

Jacob Beam School Council

Minutes for Thursday, October 18, 2018

In attendance: Mel Jones, Kellie Svoljsak, Michelle Moore, Heather Howe, Katie Fittante, Loni Pereira, Amanda Rundberg, Kathy Horton, Sarah Bacchus, Jeff Mills, Rachael LeBlanc, Simon Burtenshaw, Karen Mills, Leah Genovese, Amanda Moen, Christine Baggs

Chair: Rachael LeBlanc

1. Grade 8 Report:

The Grade 8s' reported on the school's success and activities so far this year:

Sports -	Both Jr and Int soccer teams did extremely well in the tournaments earlier this month. Our cross country runners have had a great season and a few of our Bengals went on to the regional race on Tuesday, everyone's hard work and practicing has paid off. Volleyball season will begin soon for our Intermediate boys and girls.
Student Council / Fab Five-	Mrs. Zulauf's class has been collecting socks all month for our Socktober sock drive. Our goal is 1000 pairs this year. Thank you to all our families that are supporting this worthwhile cause.
Events -	Our kindergarten classes had a wonderful time at the Niagara Safety Village on Monday. They were so excited to share all the important information they learned about fire safety and dressing up as a police officer was a big hit too! Harvest Play day was very successful, it was great to see all of our colour house families working together and supporting one another all morning.
In Classes -	The Grade 8's are going to Walker Living Campus on Wednesday to participate in team building activities.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of Sept 22 meeting: Amanda, Second: Simon, Minutes Approved

3. Business arising from minutes:

Approve voting members

- Voting members were tallied and total came to 13.
- The number of voting members is within the limits and no bylaw amendment is needed.
- All voting members approved.

Formation of committees

- Healthy Schools

- Nurse Wasse is willing to participate in initiating the committee and assist in goal setting and planning.
- One health topic is selected per year from six potential topics suggested by DSBN and goals/activities are designed around the selected topic
- Schools can report their activities to earn points toward a Bronze, Silver or Gold designation
- Members: Amanda R. (chair), Loni, Katie, Miranda (tentative) **Action Item: committee plan a meeting with our Nurse before November meeting if possible**

- Fundraising Committee Members: Kellie (chair), Mel, Michelle

- Green committee members: Jeff (chair), Simon, Karen, Sarah

Request by Mills Family – baseball equipment:

- Equipment requested:

- Storage (rolling bag)
- 4 Helmets, 4 chin straps, 2 bats
- Budget: \$260

- Loni has some equipment that can be donated to the school. Question was raised whether the equipment can be purchased second-hand. Expiry dates on helmets mean that these pieces must be purchased new.

- Motion to approve school council purchase of new baseball equipment: Karen, Second: Sarah, motion approved

Update on STEM grants:

The provincial funding program (Pro-grants) that was originally applied to has been put on hold (application was for \$1000). Alternative sources of funding need to be explored to support a STEM event at Jacob Beam. Look into possibility of a local company sponsoring a school STEM event. **Action item: Follow up with parents who had knowledge of opportunities through professional organizations. Revisit this opportunity at November meeting. Any parents encouraged to seek out information about potential sponsorships and present at next meeting.**

Fundraising events

Magazines: Jacob Beam's supplier for the November magazine sale recommends adding cookie dough to the fundraiser. Both products are offered through a single handout distributed to students and schools that have added this option have seen a 50% increase in funds raised. Families typically opt to purchase either magazines or cookie dough so total spend per family may not increase but more families will participate in the fundraiser. Christine Baggs will contact rep to ensure that nut-free cookie dough options are available. Cookie dough pickup will be an added task and information is needed for planning (is the dough frozen?).

Motion to approve addition of cookie dough to the November fundraiser: Mel, Second: Loni, Approved

Basket raffle: A basket raffle will be held again in conjunction with the school Christmas Concert. There was discussion surrounding the pros and cons of assigning a basket theme to individual classes vs. supplying a list of themes school-wide and soliciting prize or cash donations to fit a theme. Agreed to provide theme list school-wide as was done last year as this was successful and fewer prize donations were left over. Themes for this year's baskets:

- Family game night (2)
- Books
- Baking
- Candy
- Gift cards
- Pets

Potential big-ticket items: Niagara Ice Dogs tickets or similar

Action item: Need to include a list of suggestions for items to donate when asking parents to participate.

