



MINUTES

Tuesday October 10, 2017

6:30 pm – 9:15 pm

Stonecrest Library

Notes taken by Jennifer Mulligan, Secretary

Attendees

Parent Volunteers

Liliane Benoit, Laila Labelle, Trish Larwill, Kirsten Cox, Jennifer Mulligan, Diane Labonte, Amy Stoate, Melissa Saumure, Shannon Cuddihey, Libby McCalden, Sarah Simkin, Renee Hamilton

School Staff

Cindy Alce, Diane Farrell, Stephanie Fulcher

Messages from Liliane Benoit (former Chair) re: 2016-2017 school year

- The Ottawa-Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) does not allow teeter totters for safety reasons so we will need to return/sell the teeter totter.
- The opening budget for the 2017-2018 student council is \$30,000.
- The speakers system will be set up in the gym this year.
- Teachers' will need to identify their wish list and the dates that they would like to have the items on those lists so that the Treasurer can better track the money in the Council's budget.
- The Student Council website has been updated thanks to Libby.
- On hot lunch days, the pizza place we order from will not be able to separate slices as per the children's orders, so we will likely need to have an extra volunteer to help hand out pizza to those who ordered it. There are often extra slices of pizza, which have been eaten by volunteers and those who have been identified as needing a lunch. Cindy suggested that we the volunteers do not eat the extra pizza, but rather that we freeze the extra slices for those that require lunch or children who are hungry. We can write the date on the ziplock bags so that we can throw out any pizza that is leftover after a month. Before any child is given food that we have bought/stored for them, Cindy will call the parents to make sure

that it is acceptable with the parents that their child/children eat the food we have for them.

- Laila mentioned that we could also have a food cupboard for children who are hungry or come to school with no lunch. She would be happy to get the food and stack the cupboard. Again, Cindy would have to double check with the children’s parents that it is acceptable with them that their children eat food we have bought for them.
- We are no longer doing Campbell’s Soup Labels, but if anyone else hears of anything or has ideas about how we can do something similar to get some little extras for the children, they should let the new council know because it’s fun and a good idea.
- Fundraisers are important so we will continue to do fundraisers to raise money for the school. The magazine and cookie dough orders will be going home next week.
- School clothing is available for sale until October 20th.
- Shannon mentioned that there are not many people registered for the Trick or Trunk on October 28th so if we could encourage people to register, it would be more fun for the kids.

New Student Council Elections

The new council was elected and is as follows:

Group	Position	Person Elected
Executive	Co-chair	Trish Larwill
	Co-chair	Kirsten Cox
	Treasurer	Liliane Benoit
	Secretary	Jennifer Mulligan
	Fundraising Coordinator	Renee Hamilton
Officers	Communications Team	Trish Larwill, Amy Stoate, Shannon Cuddihey, Laila Labelle, Renee Hamilton
	Health and Safety	
	Hot Lunches	Melissa Saumure
	OCASC Representative	-
	Volunteer Coordination Team	Laila Labelle, Amy Stoate, Shannon Cuddihey
	Social Convenor	
	Website Manager	Libby McCalden
Members	Member-at-large	Jill Beck
	Member-at-large	Sarah Gaffney
	Member-at-large	Jessica Carmosino
	Member-at-large	Sarah Simkin
Admin	Principal	Cindy Alce
	Vice-Principal	Diane Farrell
Teachers	Teacher Representative	Marcy Storms
	Teacher Representative	Dorothy Zuber

	Teacher Representative	Lisa Dolan
	Teacher Representative	Stephanie Fulcher
	Teacher Representative	Serena D'Costa

Messages from the Principal, Cindy Alce

- Every time a school team goes to play at a tournament for a school sport, the school pays \$470. The school is currently operating in a deficit of \$53,000. Last year, the school spent \$3,307.14 on field trips and extracurricular activities because the school covers fees for families who don't pay them. Bus fees are one of the fees families don't seem to like to pay. They would often rather drive their child/children, but the school still has to arrange for and pay for a bus. Currently, the fees are separated on the permission forms: fee to participate in the tournament and bus fee. The Student Council came to the agreement that there should just be one \$10 athletic fee rather than differentiate between the costs.
- Liliane suggested that the Student Council give the school a slush fund, since the Student Council has money and the school is in a deficit. Stephanie mentioned that the slush fund is also helpful because then teachers will be able to go along sometimes. While we have parent volunteers, they are usually only concerned about their own child so it is important that teachers attend athletic events and extracurricular activities as well.
- The lock down exercise went very well.
- Picture retakes will be on October 30th.
- The school has percentile level targets and the Stonecrest children seem to be at level 3 and above:

	Subject	2017 Percentile	2016 Percentile
Grade 3	Reading	75%	74%
	Writing	82%	90%
	Math	52%	59%
Grade 6	Reading	83%	87%
	Writing	84%	80%
	Math	52%	36%

- Based on the percentiles we have, there is a need to focus on math. On the P.A. Day (October 6, 2017), the Stonecrest staff met and decided that a wellness focus in math was needed. The staff decided to incorporate number talks, which are essentially hand signals that make children more confident and want to engage. A fist on their chest means they are thinking and engaged. Pointing in a direction with their index finger means they have a strategy, pointing with their index finger in one direction and their thumb pointed upward means they have two strategies and a shake of their hand means that they agree. The school has posters with the hand signals. There will be three number talks per week in English and one number talk per week in French. This is because children need to think and speak math in French in order to be fluently bilingual.

- Another wellness goal discussed on the P.A. Day was resiliency and perseverance in children because they have a tendency to give up easily. The school has decided that they are going to look at mindfulness to deal with this wellness goal. There are links in body scans and being aware of feelings and what creates anxiety. The school has yoga mats that they will use to help them with this technique.

Comments on behalf of the teachers, Stephanie Fulcher

October

Kindergarten Team Report:

In Kindergarten this year, we have decided to put a greater focus on 'mindfulness' using the MindMasters 2 program, developed by CHEO. "It is designed to help children master emotional regulation through relaxation, positive thinking and mindfulness based techniques." Classes will be celebrating Halloween in a variety of ways this year, and we look forward to exploring this concept with students.

Primary team report:

- Many students in grade 1 & 2 have joined the Road Runners club. Students have the opportunity to do 2 running sessions per week, led by a primary teacher and junior student volunteers. The purpose is to introduce long distance running, promote healthy habits and future involvement in Cross country as students move on to junior.
- Grade 3 students involved in Cross Country running, will be travelling to the regional CC meet in Kanata on Wednesday, Oct. 18th. We wish them luck!
- Primary students at Stonecrest were proud to be involved in the Carp Fair, by entering various arts and crafts in the junior department. Many ribbons were earned and winning entries have been displayed in the front showcase!
- We hope to see many parents out tomorrow night at our Meet the Teacher evening.

Junior Team:

Division discussed Ski Days for this school year and will propose three dates. Junior division also discussed a need for French resources and have begun a Wish list. Field trips for the school year will be planned and have strong curriculum relations.

Intermediate Team:

- Intermediate Volleyball tryouts are this week
- Intermediate X-Country is Tomorrow
- Intermediate football tournaments are week of the 23rd
- Me2We is underway
- Dance October 27

Other:

- Meet the teacher is scheduled for Wednesday October 11th from 4:30 pm until 6:30 pm. Trish asked if the teachers would put out the year end video again. Stephanie said she would look into it, but the video is long so it may just be a slideshow. Stephanie will arrange for something. The teachers are hoping that the parents come out and check out the school on Meet-the-teacher night. Stephanie will arrange to get the Council a projector, the smartboard, the light table and the resource box from the juniors.

Comments from Sara Simkin

- The CPR course is scheduled for Saturday October 21st, but is at risk of being cancelled because there has not been a lot of interest this year. Laila said if she could get a poster, she can distribute the poster to the teachers at the dance studio she works at. Sarah will send her a poster.
- The Lost and Found is being renovated. Everything has been taken out and organized. Sarah will take a picture this week and Libby will post it to the website. If items are not claimed on by November 30th, they will be donated or thrown away. After November 30th, items not claimed will be donated and thrown away on a monthly basis if they are not claimed. If items have labels, then they will be returned to the student. Going forward, the plan is that one of the volunteers organizes the lost and found on a monthly basis. In June, Council committed to getting a bin, which a carpenter from the School Board is currently building. A member of the community had offered to build the bin for free, but OCDSB policy is that everything that is school board property must go through a board process (done by school board employees).
- We now have the 'Grab and Go' grant because of hunger issues at the school. We are starting off with a bowl of apples on the fridge in the office, and are looking into getting other food items going forward (ex. Cheese, crackers). We are currently trying to negotiate the most reasonable price for sustainable food for hungry children. When children are hungry, they can go to the office and grab an apple (no questions asked!) and put a checkmark on the sheet to indicate they have taken an apple so that we can track how much use this program is getting. Parents are not allowed to donate food because you have to go through the OCDSB for approval of food before you can have it in your school to offer to students.
- Liliane suggested that if we do go ahead with filling the food cupboard (which Laila agreed to do), and that the food in the cupboard should be healthy and not full of sugar. Again, Cindy will call the parents first to ensure that it is ok that we provide their children with food. This is a good idea as long as Council takes on the responsibility of managing the purchase, receipts and stocking the cupboards.