

Katimavik School Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Sep 28, 2016

Attendance:

Voting Members:

Teri MacDonald, Leah Laframboise, Claudette Nyenhuis, Deirdre Mander, Stephanie Nasmith, Rebecca Leclair, Natasha Bayley, Kim Esdaile, Jennifer Guerra, Carla Backmeier, Sheila Ball, Megan Venner (absent: Irene Jaroszuk, Ian Urbach)

Non Voting Members: Jeff Gervais, Lianne Cowieson, Harry DeRoo, Marie Leclerc, Natalie Pampararo

1. Welcome: meeting called to order at 7:00pm.
2. Approval of agenda. Added section for Harry DeRoo after Teacher's Report, and "bake sale" under New Business. Order of items changed.
3. Approval of minutes from May 25, 2016. Clarification regarding meeting dates on page 4, the Council can still meet in the library on the 4th Wednesday. (Motion by Rebecca and seconded by Carla)

7. Principal's Report: Jeff Gervais

It has been a fantastic start to the school year. Everything is up and running smoothly. Staffing and enrolment are stable, there will be no re-organization. Kudos to the staff for establishing routines and expectations.

EQAO results: Percentage of grade 6 students who met level 3 or 4

Reading %80

Writing %70

Math %44

There is an opportunity to focus on Math and room to improve. The staff is looking at how to change teaching practices and how we can improve. The staff will have a chance to examine a renewed math strategy on the October 7th PD day. The staff will also have a chance to think about the School Learning Plan, and Jeff will report back at the next meeting.

The voluntary school fees were dropped to \$20.00 a student because there are no agendas this year. The fee will be used to enhance the following three areas:

- social studies and the First Nations, Metis and Inuit
- Music and drama
- Technology in the classroom. (Replacing unusable chrome books)

Communication Strategy: Jeff will use the new school website, his Twitter account (which is accessible via the school website), the synnervoice system with email and phone calls, a monthly e-newsletter, and the google calendar. Jeff welcomes feedback, feel free to send him an email. Jeff.gervais@ocdsb.ca

Homework club: Tuesday and Thursday, starts next week.

International Language Instruction: Spanish will start on Monday, Mandarin is on hold pending an Instructor.

Ski Trip Survey: Two day program, Feb 3 and Feb 16. The staff felt that two days away from an optimal teaching and learning part of the year was enough. Students will have the choice between a skiing/snow boarding option, or an at school program.

Outdoor Classroom: Jeff visited Bells Corners School. Their outdoor classroom is in the front of their school, the price tag was \$ 35 000.00. Jeff would like to get a committee together to work on an outdoor classroom for KES, located where the large sand box area is right now. He would like to see a natural environment, no concrete, with a flower garden. It would be a space that would be inviting to students and teachers as a relaxing and learning area. This will be a multi year project, with fundraising and grant applications required. Jeff will strike a committee, develop a concept and plan, and determine the cost with the help of a consultant.

Library: Helen Bowes retired over the summer. We would like to thank her for all of her hard work and dedication, and we welcome our new Librarian, Roxanne Merits. There are currently 330 kids enrolled at KES.

8. Teacher's Report: Kim Esdaile

This year the teacher rep position will be shared between Kim Esdaile and Marie Leclerc. The teachers are currently busy working on the 100 IEPs that KES will have this year. They are currently in the development phase, and the first term IEPs will come out on Oct 19. The staff will be teaching "The Zones of Regulation". This program supports self awareness and self regulation, using a series of 20 lessons, and using a template where there are 4 coloured zones:

Blue - feeling sick, sad, tired

Green - optimal learning zone, feeling best

Yellow - anxious, nervous, hyper, not an optimal learning zone

Red - feeling extremely happy, angry, agitated, heightened feeling, not an optimal learning zone

The kids will learn that there is no wrong zone. They will learn to recognize what zone they are in, and learn tools to cope and help them return to an optimal learning zone using different methods. This ties in with the "I am, I have, I can" motto that we have been fostering. The staff will discuss it at their next staff meeting, and on the PD day. Parents will receive a letter, and keep an eye on the bulletin boards for more information. Mrs. Esdaile is looking for some parent volunteers to help with some behind the scenes work (cutting, pasting, laminating). If you are interested in helping, please contact Mrs. Esdaile at Kimberly.esdaile@ocdsb.ca

Tulips: Mme. Leclerc will be planting 355 tulip bulbs on Oct 5th with the grade 4s and Mrs. Reid's class.