Poinsettia sales: The Watering Can has been contacted and engaged for this year. **Action item: Kellie to follow up and work out details for fundraiser.**

This year's list of fundraising events, goals and times will be published in the school newsletter to allow families to plan which initiatives they would like to participate in. Parents will also be asked to contribute ideas for where fundraising monies should be spent.

Suggestions from the Council and Principal include:

- Computer/robotics
- Library furnishings
- Sports- Rubbermaid tote per classroom with outdoor toys
- Volleyball nets (upright posts in need of repair)

Action item: Council to vote at November meeting on where this years funds will be allocated, taking parent feedback and staff requests into consideration.

4. Account update

- \$1595 in Council fundraising account
- \$1586 in playground equipment account

5. Principal Report

- Jacob Beam's youth worker Dina is working with the kindergarten students on the Zones of Regulation; a program that develops language around self regulation and provides students a "tool box" of coping skills.
- Progress reports will be coming home on November 8th.
- The Halloween parade will be taking place again this year. Participation for older students will be optional.
- There is an opportunity to host a community social event with the Niagara Ice dogs game again this year. If we buy into a block as a school the players will make a school visit and there may be an opportunity to skate before/after the game. Tickets are ~\$15 with no income to the school but we could add \$1 per ticket to generate some fundraising revenue. Consider coordinating with Senator Gibson school to make this a Beamsville-wide event.
- Inquiries were made about the new high school planned for King St. Report from Principal is that this initiative is going ahead and is currently in the land acquisition phase.
- A new whiteboard table has been provided to the school and installed in the Library to provide a "place of comfort" for Indigenous students and to teach indigenous reconciliation. This program includes education for teachers and indigenous artifacts provided to the school which have been vetted by elders.
- Elementary guidance role will be taking place in the school to help prepare the grade 8's for high school including skills such as organization and positive personal advocacy.

- Math scores- exit tasks are being conducted after units to assess learning before proceeding to new topics
- The Jacob Beam school library looking for volunteers. May be an opportunity for older students to earn Community Service hours but this would not be able to take place during school hours so supervision would be a challenge. Ideal volunteers would be available during school hours so that library staff can be present to answer questions, troubleshoot technology etc. Call for volunteers will be published in the next school newsletter.
- Highschool open houses will be taking place in November: Beamsville District Secondary School: November 28, Grimsby Secondary School: November 27, Eden: November 29. These dates have been confirmed, any dates previously distributed were incorrect. Grade 7s are encouraged to attend an open house in advance if there are concerns or anxieties around the transition to high-school.
- Lunch Lady is offering a seasonal foods menu which will include a turkey lunch for \$5. Do we want to add this option to December Lunch Lady menu even though Jacob Beam will also be offering the annual school-wide turkey lunch in the gym? Decision was to add this option to existing menu.
- Mrs Zulauf's gr 6/7 class is learning about helping others and has organized a sock drive for October. We will be totalling and donating the socks to community care at our next recognition assembly. The class goal is to collect 1000 pairs of socks to donate.
- Thank you to our grade 8's on planning our first play day. They worked together in teams to plan fun games for the rest of the school. Thanks to our grade 7's for being team leaders that day.
- November events - Remembrance Day will be recognized on Friday 10th, Magazine drive will begin, PD Day 16th, November this month, High School open houses will be the last week

6. Technology Spend:

Approximately \$1500 has been spent so far which accounts for half of funds received. \$700 went toward Sphero and associated games to teach coding. Additional funds will be saved and spent based on teacher feedback.

7. Business for next meeting:

- School council shirts for members and parents volunteering at school **Action item: Rachael to contact previous supplier for pricing and sizing**
- Creative Bug will attend November meeting to discuss art program opportunities to balance

science and technology extracurricular opportunities.

- Discuss Parent Involvement Council
- Review and update School Council bylaws **Action item: All council members read document and bring suggestions for changes/discussion to the next meeting.**
- Determine where fundraising earnings will be spent

Motion to adjourn: Jeff, Second: Karen, meeting adjourned. Next Meeting is Nov 22nd at 6:30pm