

## KES Council Minutes - Wed Jan 25, 2017

Attendance: Teri MacDonald, Leah Laframboise, Xiang Sun, Carla Backmeier, Stephanie Nasmith, Rebecca Leclair, Travis Martin, Jennene Powers, Megan Venner, Claudette Nyenhuis, Jeff Gervais, Harry deRoo, Kim Esdaile, Jasmine Quirk, Deirdre Mander

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00.
2. Approval of Agenda: Leah and Teri
3. Approval of minutes from Nov 23, 2016 meeting: Claudette and Carla
4. **Chair's Report:** Leah Laframboise

Coffee Day for staff: A special thank you to teachers. Jeff and Leah to choose date.

### 5. **Principal's Report:** Jeff Gervais

**Staffing:** We received an extra %40 allocation for the LDP program, and Karen Holinger was hired, but then left for a different position. We have now hired Sarah Arsenault. Sheri Wilson in on a leave, we have Victoria Castellano replacing her.

**School Learning plan:** Jeff has done some work with the intermediate math teachers. There seems to be issues with the students regarding problem solving. They surveyed the students, and although they have strategies for problem solving, they seem to be lacking in a test environment. After consulting the EQAO results, the staff are posing "if we...then..." type questions to help in the areas where the students are struggling. Mrs. Massie and Mrs. Quirk are the two math leads that are working on strategies on how to promote math and numeracy in all areas of study and aspects of life. The School newsletter has a "math problem of the month". Jeff is encouraging staff and students to incorporate math into everyday aspects of life.

Jeff is finding ways for staff to collaborate and find ways to tie the math curriculum in with other subject areas. Q: Is there a need for parent volunteers for Math? The school is always looking for volunteers to help students. If you are interested, please contact the school directly.

**Student Levy (\$5000.00):** Money helping make possible: Maker mobile, hoop dancing, blanket exercise, 20 Chromebooks, 3 tech tubs

(Mr. Thorp and the OCDSB's System VP of 1st Nations, Metis and Inuit Education lead the staff through the Blanket Exercise at the staff meeting.)

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**K-Crew:** Jeff continues to meet with the KCrew 2 times a month. He gets great feedback from the students. The students advised him that the version of Oh Canada in the morning is getting boring and they would like a different version. Jeff is looking into it. The students had positive feedback about the tech tubs. The students are tired of the snow pants and winter wear laying on the floor in the hallways. The basketballs need replacing. They would like to see extra curricular activities scheduled in a way so that there are not so many conflicts, and they would like them advertised in a way so that everyone is aware. It is hard to hear the announcements in the morning.

**Winter Activity Days:** Feb 3 and 16 Lots of time and effort has gone into the planning. There are 214 skiing and 115 staying at school. Jeff would like to remind parent volunteers that they

are required to ride to and from the event on the bus so that ratio is maintained for the entire day. There was not enough interest to have Grillmaster come for the kids that are staying. Amy Talbot, an artist, will give some workshops. There will also be outdoor activities with a competition and a trophy.

**Outdoor Classroom:** Laurie Giroux prepared a survey that will be sent out to staff this week and discussed at the staff meeting. Xiang and Holly have created an information sheet for the parents that will be sent out shortly. There are some workshops coming up. More details to come.

## 6. **Vice Principal's Report** - Harry deRoo

The ice rink is in use. On behalf of the students and teachers, Harry would like to thank Joe and his team for their hard work. He would also like to thank Play it Again Sports for offering to sharpen all of the schools skates at no charge. The school is always looking for used skates that anyone is willing to donate, especially larger men's sizes 11-13. There will be a Community Skate party Friday Jan 27....thank you to Stephanie Nasmith for coming up with the very popular idea.

There are intramural and extracurricular sports of all kinds going on.....Basketball, Volleyball, Bordenball. The Chess club continues to meet every second Friday.

There are some Grade 8 transition activities happening. There was a tech day at Earl and the guidance councillors will be visiting KES. Claudette would like to mention that she was very proud of the KES Grade 8s that attended the Earl open house. She felt that they demonstrated themselves to be a well behaved cohesive group of students. She mentioned that Mr. Harris (Principal Earl of March) mentioned the KES group and the fact that they were the only bunch coming in from outside the existing school building. Q. Will there be some social activities happening? More to come.

