

Stonehaven Elementary School
Character Matters in our School and Community

School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 5, 2015

Attendance:

Neil Gunathunge (Principal)	Sara Flohil-Purves (Vice-Principal)	Shameela Shakeel (Chair)
Cherylynn Hunt (Treasurer)	Karen Hodgkin (Staff Representative)	Shelley Reid (Council Member)
Barb Whelpley (Council Member)	Andrea Rolfe (Council Member)	Teresa Jacobs (Parent)

Regrets: Trish Bethell, Mary Beth Mercier, Robbie Lai (Council Members)

Absent: Rahila Iqbal

Secretary Assignment: Shameela volunteered to take notes and produce minutes

Approval of Previous Minutes: Completed via email two weeks after the meeting.

Principal Report:

Neil reported that teachers' "Work to Rule" job action will start on May 11th. Evolving communication from the school board will be shared with parents.

Three staff members have announced that they will be retiring: Ms. Lau, Ms. Schielke and Ms. Gillis.

We have a new Superintendent, Drew McNaughton.

There has been positive feedback on Dufflebag Theatre performances and Kindergarten concerts in April.

Music Monday also went well on May 4th.

A new sand pit has been installed at the back of the school.

Recognition assemblies will be held twice a year, starting this June.

Neil outlined the following important upcoming dates for school events:

May 8 th	Jump Rope for Heart
May 11 th	Variety Show
May 12 th & 13 th	Harbourfront Trips for Forest of Reading Program
May 13 th & 20 th	Welcome to Kindergarten evening & in-class programs (about 50 new JK students)
May 19 th	Volunteer Tea in School Library
May 20 th to 22 nd	Grade 8 Trip to Ottawa
May 25 th	Track & Field (Rain Date: May 26 th)
May 27 th to 29 th	Grade 7 Trip to Camp Arrowhon at Algonquin Park

Financial Report:

Cherylynn presented the Treasurer's Report (see attached). At this time, we have about **\$600** in unallocated funds. Additional revenue through lunches (about \$1,000) is expected. Barb made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. This motion was seconded by Shelley and approved by all 6 Council members present.

Updates & Discussion:

Inn from the Cold

Four students, with their parents, as well as several parent volunteers participated in the meal service at Inn from the Cold on April 17th. Shameela and Neil also attended. We served 76 guests and 121 plates overall. Overall, it went very well with outstanding organization and leadership by Alanna Gulliver.

Cake Walk & Artisan Market

Both events were fun and successful. There were 59 cakes for the Cake Walk and we raised about \$1,500. There were 18 vendors for the Artisan Market and we raised over \$800.

Aussie X Programs

Shameela reported that each class was to receive 90-minute sessions in Aussie X programs in the week of May 4th. The total cost was \$5,633. The total amount collected from students at \$6 each was \$2,620. School Council contributed \$2,500. Neil agreed to cover about \$500 from a school account.

PRO Grant Application

Another discussion was held regarding possible grant application topics. At the last meeting, Sara suggested a Family Game Night for families, possibly with Student Council involvement. Shameela reported that there are three other schools interested in applying with our school as part of a group application. We would apply for a group grant to have a series of workshops at the four schools, in the hopes of having greater interest and better attendance with a wider population base. Suggested topics included “Surviving High School” and “Mathletics.” All agreed that we should apply for the group grant and consider having a Games Night at the end of the workshop series. Shameela offered to complete the application online by the deadline of May 19th.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Shameela reported that a date has been set for the luncheon: Tuesday, June 16th. She will coordinate the event with the help of parent and student volunteers. Andrea motioned that we should allocate **\$300** for the luncheon. This motion was seconded by Shameela and approved by all members present.

Water Bottle Filling Station

Neil reported that we have placed an order with the school board maintenance department to purchase and install the water bottle filling station some time before the next school year. The total cost will be **\$2,500**.

School Staff Funding Requests

Neil asked Council to consider allocating **\$850** for **agendas** for students in Grades 1 through 3 next year. He said that he will check again with teachers to see how they use the agendas before we go ahead with the order. ***On May 13th, Shameela sent an email message to all School Council members with a motion to allocate \$850 for agendas. A vote was conducted by email, with 9 members responding “yes” by the next day. The motion was carried.

Shameela made a motion to top-up our **Angel Fund** with another **\$500** to start the next school year. This motion was seconded by Andrea and approved by all Council members present.

Anti-Bullying Presentation

Shameela reported that Errol Lee (song writer/singer/musician) is tentatively booked for October 7th at a total cost of **\$1,400** for 3 daytime presentations. He offered to ask a local dental office to sponsor an evening performance for the school community.

Transition of School Council for Next School Year

Shameela indicated that she will consider running for the position of Chair of School Council for the next school year. Shelley indicated an interest in being a Community Representative next year. Others with students returning to Stonehaven E. S. mentioned that they will consider being on School Council again next year.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM