



# SES Council

STONECREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
*Working together to prepare our children for their futures*

## MINUTES

Tuesday February 13, 2018

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Stonecrest Library

Notes taken by Jennifer Mulligan, Secretary

### Attendees

#### Parent Volunteers

Trish Larwill, Kirsten Cox, Jennifer Mulligan, Melissa Johnston, Shannon Cuddihey, Sarah Simkin

#### School Staff

Wally Stagg, Diane Farrell, Marcy Storms, Stephanie Fulcher

### Principal Report – Diane Farrell

- Cindy is still out because of her surgery and Wally has been replacing her in her absence.
- The teachers are using a new computer system that they are still adapting to (IEP's).
- Report cards are set to go out tomorrow.

### Teachers Report – Marcy Storms

#### Kindergarten

- We are all having class celebrations for Valentine's Day tomorrow.
- We will be having the Little Red Theater presenting a bilingual production to kindergarten classes on February 26th.
- We are enjoying participating in all the Winter Olympic activities happening at Stonecrest right now.

#### Primary

- Many grade 1 & 2 students are enjoying the Big Bounce club this month. Big Bounce offers unstructured ball play and practice opportunities at morning recess once per week.

- Primary technology purchased with School Council funds are beginning to arrive! Huge thank you!
- Many Grade 1 and 2 classes celebrate the 100th day of school this month with a variety of fun and engaging activities exploring the number 100!
- Grade 3 students continue to take their 3 swimming lessons. One class goes at a time.

### Junior

- Junior Division cake Raffle #2 will be held Feb 20. We look forward a successful fundraiser.
- Ski days are Feb 14, 28 and March 7
- Junior Tripleball Tournaments are being held here on March 1 and 6
- We are looking into a University of Ottawa Makermobile Science/Math/Tech workshops for all Junior students and details will soon follow.
- Grade 4 students are headed to Bill Mason

### Intermediate

- Intermediate Girls and Boys Basketball Team tryouts are underway
- We have a dance next week
- Grad Photos are March 23
- Ski Days & Olympics
- Musical rehearsals continue every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday night after school.

### Finances/Processes

- Trish mentioned that Liliane is regularizing the financial reports and process. This is a time consuming job, but once everything is in place, anyone who joins Council will know what's going on. The most difficult part is getting the structure set up.
- Marcy said the ski trip is tomorrow, and the cost for two coach buses is \$1,100. She mentioned that the school may be around \$200 short, and wondered if Council could cover the difference if they are short? Council agreed to pay the missing amount.

### Disbursements

- Marcy wanted to know if the Student Council could pay for either medals or ribbons for the students for the Olympics they were playing. The medals cost \$330 (includes engraving) and the ribbons cost \$76. The students seemed to really like getting the medals so those would be preferred. Marcy would like a decision by next week so they can be ordered on time.
- Trish mentioned that Ms. Sonnenburg had asked for money for money for "The Little Red Theatre", and that that the Student Council historically put money aside for cultural activities at the outset of the year, but we didn't this year because we put the money to teachers' wish lists instead. Nonetheless, Council agreed to pay for this, although we are not sure the total amount yet. Typically, the children's parents would donate \$2 or \$4 and Student Council would cover the remainder of the cost. Marcy will find out more.

- Sarah wondered if we could spend some money on shelves for the library because apparently the librarian does not have enough shelving for books so some books the school has are not even out, including the parent resource collection. She wondered if alternatively we could donate physical infrastructure? Kirsten said she is happy to help and look into this, but that in the past when she approached the Board about carpets in the library, they were the roadblock because they didn't see a need.

