

Stonehaven Elementary School
Character Matters in our School and Community

School Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 30, 2014

Attendance:

| | | |
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| Neil Gunathunge (Principal) | Sara Flohil-Purves (Vice-Principal) | |
| Karen Hodgkin (Staff Member) | Lesley Mercer (Staff Member) | |
| Shameela Shakeel (Previous Chair) | Cherylynn Hunt (Previous Treasurer) | |
| Trish Bethell | Jill Hartzog | Barb Whelpley |
| Rahila Iqbal | Zadiha Iqbal | Andrea Rolfe |
| Mary Beth Mercier | Shelley Reid | Teresa Jacobs |
| Andrea Wynn | Elham Loghmani | Yijie Tang |
| Dan Terzievski | Robbie Lai | Anne Scott |
| Heidi Stabler | Tara Butt | |

Secretary Assignment:

For the current meeting, Shameela Shakeel volunteered to take notes and produce minutes.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the June 10, 2014 meeting were approved by School Council via email in the third week of June.

Principal and Vice-Principal Report:

School/Classroom Organization

Our school now has 22 homeroom classes, 2 community classes, and about 570 students. There was no need to reorganize classes this September.

School Events and Activities

On September 18th, another successful Meet the Staff/Family BBQ Night took place. Neil Gunathunge thanked Shameela Shakeel for organizing the BBQ. Shameela reported that M&M Foods provided 460 meals, which were distributed by 5 high school students to staff and families. In addition, three Grade 7 students sold cookies donated by Kym Sloggett of Simply Smashing Cakes and raised \$160 for the Terry Fox campaign. Families also enjoyed free pita samples from Pita Pit. Andrea Rolfe provided information about Healthy Hunger registration. Erin Reed provided information about Boomerang Lunch Packs and included a raffle contest.

On September 24th, the annual Terry Fox run was held and our school campaign raised over \$5,000.

On October 2nd, the QSP Fundraiser will kick-off with an assembly for all students.

On October 8th, Steve Chapelle will present to students in Grades 6 through 8 (afternoon assembly) and to parents (evening in library). Topics will include social media usage, cyberbullying, willful self-exposure online, and unsecured confidential information. Specifically, Steve will address risks and prevention. Neil Gunathunge encouraged all parents to attend if possible.

On October 9th (Grades 4 to 8) and October 10th (Kindergarten to Grade 3), class photos will be taken.

On October 17th, Sara Westbrook will present to students in Kindergarten through Grades 2/3 in the morning and to students in Grades 3/4 through 8 in the afternoon. Sara's UPower presentations focus on making responsible choices, respect and resiliency.

Yearbook Update:

Jill Hartzog and Trish Bethell indicated that, once again, the yearbook committee will produce an 88-page yearbook. The cost will be \$35 for online orders and \$37 to \$45 for paper and/or late orders. Jill reported that 175 yearbooks need to be sold to break even. Grad ads will be included once again this school year. The cover contest deadline is November 14th. N. Gunathunge reported that a few staff members have expressed an interest in helping with the yearbook.

Financial Report:

Shameela Shakeel, Chair for the 2013-2014 school year, presented a financial summary for last year (see attached) as well as a current Treasurer's Report (see attached). At this time, we have just over \$3800 in unallocated funds.

Nominations/Elections:

Neil Gunathunge invited attendees to come forward if they were interested in joining Council. The following people were present and accepted the positions:

1. Karen Hodgkin & Lesley Mercer (Staff Representative – joint)
2. Shameela Shakeel (Chair) (Nominated by Dan Terziewski, Seconded by Rahila Iqbal)
3. Yijie Tang (Secretary)
4. Cherylynn Hunt (Treasurer)
5. Shelley Reid
6. Andrea Rolfe
7. Trish Bethell
8. Elham Loghmani
9. Rahila Iqbal
10. Barb Whelpley
11. Mary Beth Mercier
12. Dan Terziewski
13. Robbie Lai

Although School Council usually has a maximum of 12 members, an exception was made this year in order to accommodate all interested parents. A motion was put forward by Dan Terziewski, seconded by Shameela Shakeel, and approved by all School Council members.

Discussion Items:

Shameela Shakeel reported on School Council's planned fundraising initiatives and events for the current school year:

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| September | ~ Mabel's Labels (ongoing from Spring) ~ Boomerang Lunch Packs (Lead: Erin Reed) |
| September through June | ~ Subway (Mondays), Pita Pit (Wednesdays), Il Bistro Pizza/Pasta (Fridays) ~ Smoothies (Mondays) ~ Popcorn (Wednesdays) |
| October 31 | ~ Halloween Dance (Wayne Jones DJ booked) |
| November 24 | ~ Chapters FUNdraiser (6-9 pm; in-store shopping; staff reading; raffle baskets) |
| December 5 | ~ White Elephant Sale (Lead: Shameela) & Craft/Card Sale (Lead: Heidi Stabler) |
| February 13 | ~ Dance-a-Thon (MuchMusic booked; goal of \$6,500) |

Other possible events include a movie night, a family cooking challenge, and a spring fair. Barb Whelpley and Andrea Rolfe volunteered to make and coordinate the distribution of popcorn and water for the movie night.

Shameela Shakeel also reported on a potential athletic program that School Council can consider supporting this school year. Aussie X involves netball, cricket and footy and is geared for all students. The basic package involves 4 days of sports, 2 coaches and one to two-hour sessions for each group at a cost of \$5,650 with HST. If School Council covers \$2,800, the cost to each student will be \$5. If School Council covers \$2,200, the cost to each student will be \$6. A motion to approve will be brought forward at the next meeting.

Shameela Shakeel also reported that School Council can consider supporting the Forest of Reading program at our school again this year. Once the estimated costs have been calculated by Jan Safaric, Librarian, a motion to approve will be brought forward at the next meeting.

Heidi Stabler indicated that she is interested in creating and selling crafts at the White Elephant Sale. She would like to include Grades 6 to 8 students, who will assist with craft and card-making and selling. All approved.

Yijie Tang asked about parent involvement in sports teams at the school. Neil Gunathunge indicated that a staff member must be present for all sports and activities, and that parents can help when needed. He also reported that staff members will coach teams in cross-country running, volleyball, basketball, and track and field activities. Intramurals will take place at morning recess and will start after Thanksgiving weekend.

Trish Bethell suggested that School Council raise funds for another water bottle filling station on the first floor.

Dan Terziewski suggested that School Council raise funds for the school board's cost-sharing program for new technology. The maximum cost-sharing amount was \$6,500 last year, and the school board usually runs the program in the fall and again in the spring. Lesley Mercer volunteered to present at the next Council meeting in order to enlighten parents how technology is used in the classrooms.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

October 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.