

Stonehaven Elementary School
Character Matters in our School and Community

School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 6:00 pm

Attendance:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Paul Oabel (Principal) | Susan Wansbrough (Vice-Principal) | Shameela Shakeel (Chair) |
| Cherylynn Hunt (Treasurer) | Barb Whelpley | Mary Beth Mercier |
| Julie McWilliams | Abby Kassar | Nadila Zaravinos |
| Roni Silbershatz | Cathy Miles | Trish Bethell |
| Gloria Lee | Karen Hodgkin (Teacher Rep) | |

Absent:

Teresa Jacobs (Secretary)

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the March meeting were approved by School Council members via email.

Principal's/VP's Report

We will have 23 classes again next year and are not in a surplus situation. We will once again have a community class and MID class as well as resource support.

The Grade 8 trip to Camp Muskoka went well. The Grade 7 students will go to Camp Arrowhon in Algonquin soon. Kindergarten classes are pleased with the new iPads purchased with School Council funds this school year.

Track and field events will take place on May 26th at the school and the nearby police field/track. Area track and field meets will be in the third week of June.

After school booster programs for students in Grades 3 and 6 have been well received. These students will have EQAO testing at the end of May and early June. Reinforcement sessions for students in Grades 7 and 8 also went well.

Professional development will focus on modern learning, math and mental health. There is a recent shift in education of students to include how to learn in addition to what to learn.

Plans are in process to "beautify" the school, particularly the part that fronts onto Stonehaven Avenue where the Kindergarten yard is located.

There will be a volunteer appreciation event at the school on the morning of June 14th. All School Council members and parent volunteers are invited.

Grade 8 grad is scheduled for June 27th with the ceremony at the Newmarket Theatre and the party at the police shed.

From a school staff perspective, we will be streamlining fundraising activities and events for the next school year. We need to be cognizant of the fact that we are often tapping into the same families for support and funds.

Updates and Discussions:

Regional School Council Symposium

On March 30th, Shameela and Cathy attended the event with Paul and Sue. There were speeches and workshops. Cathy reported on workshops regarding math and School Council's role "beyond the bake sale." Shameela reported on a workshop regarding resilience.

PRO Grant Speaker Series

Shameela is completing the PRO Grant application for the next school year. There are now 8 schools collaborating: Stonehaven, Bogart, Armitage Village, Rogers, Crossland, Glen Cedar, Poplar Bank and Newmarket High. Speakers' topics will focus on mental health issues and parenting strategies.

Junglesport

From May 9th to 13th, Junglesport programs were held in the school gym. Positive reviews were shared. School Council's share of the cost was about \$2,100 this year.

Fundraising

On April 27th, our second annual Cake Walk and Artisan Market were held in the school gym. There were 65 cakes and 24 vendors. The events were very successful and fun for all.

Cathy reported that our flowers fundraiser was also successful, with high quality products and a generally positive experience with North 40 Farms.

Cathy presented a fundraising idea for the next school year. It involves selling candles prior to World Peace Day in September. Candles would be \$2 each. This fundraising initiative was approved by all 12 School Council members in attendance.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Shameela reported that we will hold our annual staff appreciation luncheon on Thursday, June 23rd. School Council voted to spend up to \$100, if necessary, to cover some of the expenses. Gifts will be purchased for Ms. Juffs and Ms. Babineau, who are both retiring after this school year.

Wellness Day

Shameela reported on an idea for the next school year. With staff and parent volunteer support, we could have a Wellness Day with different activities for students to enjoy. Activities will promote healthier lifestyles as well as better physical and mental wellness for families. We may require some funds for certain speakers and/or activities, so School Council should keep some funds aside for this in the fall. Paul agreed to talk to the school staff about this initiative.

Treasurer's Report

Cherylynn, Treasurer, presented a current report. At this time, we have just over \$10,000 in unallocated funds. Barb motioned to approve the report and Trish seconded. It was approved by all 12 School Council members in attendance.

Fund Allocations

School Council members discussed and voted on ways to allocate funds raised through fundraising initiatives. Decisions resulted in the following allocations (all approved by all 12 School Council members in attendance): \$6,000 for curriculum resources as per Karen's list of needs from all school staff (online subscriptions for one school year, scientists in the classroom, math manipulatives and resources, social studies resources, and games for the games room) plus \$1,500 for the Angel Fund plus \$300 for fruit for the school office. We decided to keep some funds in our account to start the next school year.

Members of School Council were thanked for their time and efforts this school year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.