### **Fundraising Activities**

- The flyers will be sent home this week for the Vesey's fundraiser (plants and bulbs). The fundraiser will run February 19<sup>th</sup> through March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Family Movie Night**

- This is scheduled to be on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Renee took the lead for running this, and Patty said she would help as well.
- The teachers will be needed to help set up the AV. Family movie night is taking place the week before the electrical will be getting done.
- Renee suggested the movie "Coco" because it covers a broad range of ages, but there is a bunch of skeletons in it so that could be scary for some of the smaller children. Commensense media rates "Coco" for ages 7+. Parents have rated the movie 4/5.
- Shannon suggested the movie "Fertinand", which is also suitable for a broad range of ages, but boys may be less interested because it is a musical. It is rated for ages 5+, and parents have given it a 3/5. Shannon also said there is a movie called "Trailer", but she knows less about it.
- The teachers think that Council should just pick a movie because the older children are the ones who pick the movie and the younger children are the ones who come to movie night.
- Renee and Patty will start promoting movie night next week. Renee is done the shopping for the items to be sold at the canteen, and is looking for volunteers to help. Parents and children are not supposed to bring outside food in – they should buy it from the canteen. This is because of allergies.
- Jennifer Eastman will be setting up a Me2We table on movie night.

### **Health & Safety Initiatives – Grab 'n Go snack program**

- Sarah mentioned that the Ottawa Network for Education guessed an amount for the demand of this program at the outset, and that that amount has doubled.
- Sarah said we applied for and received a grant from Walmart for \$1,000.
- Sarah indicated we have given out 2,500 snacks since October 2017. She said we are still trying to find a steady state.

- Council discussed that there is likely some taking advantage of this program. Some suggestions for ways to reduce children taking advantage of this were as follows:
  - Staff could check children's lunches before they go to the office to grab a snack; and
  - Continue to send out education to families.
- Sarah said it is important for children to remember to put a checkmark when they take a snack because this is how we get funded.
- Council had committed \$150 to this program. This has not all been spent yet and at this time there is no other money being requested from Council.
- Two grade 8 students have been helping to get pre-washed snacks from the kitchen to the office. Sarah is looking for other adult volunteers to help. Kirsten offered to help on Mondays.
- There is \$40 left in the lunch donations that can be used for this program.
- Melissa thinks this program is being abused. Sarah agreed that it may be, but there is a need to address those who really are hungry and need food.
- The program snacks include apples, cheese, crackers (Triscuit low sodium), dry cereal (1 part corn squares, 1 part oat bran and 2 parts cheerios).
- The teachers were wondering what we can do to help children understand that it is important to eat throughout the day. Jennifer suggested engaging a sports therapist to come in and talk about the importance of eating since sports are things that children can really relate to, and linking the importance of food to their interests may be a way of encouraging them to pack bigger lunches and get the required food intake they need.

### **Parent Survey**

- Trish asked if anyone had any ideas about what to include in the parent survey? There are pros and cons about when to do the survey (end of year, beginning of new school year). Majority of council thought September would be best, so Trish suggested that we organize our questions in advance so that we can just go ahead and execute the survey in September (conduct research ahead of time).

### **Outstanding / Council Business**

1. Ottawa-Carleton District School Board Newsletter
  - Trish said that if you receive these newsletters, they are really informative. In the last newsletter, there is a presentation on grants and lists some workshops that may be of interest.
  - Trish said that there is mention in the last newsletter that the Board is seeking public input on the student transportation system, which is set by the province.
2. This Thursday and Friday, there will be contractors coming in to do work on the stage.

### 3. Diefenbunker

- Kirsten said she received an e-mail from Severan, who has not met with the teachers yet.
- Teachers are meeting next week to look at the final proposal for the “Forest of Reading Program” set to begin in 2019.
- The proposal is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. May is when the cultural event will take place.

### 4. Kindergarten Registration

- If anyone knows anyone who has not yet registered their children, let them know they should go ahead and do so.

### 5. Pinworm

- Diane mentioned there was a recent pinworm outbreak in kindergarten. She assured everyone that there were some additional staff who came in and cleaned the classrooms and the school thoroughly. The sand and play dough were all thrown out so at some point there may be a request for funds to replace the sand and play dough.
- Diane said most parents tell the school, but that some had not.

### **Next Dates**

- Next Student Council Meeting – April 10, 2018
- Family Dance – April 20, 2018