on french immersion nights in November. Registration info coming for the New Year.
- Human Society will be visiting classes Dec 10 & 11
- Winter Variety Show is Dec 20 at 12pm.
- Little jammers will be returning for the ukulele program, starting in January, once a week during the breaks.
- Mad science registration will be starting Jan 21.
- This year the school will partnering with stem robotics to offer nutrition break programs for grade 1-3.

Important Dates:

- ☐ December 20 - Winter Variety Show @ 12pm

Agenda item: Goals & Objectives for 2018/2019

Presenter: Jennifer K.

Discussion:

- JK shared draft budget from last year's discussion.
- 2 fundraisers coming up that will generate (as an estimate): book fair \$1500, opt out letter \$3000 (120 families @ \$25)
- Art night was supposed to get pro grant, but no longer an option, need \$1500 to run this event
- Greening school property and outdoor classroom areas \$2000

- If we commit to all teacher requests then after the fun fair there would still be \$12K as an estimate
- JK shared revised list of teacher requests which included (details in appendix 3):
 - class set of ukuleles (32)
 - books to support math concepts
 - books for french
 - kindergarten puzzles and building sets
 - Scientists in School
- JK suggested reviewing alternatives to SiS since we've always just done it without exploring other options. Many others agreed.
- No technology in budget was noted and HS explained that the board is exploring equity for technology. There is a freeze on purchases to IT and a system wide IT budget. The board has taken a percentage of budget from each school with the goal to have a chrome book for every 2 students.
- DB highlighted that more requests could come later and at the point we might need to actively fundraise should there not be enough funds.
- JK motioned for approval of teacher requests as a block (total), Sheila seconded. All voted in favour of approving teacher requests.
- JK reviewed poll results of brainstorming ideas from last meeting about what other things parent council could do. Regardless of poll results if you love an idea and want to volunteer and support it, please run with it and bring it back to council. Ideas that were really liked: multicultural days, sports, anxiety and mental health speaker, Parent Community Facebook page, lunch program aside from pizza, parent volunteers who can translate. JK wanted to vote on ideas and select volunteers to lead these, investigate or flush out ideas. These don't require budget since they would recover themselves.
- Multicultural days throughout the year on hold. The idea was liked but no one volunteered to investigate.
- Anxiety and mental health speaker, Sheila suggested Dr. Templeman, PIC funding still available. Joining with another school was also an idea. Sheila will investigate for next Council meeting.
- Sports (on hold). The idea was liked but no one volunteered to investigate.
- PTA Facebook page → Parent Newsletter covers it, more use of twitter is occurring, idea will be monitored by JK.
- Nutrition, alternative lunches to pizza → Kelly, Leena to investigate.
- Parent volunteers or list of parents who can translate even on the phone (on hold). Again the idea was liked but no one volunteered to investigate.
- Trustee speaker to be investigated by JK.

- Heather noted that there will be a science fair in March!
- Next meeting Dec 19th.
- CM motioned for budget for \$1500 for arts night, seconded by kelly.
- DB to help on committee

Decisions:

- Teacher's wish list approved unanimously (see details in appendix).
- \$1500 in budget for Arts night and approved unanimously by vote.

Action Items:

- Investigate Anxiety and Mental Health Speaker
- Investigate Trustee Speaker
- Investigate Nutrition: alternative lunches

Person Responsible:

SS
JK
LM & KS

Deadline:

Dec 19
Dec 19
Dec 19

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:10pm

APPENDIX #1: Log of Open Action Items

Noted: Closed items are only noted here if the item was in open status at the beginning of the meeting

Action	Person Responsible	Deadline	Status	Meeting Raised
Post minutes/handbook to School Day and post council roles with names to school website	Jennifer / Heather	Next meeting	CLOSED	Jan 18
Look at any opportunities for greening and possible grants	Jennifer	Dec 19	OPEN	May 18
Draft Opt out/ Donation Letter to be ready in September	Megha / Jennifer	Dec 3	IN PROGRESS	June 18
Investigate possible suppliers and pricing for school shirts	Deb	Dec 19	OPEN	Sept 18
Review funding guidelines	Jennifer	Nov 14	CLOSED	Oct 17
Resubmit teacher wish list for review	Heather	Nov 14	CLOSED	Oct 17
Post EQAO results both school and board for grades 3 and 6	Heather	Next meeting	CLOSED	Oct 17
Discuss need for more than 16 ukuleles and if a class set can be ordered	Heather	Next meeting	CLOSED	Oct 17
Summarize ideas from goals & objectives activity and e-mail to council	Jennifer	Oct 23	CLOSED	Oct 17
Review ideas summary and prepare to discuss and vote at next meeting	Everyone	Nov 21	CLOSED	Oct 17
Request for book fair volunteers to be sent out and invitation for teachers to create wish lists for their classrooms	Julie	Nov 21	CLOSED	Oct 17
Review School Council Newsletter and provide feedback, if any	Everyone	Nov 21	CLOSED	Oct 17
Send School Day message with location of minutes and agendas	Jennifer	Dec 19	OPEN	Nov 21
Investigate idea for mental health and anxiety speaker	Sheila	Dec 19	OPEN	Nov 21

Investigate additional lunch options for purchase	Kelly / Leena	Dec 19	OPEN	Nov 21
Investigate idea for Trustee Speaker	Jennifer	Dec 19	OPEN	Nov 21

APPENDIX #2: Summary of Financial Decisions at this meeting

Amount	Item	Date of Approval	School Year
\$8,715	Teacher Wish List	November 21, 2018	2018-2019
\$1,500	Arts Night	November 21, 2018	2018-2019

APPENDIX #3: School Council Approved Spending

Teacher Wish Lists

Math

\$500 – to buy picture books that support Math concepts (all students)

French

Sets of Levelled texts to support primary French immersion – supplement resources

\$109.95 – GB+ Nouveaux Lecteurs Niveaux 2/3

\$1264.95 – Megatrousse Ensemble de 4 X 36 livrets niveaux 3-5

\$934.35 – Serie Magneta Niveaus 1 et 2

Music

Class set of ukuleles

32 X 42.95 = \$1,374.40

Kindergarten (for all classes)

4 Puzzles = \$74.96

4 Games = \$126.95

Building materials 3 sets = \$229.97

School Wide

Scientists in the School 21 X 195 = \$4,095