The new grade 4s from CES are happy and doing well with their transition.

Harry DeRoo - Vice Principal:

There are many extracurricular sports taking place- soccer, frisbee, cross country, Terry Fox Run, football. There is a Chess club that meets on Fridays with a parent volunteer (12 kids) The Spirit Club is being led by Mrs. Quirk. Mr. Gervais is in the process of establishing the K-Crew. The first fire drill was on Sep 16th. Harry felt the students did very well and he was

pleased overall. Photo Day will be Oct 4th. Friday is orange shirt day in support of the First Nations Reconciliation.

Q: How was the soccer tryout announced? There was room for misunderstanding when it comes to intramural and the soccer team. In order to try out for the soccer team, you had to have been involved at the intramural level.

4. We will maintain quorum at 5.

5. Election of Council members.

Megan has gone back to school to further her education, she is looking for a Co-Chair to share the position with.

We are looking to fill the positions of Chair/Co-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, OCASC rep. Claudette is willing to stay on as Treasurer for this school year, with the long term plan of helping somebody new fill the Treasurer role for the next school year. Teri is willing to stay as secretary, unless there is somebody else who would like a turn. The parents present were left to consider the possible roles, and we will come back to this item at the end of the meeting.

6. Chair's Report: Megan Venner

Council Survey Results: 63 responses

95% were aware that we have a council

71% want a regular e newsletter

79% like the synnervoice message system

When we asked parents what was the major barrier to volunteering for Council, the majority mentioned too busy or not enough time.

Megan has committed to producing a monthly e-newsletter. We will look at making a blog post to address some of the issues that were raised in the survey.

The PRO tech night that occurred last May, was a huge success. Megan applied again this year for the same grant. This time the theme will be "Wellness". The PRO grant provided \$1000.00 plus \$500.00 that is awarded to Councils, the total budget will be \$1500.00.

We are hoping to tie in the theme of "Zones and Regulations" with the wellness evening to support the teaching staff. Megan will look at establishing a committee to put the evening together.

There is the possibility of hosting an "in house" Math related evening, if there is interest.

School Council Training Day: Saturday Nov 19th from 0830-1230

This training day will tie in with the Parent Conference that is hosted by the PIC.

Helen Bowes, our school Librarian, retired over the summer, after 15 years at KES. She was a great part of the KES staff, and kept our kids well stocked with great books. To thank Helen and honour her retirement, the school Council will give her a \$100.00 gift card to Chapters and a signed card. Motion by Megan, seconded by Rebecca, all in favour.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be at CES this fall from approx Nov 15-18. Both CES and KES discussed the approach that both schools will take when it comes to the book fair, and both schools have decided that we will alternate years. This will help with the lack of volunteers to run the book fair, and the ability to share profits.

Chapters Fundraiser - to be advised.

Garden: Thank you to Sue Pieters for all her hard work over the years in keeping our garden looking spectacular. She is ready to pass the torch onto the next green thumb. There are a few parents who have indicated that they would like to help with the garden committee, we are just looking for a fearless leader. We are looking for somebody to answer the question...where do we start? Marie Leclerc, our resident tulip expert, is also willing to help as an advisor. If you are interested in leading the gardening committee and helping us get started with the "dirty" work, please let us know at kesschoolcouncil@gmail.com

9. Hot Lunch Update:

Pizza and Milk will start next week, along with our other lunch providers. Claudette to contact Mazolla to ensure that they have the updated class lists.

