



**Minutes reflect the order of the circulated agenda and not necessarily the order in which the items were discussed.**

## **DRAFT Minutes**

### **École Forest Trail School Council Meeting**

**November 7, 2016**

**7:00 p.m. – 9:00p.m.**

#### **Attendance for November 7, 2016 ÉFT School Council**

A. Abraha \*  
S. Awasthi  
S. Basaraba  
P. Brzezinski  
C. Cibotari  
L. Cowan  
L. Cummings  
S. Darabnia  
C. Han  
A. K'Oduol \*  
L. Leung  
C. Marineau  
T. Monteith  
D. Moshkforoush  
C. Swankie  
S. Van Wyk  
S. Waite  
N. Yousif

#### **ÉFT Staff**

S. Pillibossian  
S. DiFelice  
K. Spalding

#### **Non-Voting Parents**

J. Hand  
N. Russell  
M. Saghat -Chian

\* Denotes Regrets  
\*\* Not in attendance

#### **1. Council Information and Communication: T. Monteith**

- T. Monteith welcomed all parents and members to the meeting, continued with introduction of all members
- Announcing the regrets
- T. Monteith attended the Super Council Meeting in the area, Items that were brought up included: New HDSB Official Website, You Cube, Budget Cuts, Reviewing Burlington Schools and potentially looking into closing some Schools, Support for Syrian Refugee Families
- On a motion duly moved by L. Cowan, seconded by C. Swankie and 15 members in favor, the Minutes for October 2016 meeting was accepted.

#### **2. School Administration Report**

- S. Pillibossian mentioned that EFT have been awarded the District First Inspire Award. Mr. Pillibossian and Ms. Terry were selected to receive the Inspire Award. This was communicated in Savez-Vous.
- School is looking for parent volunteers on February 2<sup>nd</sup> for our Multicultural Night. Staff Committee has already been established, Parent Committee needs to be organized. If interested email Mr.Pillibossian
- School is also looking for parent volunteers for our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Council Members interested, contact Mr. Pillibossian
- Beaudry Constructions have cleaned the weeds, added Mulch and cleaned the front garden of the school, The field supervisor as estimated the work to be done in front of the school at a cost of \$1,500. School is asking the Council for the funds.



- School is asking Council for a list of Important Dates to remember so it will be communicated in our Newsletter. Current list includes: Mini Shop: December 7, Carnival: February 23-24, Spring Plant Pick Up: May 18, Poinsettia Orders are due and needs to be mentioned through Synrevoice as deadline is on Wednesday, Fun Fair: June 1 (Date might be changed to June 8), Kerr Street Ministries: November 28 (serving of the dinner at 6:30 pm. Needs to be mentioned in Savez-Vous, Staff Appreciation Lunch (if we ask community to involve, it can be mentioned in Important Days to Remember otherwise, mention in Savez-Vous), Final Council meeting: June 12 ( Parents would like Track and Field Dates to be included in the list)
- If Council wished something to be mentioned in Savez-Vous, please send to S. Pilibossian by Thursday
- S. Pilibossian sharing with council about Think Outside The Box Campaign (Shoe Box in the office). Students will put their name and class number and send their ideas. School Parliament meets every first Wednesday of the month, looking through the ideas and choose a few to make it happen at EFT. School will recognize all students will ideas, currently 45 ideas have been submitted.
- School Wish List Folder was shared with council
- Me To We Club has achieved their goal during We Scare Hunger and have asked for a PJ Day
- Revised cost for Music Program (\$2948.86), X-Movement (\$4100) and saving of \$1600 since music department is lacking storage for risers and no immediate need for those items.

### 3. Treasurer's Report

- C. Cibotari reported the School Council Account balance to be \$72,000 from which \$18,000 represents Cashless deposits for Pizza Lunch. Total profit for Pita Lunch is \$184.32. Accounting is asking for \$200 to cover bank charges. Child Minding was allocated as \$300 last year but only \$40 was used.

### 4. Lunch Lady / Mini Shop Follow Up

- T. Monteith has made contacts with Lunch Lady to halt distribution of plastic cutlery. Supplier for biodegradable cutlery has been contacted, waiting for costs and will e-vote to get the cutlery inside the classrooms to avoid trips to the office in case students forget to bring cutlery from home
- Most items have been ordered and already in possession. Shifts were communicated. Approximately 80 volunteers needed for set up, clean up, wrapping, cashiers, attend the



merchandise tables. Email will be sent with schedule, if interested reply with your preferred time slots.

