

**Stonehaven Elementary School**  
*Character Matters in our School and Community*

**School Council Meeting Minutes**  
***Tuesday September 29, 2015***

**Attendance:**

Neil Gunathunge (Principal)	Nadila Zaravinos	Bonnie Diep
Susan Wansbrough (Vice-Principal)	Teresa Jacobs	Gloria Lee
Shameela Shakeel (Previous Chair)	Abby Kassar	Jenn Brennan
Roni Silbershatz	Ali Reza	Julie McWilliams
Barb Whelpley	Cathy Miles	Julie Brenner-King
Mary Beth Mercier		

**Regrets:**

Cherylynn Hunt (Previous Treasurer); Trish Bethell; Shelley Reid

**Principal Report:**

***School/Classroom Organization***

Stonehaven ES continues to be a growing school. Our school now has 576 Students and 24 homerooms. Grades 1 through 3 classes have no more than 20 kids. There was no need to reorganize classes this September, but two Grade 1/2 classes were split into straight Grade 1 and straight Grade 2 classes.

***School Events and Activities***

Due to the teachers' labour action, we were unable to have our Meet the Staff Night with a BBQ for families.

On October 5<sup>th</sup> (rain date October 6<sup>th</sup>), the annual Terry Fox fun will be held. \$36,000 has been raised so far in the past years and the teachers think it is important to continue. The teachers were not able to organize the event this year, but they will participate. This year, we will have students participate in a 30 minute run on school property. Parents will be asked to donate online or to send toonies for Terry.

Cross country is up and running at lunch with teachers' support during the school day. The cross country meet will be held on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at George Richardson Park.

On October 21<sup>st</sup>, a School Council forum to be held at Newmarket High School. This is an opportunity to meet people from other councils as well as some of our elected officials. Dinner is included. More information will be sent to School Council members. \*Note that this event has been rescheduled for Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>\*

The water bottle filling station for the first floor was installed over the summer.

***Teacher/Staff Job Action***

ETFO – Teachers have had no contract for 13 months, 2 tier bargaining Process (provincial and local levels still in talks); CUPE 1196 Custodian - no contract since August 31/14. No sweeping floors or entrance ways, unless safety concerns; CUPE 1194 – office, ECE, EA – no contract since August 31/14. No collecting money.

Neil mentioned that we will continue to be updated by the school board as negotiations progress. Our school website has forms and a link to the School Council website. Directory of teachers/staff at York Region District School board can be found on their website. Email addresses are as follows: [firstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca](mailto:firstname.lastname@yrdsb.ca)

## **Nominations/Elections:**

Neil Gunathunge invited attendees to come forward if they were interested in joining School Council for this school year. The following 12 parents were present and accepted positions.

1. Shameela Shakeel (Chair)
2. Cherylynn Hunt (Treasurer) (not present, but sent notice of interest)
3. Teresa Jacobs (Secretary)
4. Barb Whelpley
5. Mary Beth Mercier
6. Trish Bethell (not present, but sent notice of interest and was elected)
7. Cathy Miles
8. Roni Silbershatz
9. Nadila Zaravinos
10. Julie McWilliams
11. Gloria Lee
12. Abby Kassar

## **Discussion Items**

### ***Smoothies with Juice Plus powder***

On behalf of Cherish Bartlett, a parent at our school and a Juice Plus representative, another school parent, Jenn Brennan, asked School Council to consider selling Juice Plus smoothies again this year. Jenn proposed that we sell smoothies for \$3.00. The cost is \$1.50, so the profit to school would be \$1.50 less the cost of cups and lids. Jenn offered attendees two smoothie flavours to sample: chocolate monkey and creamsicle. Smoothies will be made with rice milk and spinach as well.

Concerns were raised with respect to waste and smoothies coming home to the parents or spilling in backpacks. School Council agreed to consider this fundraising/healthy offerings initiative.

\*Note that, on October 14<sup>th</sup>, School Council voted to spend up to \$200 to purchase ingredients for Cherish to provide samples of smoothies at the Halloween Dance on October 30<sup>th</sup> (email vote; motion by Shameela; 10 yes votes and 2 no votes so motion carried)

## **Events/Fundraising Initiatives:**

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

October 6	Caring Kids' Concerts (3 presentations during the day for students) Hope to have an evening concert for families if we can secure a sponsor
October 30	Halloween Dance with DJ booked
November 23	Chapters FUNdraiser (6-9pm, but only with teacher support)
December 11	White Elephant Sale (10am to 1pm; everything for \$1 and wrapped)
January ?	Movie night (date to be confirmed)

February 12	Dance-a-thon (Much Music DJ booked)
April 27	Cake Walk and Vendor Market (to be coordinated by Kym S. and Wendy F.)
May 9-13	Junglesport (only with teacher support and School Council approval) Cost = \$5 per child if School Council covers \$2,500 (total cost = \$4,500) Rockclimbing/ziplining/rope course event set up in gymnasium
March/April/May	PRO Grant workshops (for parents) Three \$1,000 grants awarded to Rogers, Bogart and Stonehaven Will collaborate to organize workshops on different topics

Through Healthy Hunger, School Council will offer lunches from Made in Mexico on Mondays and from Il Bistro on Fridays. Parent volunteers will help each week to distribute lunches.

Parent volunteers will make and distribute popcorn every Wednesday.

An application for the \$1,000 Metro green apple grant has been submitted. If awarded, funds will be used to provide weekly baskets of fruit in each of the classrooms for Grades 1 through 4. We still have \$200 from last year, which will be used over the next few weeks. We will find out in November if we will receive another grant this school year.

**Financial Report:**

Shameela Shakeel, Chair for 2014-2015 school year, presented a financial summary for last year (see attached) as well as a current Treasurer's Report (see attached). At the time, we have just over \$780 in unallocated funds.

Mary Beth questioned if we lost money on Aussie X last year. Shameela explained that School Council had voted to cover the cost of \$2,500 for Aussie X programs. We ended up covering about \$3,000; however, we were able to access about \$500 from leftover parental engagement funds, so we used that money towards popcorn, which School Council would have needed to purchase anyway.

\*Note that, on October 14<sup>th</sup>, School Council voted to spend up to \$275 to renew for another 3-year term with Host Papa for our School Council website, which is managed by our webmaster, Lisa Baxter (email vote; motion by Shameela; 12 yes votes so motion carried)

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

**Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the school library

**Other Meeting Dates:**

- Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>
- Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>