## 7. **Teacher's Report:** Kim Esdaile

Scientists in the School - the grade 5s had a presentation donated by Carol Mothersill.

Winter Activity days: the teachers would like to remind parents picking up their kids that the bus loop needs to remain free so that the buses can access the school to drop off the kids.

There is an optional Spelling Bee taking place. On Thursday Feb 23 in the afternoon, the top 10-15 spellers will compete. The school was awarded free entry into this competition thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Esdaile applying for a grant through the Big Brother and Big Sisters organization. She will need one or two parent volunteers for the afternoon of the 23rd. The top 3 will go to a regional competition at Algonquin, and the winner of that gets a trip to Washington. Our Librarian, Roxanne Merritt, has started the Forest of Reading Contest. The Silver Birch has started and more books will come.

Report cards are due home on Feb 15.

## 8. **OCASC** Jennene Powers

School calendar for 2017-2018: There will be a post labour day start, winter break will be similar to this year, the PD day in May will be moved to an earlier date. The calendar is not yet finalized.

The implementation of the changes to the gifted program has been delayed, in hopes of getting more feedback from parents. There seems to be a lack of feedback from parents that don't have kids in the gifted program, although the proposed changes will affect all kids.

The Board's complaint resolution policy added a reference to School Councils. The Elementary School Framework will help direct future decisions. Q. How does KES/CES fit into the framework? We are in a unique situation, and the frame work is just that, a guideline. The Board wants as little transitions as possible for students, and would like there to be uniformity, but there will always be exceptions, and the budget still remains a consideration.

Outdoor classroom: this was discussed at OCASC. The feedback indicated that they are very expensive, always expect to pay more than you budgeted, the accessibility aspect is a large part of the budget. Some school examples: Elmdale, Adrienne Clarkson, Stittsville Public.

#### 9. **Treasurer's Report:** Claudette Nyenhuis

We allocated \$1300 in community outreach money, we have \$600 left to spend.

There is a request from Mr. Thorp for \$640 in gym type equipment. There was a motion from Leah, seconded by Carla, with no oppositions, to approve \$300 towards Mr. Thorp's request.

**Agenda item 12** - Treasurer's role vacant for next year.

Claudette is looking to transition out of the role of Treasurer. She will stay on one more year as "Co- Treasurer" to assist in the transition. Xiang has offered to take on the role for next school year. Stephanie also knows somebody who might be interested if there is a need. The duties of ordering and collecting money for Pizza and Milk will go to Deirdre and Jennene. Thank you ladies for offering to support these roles.

Megan will be stepping down next school year. Leah is willing to stay as Chair. Stephanie would like to help somebody take on the role of Popcorn coordinator. Joe is looking for a replacement for Rink Volunteer Coordinator. Teri to update the blog. ( "help wanted" )

Suggestion: a signup genius sheet to generate volunteer commitment and interest.

#### 10. **PRO Night:** Health and Wellness

Proposed date: Wed Mar 29

There is a need to get teachers involved. Harry and Leah to meet.

11.

- a) **Legion Awards** : Several Katimavik Students received awards from the Kanata Legion on Jan 22. There were awards for written submissions and artwork. The teachers that supported the contest were given a certificate of appreciation. The awards were well attended and Katimavik school had many winners in the different categories.

b) **Toonie Tuesday:** The Education Foundation has a fundraiser on Feb 28th. In an effort to generate some publicity for the Foundation, and raise funds, there will be a friendly competition between CES and KES to see who can raise the most money. Jeff and Mr. Henry to discuss

possible incentive competitions. Jasmine raised the idea of a pie in the face reward. Teri suggested an extra recess for the class that raises the most money, or something like that. Motion by Claudette, seconded by Rebecca, no oppositions, for council to match the funds raised upto \$300.00.

c) Council participation was discussed after the Treasurer's report.

13. Adjourned at 9:00pm.

Next meeting: Feb 22, 2017