

IPS School Council Meeting 2024 02 06

Meeting started 4:30pm on at One Yonge Community Centre

Attendees	Regrets
1. Abi Wren	1. Jason Applebaum
2. Jeff Kearns	2. Jennie Lai
3. Jen Yeung	3. Johnny Tkach
4. Karen Rothfels	4. Kate Valiquette
5. Samira Zarghami	5. Maria Khan
	6. Teacher Rep
By Zoom	
6. Gary Pieters (Principal)	
7. Lindsay Stephens	
8. Tracey Baker	
• Adele K	
• Ari Lesani	
• Jason Doucette	
• Jeffrey McLaughlin	
• Kayoko Ito	
In person	
• Judee Yarmolinsky	

Agenda

1. Approve previous meeting minutes – Co-chair
2. Business arising from the minutes – Everyone
3. Four areas of focus for 2024 school year – various
 - a. Update on Nutrition program/lunches – Samira, Co-Chair
 - b. Update on End of year celebration – Jeff, Events Chair
 - c. Fundraising – Jen, Treasurer
 - d. Statement of needs - Co-chair
4. Access past funds/bank account and Foundation access – Abi, Co-Chair
5. Treasurer's report – Jen, Treasurer
6. Principal's Report – Gary Pieters
7. Teacher's Report –
8. Any other discussion points

Quorum

7 of 12 parent council members = 58% of council
Achieved: >50% members

Welcome – Samira, Co-Chair

Motion to approve previous minutes – Jan 9, 2024

- Proposed: Jeff, Abigail seconded
- Vote: all in favour, motion carried

Business arising from previous minutes

- Reimbursement of Police Check
 - Reimbursement request can be emailed to School Council (sc.islandpublicnaturalscienceschool@tdsb.on.ca) with receipt of payment.
 - Treasurer will forward to IPS for reimbursement to be drafted from IPS' TDSB acct. (Note, item had been approved by Gary and therefore can be reimbursed from IPS' TDSB acct)

Nutrition/School Lunch program – Samira

- Samira: received response from Gary that lunch is still currently in classrooms
- Gary – reasoning
 - Has spoken to staff at last staff meeting and relayed the info/request from Parent Council – did not have enough time at that meeting to fully discuss as they were addressing ferry issue (in the event that there is no ferry to school, what would the school do)
 - No obstacles to bringing lunch back into gym was brought up at the time
 - There's only one staff meeting a month
 - No decision made – will discuss at next meeting on **Monday, February 26**
 - Samira: Would it be ok to have a parent rep attend the meeting to talk about the nutrition program
 - Gary: need to ask union rep to see if it's permitted. Will follow up with Samira
- Jeff: wondering if staff needs to all agree before lunch can be moved back to the gym. Can Principal just make the decision to start it back in gym.
 - Gary: want to make it open to all. Will be discussed at next staff meeting – **Mon, Feb 26**
 - Karen: can this be discussed in between staff meetings to expediate the decision
 - Gary: Discussion of this sort is not done over emails. No suggestions on how to involve SC or parents to make this work for all

End of year BBQ – Jeff

- Planning starting.
- We have date (June 6, 2024; day before June 7 PA Day) and venue (WIA on Wards)
- Questions to Gary
 - What does the school need from us to make this an official school event?
 - How can you support the event if we do not make this a school event (community event)?
- Gary:
 - If community event, Gary will communicate it thru Weekly Roundup to advise families. He would be able to arrange transport from school to Wards for dismissal
 - If school event, staff would need to be involved in planning and they would to volunteer at event to supervise students
 - **Question not asked at meeting:** Is there a minimum number of teachers involved for it to be a school event?
 - **Question not asked at meeting:** can we access money from TDSB School Council acct to pay for items if run as community event?
- Gary suggests that we put together a flyer to ask for staff volunteers. He will include the ask in his Weekly Roundup for teachers.
- Gary
 - Rules different now from before. The case now is that staff are not required to be involved outside of the school hours
 - Staff have "right to disconnect" outside of school hours.
- Karen: if no teacher volunteers, does that mean that it's not a school event.
 - Correct. Teachers must be there to supervise