The sign up sheet for volunteers is up and running. We also have an emergency back up volunteer should something happen at the last minute. The contact details are in the pizza binder in the office.

10. Popcorn: Stephanie Nasmith

Stephanie has graciously offered to run our popcorn program again this year. We will offer popcorn for sale at \$2.00 a bag. This puts the profit at approximately \$1.00 a bag. We have changed suppliers to Kernels. They still meet the ministry standard. Papa Jack's customer service level was inferior. There will be a choice of butter salt, low fat caramel, and salt and vinegar. Popcorn will be served on the second Friday of the month, in conjunction with spirit days. The money generated will start the fundraising for our Outdoor Classroom.

11. Halloween Dance:

There is some moderate interest in holding a Halloween Dance. Taking into account that CES is holding their dance on Friday oct 28th, we are in a volunteer shortage situation. Megan provided Teri and Sheila with the the names of the parents that indicated their interest in helping with a dance. They will discuss as a group and come back with some options.

12. Treasurer's Report: Claudette Nyenhuis

Claudette provided copies of the financial reports for the Council. There is a standing items list that covers the basic operating costs of the Council, and lists the regular items that we cover each year. Motion to approve the funding for the standing items list was by Claudette, seconded by Rebecca, all in favour. After entering the projected profits into the financial spreadsheet, there is currently approx \$2300.00 remaining for wish list items. The staff is requested to provide any financial requests in writing using the provided request form for the

October 26th meeting. Kim to remind staff that they have their \$50.00 allowance to spend, and to advise Roxanne.

13. Bake Sale: Stephanie Nasmith

There will be one bake sale in the Fall and one in the Spring. Jeff to verify with the staff and choose appropriate dates.

Outdoor Classroom Committee: Megan to give Jeff the list of parents that showed interest in being on the committee.

Addition to Chair's Report: There is an OCDSB West End review taking place. This does not affect schools in Kanata.

Two current recommendations have the potential to affect Kanata students:

The current recommendation for a second West End International Baccalaureate (IB) Program is Merivale High School. For students interested in the IB Program – your voice should be heard on the location of the West End site. This is part of the Western Review as Merivale is part of the Western Review.

The current recommendation for Bell High School is to convert Bell from its current 9 – 12 format, to a 7 – 12 format. For students currently in Congregated Gifted classes or hoping to join Congregated Gifted at Bell – your voice should be heard on the recommendations. This is part of the Western Review.

Please let us hear your comments, positive or negative.

Follow this link for the on-line survey:

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/sch/as/Multi-Year%20Student%20Learning%20and%20Pupil%20Accommodation%20Planning/Consultation/Pages/How-the-online-consultation-works.aspx>

Following is the timeline for the consultation and decision:

Key Consultation Timelines for the Western and Secondary Eastern Area Reviews:

September 7th Staff report presented to Committee of the Whole
September 13th Board approval of consultation plan
September 14th Notification to Municipalities, Ministry
September 15th Thoughtexchange Share Phase Launches
October 2nd Thoughtexchange Share Phase Closes
October 17th Thoughtexchange Star Phase Launches
October 20th Formation of/initial Accommodation Review Committee Meeting
October 27th First Public Meeting for Western Area Review
November 1st First Public Meeting for Eastern Area Review

November 6th Thoughtexchange Star Phase Closes
November 9th Accommodation Review Committee Meeting
December 6th Accommodation Review Committee Meeting
January 10th Second Public Meeting for Western Area Review
January 11th Second Public Meeting for Eastern Area Review
January 27th Final staff reports are published

Return to Item 5 - Election of Council members

There was one more call around the table to see if anybody wanted to fill any positions. Claudette offered to fill the role of Treasurer, Teri offered to fill the role of Secretary. After a few minutes and Claudette's offer to co-chair in order to keep the Council operating if nobody else would step forward, Leah Laframboise offered to co-chair with Megan Venner. All were in favour, there were no oppositions, and there was a big thank you all around. The position of OCASC rep is still open. Blog post to follow.

14. Adjournment 9:00pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 26, 2016.