

Jacob Beam School Minutes

October 29, 2015

In Attendance: Christine Waler, Sarah Bacchus, Liz Martinez, Kathy Horton, Irene Petsinis, Laurie Arsenault, Leah Genovese, Rachael LeBlanc, Karen Mills, Jeff Mills, Mel Jones

Regrets: Cassie McNiven, Michelle Weiss, Krista Capes

Students in Attendance: Halle Hansford and Jeff Unrau, Regrets: Mya

1. Call to Order

2. Grade 8 Student Report:

Sports – Volleyball didn't work out the way the students wanted, cross country was successful and soccer was fun.

Breast cancer fundraiser was a success.

Anti-Bullying awareness week is November 16th to November 20th.

Harvest Play day is on Nov. 5th, question: What is that? Outdoor activities

Thank you parents for gardening, lunch, book fair etc.

Question(Karen): re: Halloween parade – can older kids parade with younger? Chris – anyone can participate.

3. Approval of Minutes from September 30, 2015, motion to pass the minutes: First – Jeff Mills, Second – Leah Genovese.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes:

Magazine renewals/orders – Notice has been sent out, starting Monday November 2nd.

Sign sponsorship – No name from sponsors can be on the sign, Jeff looked into using older Hamilton signs, Chris – surplus items are handled by the department and evaluated. Older items can't be used because they do not meet the requirements. Question: What's wrong with the sign? It is unsafe.

Question: What happens if someone is injured? Chris – depends who is injured. If a school employee, then goes through workers comp. If a parent, then through insurance.

Also need a new laminator – approx. \$2,000. **Action Item:** Chris will look into getting it repaired instead.

5. Account Balance Update

School Council balance: \$6,158.21 with \$5,000 committed to kindergarten playground equipment. Chris- Board request has gone in for the equipment, need to supplement the difference through fundraising. Question(Karen): Why can't they use the existing playground? Chris – It is for children ages 5 to 12, younger students can't use.

Playground Equipment balance (for repairs, pea gravel, etc.): \$2,239.80. The last expense for rototilling (\$150-\$170). Question (Leah): What ground cover is considered safe? Chris – unsure, they will tell us through the process. Question (Liz): The soccer field is very bumpy, unsafe? **Action Item:** Chris will find out if the rolling ground is considered a hazard.

6. Principal's Report – Christine Waler

Thanks to the Capes, Mills, and Felsbourg families for weeding our gardens on Saturday, October 24th.

Thanks to Laurie Arsenault for organizing our pizza, milk, and pita days and our magazine fundraiser (proceeds to our library). Magazine orders are due on Wednesday, November 18th.

Our Pink Day to raise funds for breast cancer research was a big success. We raised \$175.65 for breast cancer research. Mr. Sotola won the prize (an extra prep) for his pink costume.

Bullying Awareness Week will be held from November 16th through November 20th. Wear pink!

Spirit wear and pink shirts are now on sale. Orders for spirit wear are due on Friday, November 13th. Pink shirt orders must be in Monday, November 2nd.

We will be having a Book Fair the week of November 9th. Thanks to Laurie Arsenault for making it possible.

Our Library Donation wall is up and running. For a minimum donation of \$50 parents can have their child's special day recognized.

Harvest Day is on Thursday, November 5th. Our intermediate students are organizing fun activities to celebrate the harvest.

Progress reports have been delayed.

Karen MacNeil, our regular secretary, tried coming back for one week working half a day. Unfortunately, she was not able to continue. Mrs. Munn will be back on Monday to fill in for Mrs. MacNeil. Kathy Davis has been filling in for Mrs. Munn while she was away.

Our Dreambox Club is running every Monday through Thursday from 8:15am – 8:55am. Students need to bring their own earphones.

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) conference is on Wednesday, November 4th from 4pm – 8:15pm at Eden Secondary School. There will be informative workshops and lots of free stuff for parents. Register at www.dsbn.org.

Our soccer and cross country season is over. Our volleyball season has been postponed.

We update school events regularly on our website calendar – jacobbeam.dsbm.org

This year, our Halloween parade is at 9:15am. Students in grades 1 through 4 will parade around the perimeter of our property and then into each classroom. Grades 5 through 8 will have a dance at 1pm.

Our Remembrance Day assembly will be on Wednesday, November 11th at 10:40am.

We are planning to have a whole school turkey dinner again this year. It will be on Thursday, December 17th (the last day of school before the break is December 18th). We are hoping Santa will visit. We plan to ask for donations from parents to help offset the cost but will not charge anyone. Chef Paul, a caterer in St. Catharines, will prepare the meal. We will be looking for parent volunteers to help serve. Question (Leah): When do we set up volunteers? Chris – now until the day before.

7. Committee Reports: Updates and Ideas Sharing

Laurie – not available for craft show if before Christmas, available in February. Question(Rachael): How much money was raised? **Action Item:** Chris will find out.

Irene – The holiday gift shop is scheduled for December 10th-11th. Set up on the 9th (Irene available), all day viewing on the 10th (Irene not available), running of store on the 11th (Irene available). **Action Item:** need to look for volunteers. Question(Mel): What is the holiday gift shop? It takes place in the library and gives the kids the experience of shopping. Company sends in merchandise ranging in price from \$0.25 to \$10. Question(Karen): Is it a fundraiser? No, any money made is donated to community care. Mel Jones volunteered to help. Need to hand out envelopes and possibly teach someone new to take care of in the future.

Thank you again for everyone helping with the Green committee.

8. New Business

Update on Terracycle – accepts foil packaging, Chris – we are doing soup, normally we have Snackshack, but do not because of work action. **Action Item:** Chris will look into popcorn sales. Question(Irene): Is the popcorn machine broken? Yes

Grade 8 trip may not happen, parents may get together – steeped tea fundraiser, garbage bags, freezie days, ice cream, could have bbq. Chris – students would like to go to a city. Question(Leah): do they vote city vs. camp? Yes. Possibly piggyback with Twenty Valley. Liz: Washington was awesome – many free activities, just pay for food. Chris – it is a longer process for approval because it is out of the country.

Christmas concert – job action: Chris – tentative date, Primary choir is still performing because it is part of the curriculum.

Question(Irene): Should we have an emergency meeting if the job action gets settled? Agreed.

Question(Leah): Can we rent out our gym like some schools do? Chris – Could but the school doesn't get the money, goes to DSBN.

Question(Karen): What are the gift baskets? Ask parents to donate, each class has a theme. Tickets sold on night of concert. Chris – we have letters to ask people to donate. Can we sell food/drinks at the concert? Laurie – one year we did a bake sale.

Motion: If there is a Christmas concert parents will do a basket raffle. First – Liz, Second – Jeff. Jeff will distribute papers to ask for donations and volunteers for the gift shop.

Motion to adjourn: First – Liz Martinez, Second – Laurie Arsenault

*****Update*** Job Action settled, emergency meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 19, 2015, 6:30pm.**

Next meeting is Thursday, November 26, 2015, 6:30pm.