

Stonehaven Elementary School Council Meeting Minutes

Character Matters in our School and Community

Monday, December 4, 2017 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Paul Oabel (Principal)	Shameela Shakeel (Chair)	Cathy Miles (Vice Chair)	Aliya Syed (Secretary)
Kara Bilo (Treasurer)	Lesley Mercer (Staff)	Ann-Marie Hulse (Staff)	Celine Morrow
Evelyn Morgan	Michelle DeBoer	Julie Brenner-King	Karin Larkan-Hill

Regrets: Susan Wansbrough (VP); Roni Silbershatz

Principal and Vice-Principal's Report:

- **Busy time of year** – Staff, students, and parents have been busy with curriculum, sports and activities.
- **Sports** – Intermediate volleyball season has come to an end. Junior Volleyball is still going on with practices, after school matches, and the area tournaments this month.
- **Gifted Testing** – Students in grade 3 completed the first level test to identify those who are gifted.
- **Buddy Benches** – Application submitted and approved by Superintendent. Requested cement foundation to protect both benches, and will be labelled “Stonehaven ES Buddy Bench.” There will be a kick-off assembly when benches arrive.
- **Intermediate Trips** – School staff are planning overnight trips for students in Grades 7 and 8; Dates and destinations are to be determined.
- **Winter Concert** – Will take place December 13 at 6:30pm. Includes majority of primary grades with the help of music teacher, Miss. Marques.
- **Clubs** – Drumming Club allows students to practice drumming and members will be performing at Voices of Africa in March. Colouring Club has also been successful. Both clubs address positive mental health and calming anxiety.
- **High School Transition** – Grade 8 students going through course selection for high school. Will be attending the School of Rock show at Newmarket High School.
- **Partnerships** – York Region Police Officer talks to intermediate and senior students about Internet safety, violence, and much more.

The Hub (Library):

More iPads have been ordered, and foam drones will float and hover inside. The green screen is being used in different ways by all grades and students are coding. Parents are encouraged to follow the blog to see what is going on in the hub: www.stonehavenhub.wordpress.com.

Here is a short list of activities:

- **STEM Minds (Mondays)** – Primary age program is coming to an end. Opportunity to book a field trip in 2018 for grades 5 and 6. Next STEM program is for students in Grades 3-8 from January through April.
- **Milk Bag Weaving (Tuesdays)** – All prep and weaving is done by students and will continue throughout the entire school year. In 45 minutes, students are able to complete one mattress. Mattresses will be

sent wherever there is a need. Also making pillows. Two staff members, Ms. Hulse and Ms. Burton, and two parent volunteers, Shameela Shakeel and Lisa Podd, are involved with this initiative.

- **Chess (Wednesdays)** – Several returning and new students participating.
- **Yoga (Thursdays)** – About 12 students participating. Will continue in the new year.

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance as of December 1, 2017 - \$6,913.14
- Actual balance with previous allocations/expenditures - \$4,263.14

MOTION – “I motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as is.”

~ Motion made by Evelyn Morgan, seconded by Celine Morrow, all in favour.

Speaker Series for Parents:

- Successfully hosted Liz Berholz on November 22nd. Topic was Raising Your Parenting Emotional Intelligence (EQ). Received mixed reviews from parents who attended.
- Upcoming Workshops:
 - January 25, 2018. LDAYR Topic: Getting IEP Savvy/How to Advocate for your Child
 - February 22, 2018. “Screenagers” film screening
 - April 17, 2018. Barbara Coloroso Topic: Teaching Kids to Think and Act Ethically
- Babysitting is available for school-aged children
- Please follow Newmarket Parent Network for additional information.

Discussion/Updates:

- **Spirit Wear** – Parents and students have expressed interest in purchasing spirit wear. Printing company has artwork already from last run two years ago. Shameela will look into another order.
- **Chapters Night** – Was a great success. Store staff was impressed with the level of engagement from our school staff and families, and advised that our teaching staff is the most engaged they have seen in all of York Region. Stonehaven ES will receive a Chapters gift card in the amount of \$656, which will be used towards Osmo products and other resources for the library.
- **Metro Green Apple Grant** – Approved for \$1,000 for healthy eating initiative.
- **“Screenagers”** – Interested in showing intermediate students the movie “Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age” from the upcoming Speaker Series for parents. Movie will highlight various topics including the impact of screens on families, loss of humanization, effects of screens on the development of the brain, and more. Parents can see it on the evening of February 22nd.
- **Forest of Reading** – Canada-wide program to encourage reading and to introduce top literature from Canadian authors. Students will vote for their favourite book in different categories. Kindergarten – grade 8 students will participate.
- **Forest School** – Participating Kindergarten classes take a bus to Fairy Lake to explore the outdoors; incorporates science, eco-system, gross motor skills and more.
- **No Frills** – Donating \$25 per month in gift cards; will be collected and used at a later date.

- **Cobs Bread** – Providing coupons for free treats and loaves of bread at the Chapters night. Will continue to provide other treats throughout the school year.
- **Spring Food Drive** – Cobs Bread will support food drive by providing a pizza party to the class that collects the most food items, and a grand prize of hamburgers and hotdog buns for the end of year Fun Fair, for the school who collects the most. Cobs will also provide vouchers to each student who brings a donation from home.
- **Student Drive for Sick Kids** – Our school community is currently collecting change for The Hospital for Sick Children; Students can bring spare change and put in the coin catcher.
- **Allocation of Funds** – Shameela outlined a list of needs that have been identified by school staff.

MOTION – “I motion that School Council allocate \$1,270 for Forest of Reading books, \$1,000 for Snow Tubing, and \$3,000 for new technology through the cost sharing program.”

~ Motion made by Shameela Shakeel, seconded by Evelyn Morgan, all in favour.

A Glimpse at the Year Ahead:

- White Elephant Sale, December 8th – Have started taking donations; everything is \$1.
- Movie Night, January 18th – Will take place the evening before PA Day. Popcorn and water will be sold. Shameela suggested that we show “Moana,” but open to other suggestions.
- Friendship Dance, February 14th – If DJ is used, sales from snacks will go towards cost. Staff would like kids to be active and dancing, and not only interested in eating snacks. Different/more age-appropriate playlist of songs for younger kids was also requested by staff.
- Snow Tubing Trip, February 20th – Full-day event for students in Grades 4 through 8.
- Wellness Day, May 4th – Full-day event for students in Grades 1 through 8.
- Evolve Skateboarding, May 14th through 16th – Sessions for students in Grades 1 through 3.

Reminder of upcoming School Council meeting dates in 2018: **February 5, April 9 and May 7.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm