

School Council
February 28, 2017

Attendees: Dale McIntosh; Rebecca Toth; Jennifer Canham; Jessica Rosebush, Joanne Zan, Myf Marshall, Graham McKenzie, Michael Candeloro

Staff: Ms. Stockton, Mr. Taylor

Minutes of January 12, 2017 Meeting - passed

Principal's Update – see www.givinsshaw.com for up to date information

School Council Update

Communications

Sent out a reminder on communications in a school update that was circulated.

www.givinsshaw.com

Eco Committee

They are proceeding with creating plaques to identify the plants and trees on the school property. They will be utilizing a grant to support this initiative.

Upcoming events –

Earth Week – April 17th – 21st

Eco-Hop/Dance-a-thon – April 21st

Yard Clean Up/Bike Swap – April 22nd

Nutrition Committee

The Nutrition Committee manages their own budget and does much of its own fundraising. For the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year, we will concentrate our efforts on completing the cook book, getting our cooking club rolled out, and assisting the Fun Fair.

In the effort not to dilute the fundraising they will forego the second term donation requests from parents, the Spring movie night or any other proposals that were discussed.

For more information on the Nutrition Committee, see Appendix A.

Treasurer's Report

Nothing new to report since last date of any significance.

RBC branch at King and Shaw is moving. Motion to approve treasurer to look for a new bank - moved Jennifer and second Rebecca. Passed.

Sports Committee

Boys basketball and girls volleyball have just ended. Badminton started up. Soccer (boys and girls) will start in the spring.

Technology Update

Donations have started to come in via cheques and online donations. We will run reports each month to ensure we provide updates to the community and market accordingly to continue to promote the campaign. We agreed that we will need to keep in touch with the parents and find ways to regularly be in touch to keep it top of mind. The hope is that everyone will participate no matter the amount.

Academic Enrichment

Dora (parent) has a grant opportunity (about \$3000) and has applied this year for a dance program (hip hop dancers) and we should know soon if it will be approved. If grant does not come through, will have to find funds. Cost is approximately \$4300.

Also looking at an art show, theme Canada's 150th. This would be held during Education Week (first week of May). Art will be done in class and then showcased. More to come on the art show.

Parents who are interested in the academic enrichment are going to connect with the teachers (or the teachers' committee/representatives). The purpose of the academic enrichment fund is for school council to sponsor enrichment programs that are applicable to multiple classes or school wide.

Fundraising

Ward 10 meeting Feb 27th

Dale attended. Focus was on fundraising update/sharing information.

Notes from the Ward 10 Meeting to share:

- Reviewed "How is education funded in Ontario" -
<http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/faq/how-is-education-funded-in-ontario/69/>
- Reviewed "TDSB Fundraising Guide" -
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/portals/0/community/docs/fundraisingguide.pdf>
- Reviewed "TDSB Approved Fundraising and Fun Fair Vendor Guide" -
<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/0/Community/docs/FundraisingVendors.pdf>
- Grant opportunities ***IF THERE IS A PARENT VOLUNTEER KEEN TO HELP WITH THIS THAT WOULD BE TERRIFIC – PLEASE LET COUNCIL KNOW IF YOU HAVE TIME TO SUBMIT GRANTS**
- Shared a few best practice ideas from other schools
 - o Bingo night
 - o Dance a thon (Dewson – 20K approx raised)
 - o Parent social with Silent Auction
 - o Including class art in Silent Auction
 - o Signup.com (formerly Volunteer Spot)
 - o Including survey/sign up for specific roles in September
 - o Family Dance

Givins Shaw operates on a \$60,000 school budget (approx) and this is meant to cover all essentials at a school

Discussion/Evaluation about what GS has been doing to fundraise

Dale reviewed a number of past year reports; spoke with 2 past treasurers about expenses/fundraising, as well as current treasurer.

