



Maple Ridge Elementary School Council
Meeting Minutes March 21st, 2017

6:35 – 8:10pm

Attendees: Natalie Makara, Nicole Guertin-Colverson, Will Dykstra, Cynthia Allen, Tracy Murdoch, Shealee Free, Tom west, Micheline Lalonde, Crystall Matheson, Elitza Palazov, Tamara Johnson, Robin Januska, Kristi Leblanc and Rosita McLaughlin.

Regrets: Barbara MacIntyre

Meeting called to Order – 6:35pm by Cynthia Allen

February minutes – Motion for approval Elitza Palazov, Seconded Micheline Lalonde - Approved

Principal Report –

- EQAO exams– (Education Quality and Accountability Office) – As per website - *EQAO is an independent agency that creates and administers large scale assessments to measure Ontario students' achievement in reading, writing and math at key stages of their education.* Assessments will be conducted again this year between May 23rd through June 5th, 2017. This is provincial wide testing and acts to drive the programming for the next year and the 5 year plan. This is not meant to put pressure on students and the school makes the appropriate accommodations for students that may need some extra time or different accommodations. These tests are for grade 3 and grade 6 students only (grade 9 at secondary level). At the elementary school level, the EQAO assessment results are not incorporated in the school report cards but rather looked at as one moment within the full school year. Results are forwarded to parents in the fall of the following school year. If you wish to get more information you can look at the EQAO website, there a lot of info housed online that further supports the EQAO and the testing. <http://www.eqao.com/Pages/launch.aspx>
- There is some damage made to one of the NEW wooden benches installed around a tree outside and it is being looked into. It looks like a plow damaged it in error.

Cynthia Allen – Chair report

- Family fun day is coming again on **Thursday June 15th, 2017**. The full parent council team is in support of the ensuring that this year's event is a success. There are emails that come out to parents asking for volunteers and donations for the events, there will be a few nights where we will meet at the school for support and help to set up the evening. We will be doing the same kind of theme from last year that includes bouncing castles and other attractions provided by 'Circus Delights'. There are thoughts around how we could get a donation and then sell raffle tickets. We will need to look into this and see what we can do. A note will go home in April looking for parents for donations. There was an idea of a offering a prize to the parent who donates the most or the person who solicits the most # and/or \$ prize amount. There was lots of discussion around food. Last year there were student volunteers that wanted to eat at the end of the event but there was limited food left. We will save items for students who are helping with the event this year..

- We are also looking for Pro-grant ideas as the application deadline is at the end of May. In previous discussions we thought that perhaps rather than focus on academic subjects such as math and science, parents and students may be interested in workshops on such topics as relieving anxiety in students, promoting emotional resilience, methods and techniques to relieve stress etc....MindMasters 2 is a series of workshops run in conjunctions with CHEO. Currently, Alta Vista Public School is hosting three evenings of MindMasters. Tamara and Scott Johnson have attended one and are very pleased with the material. We will reach out to CHEO to see if they are in a position to come to our school for the series. Tamara is going to connect with the workshop facilitator at the next session.

Friends for Life is another program that is run by Family Services Ottawa. Cynthia is going to reach out to see if they run programs in schools. Another option might be “The Nurturing Heart Approach” which also deals with social emotional strategies for children. Rosita has offered to fill out the Pro-Grant application once we have information about the three programs.

- Computer Coding – At last Council, there was information presented about Hatch Canada and the possibility of offering a computer coding program after school at Maple Ridge. A parent volunteer is moving forward with the planning. Since this is an area of interest for students and parents, Mrs. Dunn has purchased books on coding.

Financial Report – Will Dykstra (see Appendix 1)

- We reviewed the current balance and spoke about larger items that the school may need. We are in a good place financially and that is after the allotted \$22000.00 for the gardens and green project is cashed.
- There were conversations around putting money away annually for a larger capital purchase like a play structure but not limited to the play structure. This is something we will discuss further next meeting.

Round Table

- There are people who are asking about the before and after school programs and the recent changes to the Child Care and Early Years Act. There is information, clarification letters that will come home. The question is also about next phase of EDP. If there are more kids then there will be a need for more staff that work in the EDP.
- There was a Proud To Be Me grant application submitted based on a leadership program for grades 7-8 students. Last year, Maple Ridge was awarded \$500.00. This year the project will cost around \$700 therefore if we are not awarded the full amount, we may be looking to pay the difference. If needed, we will vote via email once we know if we are actually getting the grant or not, Cynthia will be following up with them this week to see if we were approved for this or not.
- We will follow up on the stage curtains in the gym. The curtains were to be replaced over March break at no cost to Council.
- Kindergarten information evening is scheduled for May 4th at 7:00pm

March 21st/2017 meeting minutes approved by MRES council:

Executive Signature

Date

Appendix 1. (Wil Dykstra)

Maple Ridge - Parent Council
Income Statement & Fund Reconciliation
 (as of March 20, 2017)

	Jul '16 - Jun 17	Jul '16 - Jun 18
Income		
Lunch Programs		
Revenue	22,585	24,262
Expense	-12,798	-13,929
Total Lunch Programs	9,787	10,333
Dance-A-Thon		
Revenue	6,133	12,698
Expense	-620	-522
Total Dance-A-Thon	5,513	12,176
Family Fun Day		
Revenue	0	7,376
Expense	0	-3,595
Total Family Fun Day	0	3,781
Entertainment Book		
Revenue	0	3,240
Expense	0	-2,182
Total Entertainment Book	0	1,058
Movie Night		
Revenue	0	0
Expense	0	0
Total Movie Night	0	0
Other		
Grants	1,500	4,000
Other revenue	0	643
Other expense	0	-203
Total Other	1,500	4,440
Total Income	16,800	31,788
Expense		
Donations, sponsor	0	1,500
Interest, bank charges	22	256
Miscellaneous	35	455
School - activities	4,846	2,689
School - books & equipment	7,804	14,838
School - greening	0	0
Total Expense	12,707	19,738
Net Income	4,093	12,050
Available funds, beginning of year	15,872	3,822
Available funds, end of year	19,965	16,872
Reconciliation		
Balance per bank	60,445	52,822
Balance per PayPal	401	2,015
Outstanding deposits	2,198	3,260
Outstanding cheques	(22,746)	(6,278)
Commitments		
Hot lunch	(4,700)	
School Yard	(5,357)	(27,603)
Technology	(5,036)	(8,344)
SIS Workshops	(3,240)	
Forest of Reading	(2,000)	
Available funds, end of year	19,965	16,872