



Kensal Park School Council

Meeting Minutes

Monday January 14, 2019

Attendance: Kristi Hall, Vince Londini, Isaac Bartlett, Ann Sujak, Alissa Post, Sara Lovell, Fred Chagnon, Hilary Montgomery, Corene Jovichevich, Darlene Aspden, Linda McCullough, Deb Loubert, Tanya Nam, Becky Myers, Kristina Stankevich, Tyler Thorne

Regrets: Karen Gingrich, Deanna Perks, Andrea Viana

Call to Order – 6:30 pm

1. **Review and Approval of Nov Minutes** – Motion to approve Kristina, Seconded by Hilary
2. **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest** (new conflicts only) – None
3. **Reports**
 - **Chair's Agenda**
 - Gift for Mme Hanbuch was given before Christmas, as well as secretaries in the office, we gave a \$50 gift card
 - Fun Fair lead recruitment, we need to recruit a new lead from our parent community or the School Council
 - Welcome new Principal, we are excited to have a her
 - **Principal's Report**
 - Introduced herself to the group, has been a principal in French Immersion before, one of her daughters taught at KP for one year, she is planning to be here long term (4.5 years)
 - Held their first staff meeting tonight
 - French Immersion night coming up late January for new registrations (Jan 29), we will have some representatives there at 6pm from School Council, Vince will speak at the meeting
 - **Treasurer's Business**
 - We bought gift cards for secretaries and custodians, spent \$265, Alissa would like someone to take over this job next year
 - We got a gift card for a Kensal park family that lost their mother
 - Hot lunch money will surge when Term 2 opens up in Feb
 - Busing for Grade 8, money dispersed
 - Chromebook donation drive went well, we were successful at the concerts in particular
 - We did not get the grant for Growing Chefs, we will apply again next year. Vince gave an update from Andrea – we are looking at options for Growing Chefs including corporate sponsors (\$1500 needed), Kristi will solicit corporate

donations. What is the max attendance, Vince to double check with Andrea. Alissa will talk to Principal about funding from School Council.

- We did receive grant for Math Night, need to get that planned since we received the money, please see Vince if you wish to help coordinate. Instructional coach who works with Scott Armstrong understands the French piece of math, we want to include some basic terminology for parents. Hilary and Fred will join Vince.
- Fundraising Business
 - Many parents are helping this year, thank you for being supportive
 - Direct parent solicitation for Chromebooks, \$7251, enough for 23 Chromebooks
 - Ongoing passive fundraisers Flipgive (\$48), need to get more people to understand this app
 - Disney on Ice tickets are still available
 - Bottle drive was held last Saturday, very successful, almost 4k bottles, \$415.80 for dance team, we will state the next bottle drive date in the Thank You in next newsletter
 - Clothing dropoff is planned next, still sorting out the details
 - March readathon for all grades, not a fundraiser but engaging kids to read, we will support it with prizes
 - Option to do Budding Artists this spring, which requires a lot of coordination from teachers. Kristina will be coordinating that with the office.
- Hot Lunch/Spirit Wear Business
 - Term 2 of hot lunch is starting Feb 8th, menu should be up this week for ordering. New items included Halal pepperoni pizza, still offer gluten free and dairy free. Prices for next term did go up a little bit, entrees went up but pizza stayed the same.
 - Next round of spiritwear orders for spring items will go out in early March

4. Unfinished business

- School Dance (Becky)
 - i. Becky found a DJ that will do a school dance for \$400, includes music, lights, everything needed. Do we want to run it as a fundraiser? Or just get DJ and just have refreshments available. Becky's company will do a photobooth with props, bring your own camera.
 - ii. What date can we look at?
 - iii. Mme Jovichevich has some questions, Becky will work with the office and the plan for the dance

5. New Business – Grade 8 Trip

- i. We learned just before Christmas that the Grade 8 trip to Quebec would not be held this year
- ii. Decision to change from a trip to Quebec to a trip to Camp Celtic was made months ago. The camp is a team building trip, activities to strengthen teamwork, indoor and outdoor.

- iii. Grade 8 teachers will be sharing information at the info night that is coming up
 - iv. Principal noted that change is hard, but she is confident that students will enjoy it
 - v. Current teaching staff made the decision to change it, not a board decision.
 - vi. Camp Celtic will be half the price of Quebec and a much shorter drive to get there which gives them more time on the actual trip
 - vii. Decision is made year by year. Difficulty is that Quebec had become so expensive.
 - viii. Feedback from parents is that there wasn't enough communication, kids were hearing whispers, feel it was taken away.
 - ix. Teachers didn't want to say no Quebec without the alternative confirmed, hence the delay in communicating to parents.
 - x. Concern also with timing of the communication to parents at 5pm on Friday before Christmas Break, date of info night conflicted with Laurier night.
 - xi. Other concern is what does Camp Celtic have to do with French?
 - xii. We have to honour what the teachers are willing to do, they are not required to do it at all but they are still planning a trip that is closer and more budget friendly
 - xiii. Administration encourages everyone to attend the info night next week where Camp Celtic will present to the parents. But it is not a time for parents to question teachers on why they aren't going to Quebec anymore. Mme Aspden will make sure an additional communication will go out to ALL Grade 8 parents concerning the decision and reasons behind it as well as avenues for feedback. This will include written letter sent with students as well as our typical electronic channels.
- Also a question about Grad funding, students are whispering about that. School council continues to fund \$500. Are there going to be additional fundraising initiatives? Mme Aspden indicates a grade 8 teacher staff meeting is coming up at end of month to talk about Grad, they will communicate plans after that meeting and all items are discussed such as budget, décor, theme, etc... More information to come.
 - Vince asked about rules for what secondary school our kids can go to? Where are those rules written down, is there a source for that information? Administration will talk to LST's and Guidance to get that information out to parents before the deadline of Jan 29th.

6) **Next Meeting – Monday February 4th, 6:30pm**

7) **Adjournment – Kristina motioned to adjourn, seconded by Fred. Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.**