Here are some of the examples of fundraisers and community events that GS parents lead or have lead – Used clothing sale, pancake breakfast, eco-hop (dance-a-thon), cookie dough sales, coffee sales, bulb sales, direct asks via envelope going home, used book sale, fun fair, silent auction, parent social (parent band night), lunch fundraiser ie: pizza lunch, comedy night, fruit boxes, clothing sales, water bottles

Ideas:

- Get older kids involved in volunteering
- Some schools ask for straight up cash donations (some with tax receipt/some not) - Nutrition by way of example get about a 50% return on asks.
- Communicate the 'calendar' of events at the start of the year with specific volunteer requests so that parents can sign up earlier

Discussion regarding events:

- Used clothing – it's a good community event. Works well. The "downside" is that it can be difficult to find volunteers to run it.
- Pancake breakfast - pretty good fundraiser in terms of funds. But again volunteers needed
- Movie Night or Family Dance Night (Halloween) or Bingo Night or Family Games night
- Toonie Sale - good event - very popular with kids. Good community event
- Eco Hop/Dance a thon - does not take a lot of organization. Kids like it.
- Cookie sales - Kids could maybe involved in this.
- Coffee Sales - Not too much work. But most of the sales can be attributed to a few parents who buy for gifts.
- Direct mail - for example - technology ask
- Used Book Sales
- Fun Fair -
- Date is usually last Saturday of May. Date to be finalized after fun fair meeting March 6th.
- Parent Social - May 18th at the Cadillac Lounge. Chad and Abigail are running it. More to come.
- Comedy Night in the past. Parent volunteered to run it.

Volunteers

- perhaps look at using "signup.com" for other events and not sure Fun Fair
- sign up in the fall with more specific roles
- recognize volunteers in our communication so that the community realizes there are parents that make these things happen

- recognize School Council if they are paying for the event ie: on the ski bus form for grades 5/6 it should state: Thank you to School Council for covering the cost for both buses.

Upcoming Events

May 18th – Parent Social at the Cadillac Lounge. Chad and Abigail are taking the lead – more to come.

June 23 – Grades 5 & 6 graduation – more to come.

Dates to be determined for:

Math Night

Spring Concert.

No meeting in March. Next Meeting April 6th.

Adjourn

Appendix A – Nutrition Committee Information

The Givins Shaw Nutrition Committee **receives** money through these funding sources:

1) SNP Grant

A form is filled out every year by a Nutrition Committee member and is mailed off for a February deadline. What we call a morning snack, the SNP calls a "Morning Meal" as it involves 3 food groups. The grant prices the daily morning meal at \$1.18 per student as of 2017. We have 332 students which makes the grant request just over \$73,000.00. We have and only will receive about \$25,000 (approx. 36% of the original grant request) given over 3 instalments (1st instalment at 40%, 2nd and 3rd at 30% each) through the year (the first in October).

2) Parent Donation Envelopes

Every year we ask parents to donate \$25 in the Fall and normally another \$25 in the Spring. Approximately 50% of the families pay the Fall donation and less than this pay the Spring donation (25%-30%).

3) School Fundraising events (pancake breakfast, movie night, cook book, etc...)

A movie night can raise approximately \$1100-\$1500.

A cook book can raise approximately \$1700.

The Nutrition Committee **spends** money on:

1) Food expenses for the Morning Meal (grain, fruit/veg, dairy) at approximately \$700/week for 332 students (our school is near full capacity)

2) \$300/week in staff expenses for the Programme Coordinator and the Treasurer (responsible for monthly reports, writing and issuing cheques, etc...)

3) Nutrition Programming: paid outsourced programming for classrooms (budgeted at \$350/ classroom, \$650/assembly, none have been used), upcoming cooking club.

The CARRY OVER:

Every year we have carried over money left to us from previous fundraising efforts of previous snack coordinators and nutrition committees and any funds left in the budget to the next year's Student Nutrition Programme. This carry over is used to:

1) Pay for food and staff expenses from September until the SNP grant's first instalment is in our hands(first instalment arrives October/November).

2) Rainy day fund in case there is no Nutrition Committee (which happened for many years), or SNP grant programme falls short. (To date, the SNP grant programme has already communicated that NO NEW applications for subsidies or changes to the current programme in which more money is requested will be accepted).

3) Changes to the future Givins Shaw Nutrition Committee's mandate or programme in which there are more expenses involved.

4) Food prices at FoodShare drastically inflate and affects our weekly food costs (this has happened).