- ACTION Gary: please send a guideline on how to make this a school event. Abi requested the documentation to show this, as different to previous events when they have been a 'school' event and no teachers were official volunteers. Want to understand the official rules

Fundraising – Jen

- Spirit Wear
 - Pending PO number (to pay for the order) from TDSB – turn around time should be about 2-3 weeks
 - Need to refund the Mabels Labels purchases as min order not met
- Planning an Easter chocolates fundraiser to start mid February – look out for emails!
- Fundscrip is also running. Families may support the school by purchasing gift cards from Fundscrip. A % of sales is paid to IPS School Council. To access, go to Fundscrip.com ☐ “Support a group” at top right ☐ Group code: 3G98XT

School statement of needs – Abi

- Completed. Sent to Gary to send to TDSB on Jan 29, 2024.
- Gary: has been sent to TDSB before deadline of Jan 31, 2024
- SSON is done annually regardless of need for a new principal or not.

Playground – Gary

- Spider net climber is still under warranty. Replacement parts cost \$18,000. TDSB fully covering cost.
- Materials have been ordered. 6-8 weeks for delivery. Trade staff will then need to be booked to come in to install
- Jen: when are other replacement structures anticipated? (eg kinder play structure...)
 - Gary: pending budget and approval from TDSB
- ACTION Samira: communicate with community re: writing letters re: playground revitalization

Access past funds/bank account and Foundation access – Abi

- CRA had asked for a letter from the school stating the change of names/positions from was previously stated on their paperwork to the current names/positions of the active people
 - Gary is unable to provide that letter as requested.
 - Gary: The Lighthouse Foundation is a charity and outside the scope of the TDSB.
- If CRA still does not accept, the next step is to take the two past directors to small claims court

Treasurer's Report – Jen

- Currently funds in the TDSB School Council account is the \$ 5,792.50 from Spirit Wear orders. This will be used for the purchase of the Spirit Wear.
- Non TDSB account holding funds from parent run (community) events stands at \$1,778.30 after \$45.13 in expenses for Holiday Hoopla hot choc/marshmallows/candy canes.

- Items on current Council's fundraising list **(list still flexible)**

Item	Proposed Budget
Classroom discretionary funds (\$200 per class)	\$1,800
Computers (30 computers @ \$500)	\$15,000.00
Playground enhancement	\$1,000.00
School experiences & community enrichment	\$3,000.00
Grade 6 graduation (added as separate line)	\$200.00
Parents' police check reimbursements (assume 20)	\$540.00
Holiday Hoopla - Dec 14	\$200.00 – actual \$45.13

Principal's Report – Gary Pieters

- Principal participated virtually from School
- Appreciate the efforts of Parent Council – lots of work and commitment.
 - SC: Thank you ☺
- Submitted School Statement Of Needs – this what our school is looking for in a new principal – submitted end of Jan 2024. Process of searching for new principals starts in Feb
- Thanks for Holiday Hoopla support
- January was challenging because of the ferry – had to consider different scenarios
 - Bussed the kids thru the airport. Kids loved it!
 - Seems like the winter ferry is working well.
 - Still need travel safety staff. Teachers volunteering to do it now.
- Grade 6 teacher still vacant. Interviewing still. Hoping to give an offer of employment by next week.
- Report cards going home next week. Gary reads and signs each and every report card from kinder to grade 6. Questions/concerns are send teachers for editing if needed. Will send to families on Feb 13
 - Parent interviews Feb 15 & Feb 16
 - Feb 16 PA Day
- If families have questions/concerns from the Weekly Roundup, please reach out for clarification
- Jeff: Cori only in for half day. Is there another admin help?
 - Gary: Have a temp admin (Mary).

Motion to adjourn: Karen, Jeff seconded
 Majority voted to end the meeting
 Meeting ended 5:15pm

To do

1. **Abi & Samira** – find out how grade 6's want SC to support them
2. **Jason, Abi, Lindsay** – continue working on by-laws
3. **Abi** – continue to follow up on CRA

Resolved

4. SIP (School Improvement Plan) - completed
5. Spirit Wear
6. Reimbursement of Police Check
7. Ward forum night attended

Minutes written by: Jen (edits: Abi & Gary)

Minutes approved by: XXX, XXX

DRAFT