#### **5. New EFT School Council Website**

- S. Van Wyk presented the new School Council Website. Some links still connected to EFTSC, all emails will be forwarded. New website is more current, can have a calendar to be updated, volunteers sign up sheets available too. It is simplistic and easy to browse, we can add events, fundraising information, lunch programs, education, and information about Coyotes Den. There will be a blurb in Savez-Vous with a link to direct parents to visit the website.

#### **6. Committee Updates/Overview & Volunteer Opportunities**

- Constitution Committee: All members are required to read the constitution, if you feel like something needs to be changed, or any part of the constitution is limiting us, we can ask for a review. Constitution will be greed upon during December meeting.
- Communications Committee: School Council Facebook page will be reviewed, if not used/visited, page can be closed.
- PEP Committee: S. Pilibbossian shared the great turnout form parents and students during the last event. Games, activities were planned, two teachers and two student teachers from Brock University leading the event. Council members asked to step forward if interested in taking the position of the Chair for this committee.
- Pay It Forward: Kerr Street Mission: we are hosting a dinner for families, include 70 people. Irene a Chef and parent volunteer has prepared a menu and will cook for the night. Main course, salad, dessert and veggie appetizers will be served. Me to We Club will be serving the meal. Entertainment by students who play instruments is planned. Mrs. Chambers is organizing shifts, and the group can switch to get a tour of the food bank. Last year \$900 was allocated but not used fully. Ministry has also asked for a list of items they need, the list can be communicated with parents if they wish to donate, and the remainder of last year's \$900 can be used to purchase some items.

We have a list from Agnes Taylor School , with low income families, homeless children, including items for Winter. Received a list of 23 families, with gender, size and items needed. C. Swankie will put together a shopping list on the website. Only two families asked for Christmas gifts, other items were warm clothing, grocery gift cards (preferably No Frills and Wal-Mart) and other basics. Suggestion was made to have a link on the website with list that can automatically be updated when someone chooses an item from the list.



- Fundraising: Help is needed on November 30 to organize orders of Poinsettias on delivery day. Chapters Night was a great turnout, \$730 came in a gift card for the Library, 40 books from the librarian wish list was also donated. Thank you to Ms. Welsh and Mr. Sommers and students for the performance.
- Safety and Well Being: N. Russell mentioned Foundations for a Healthy School. We have to choose a topic, have to go to 6 steps and get recognized when improvements are made at each level. In Halton only 3 schools applied and all received recognition. We are hoping for Gold. Registration was done on October 25. We have to have a committee organized by February and Action Plans and Execution in place by April. This will link Mental Health to curriculum. Get community data, neighbourhood data, items like substance abuse prevention, mental health, safety, positive school environment, healthy eating to be included.

In addition Wellbeing Strategy for Ontario Schools came up from ministry of Education. What wellbeing means to schools, students and parents. They need feedback by December. We can go through Council or have an online portal for everyone to voice their opinion.

Concerns about nuts in lunch bags: as health and safety committee, we need to send communication to parents, students. Suggestion was made to send communication in different languages about nut allergy and nuts in the students lunch bags. Communication about not sending candy to school was sent before Halloween, but will be re-send. To re-enforce, the communication will be included in Announcements, through teachers and can be included as a part of health education during healthy eating.

- Canadian Parents for French: Currently no member is a part of this committee
- And email will be sent to all members with list of committees. Please decide which one(s) you are interested to be a part of. Definite List should be completed by December.

## **7. New Business**

- S. Awasthi suggested an Art Club for junior classes. Currently school has Art Odyssey for older students, parents can volunteer during those hours.
- C. Swankie is handling Pita Lunch, will need help on December 14. L. Leung volunteered to help on that day.
- T. Monteith explained that every year we accumulate the profits of Pizza and Pita sales and approve how to spend it in June. By then the purchasing department at the board will be closed and nothing will be purchased until next school year. Suggestion was made to make allocations to purchase some necessary items from the school wish list since Council will know the profits from Pizza and can estimate the amount of money we can



spend, considering the need for an emergency fund as safety net so we always carry a certain balance. If items are voted and approved but situation changes and the items are not ordered, the funds will be returned to Council Account.

#### **8. Voting**

- On a motion duly moved by C. Marineau, seconded by N. Yousif and 17 members in favor \$ 200 was approved for School Council Bank Charges.
- On a motion duly moved by C. Swankie, seconded by S. Basaraba \$35,440.58,500 was approved for the purchase of all items in the School Wish List (Attached).
- On a motion duly moved by T. Monteith seconded by C. Han and 17 members in favor \$160 was approved for Child Minding.
- Garden Maintenance Funds were previously approved, funds available.

#### **8. Meeting Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.