

May Minutes – MHES School Council

1. Welcome and Attendance

Karyn Hughes
Kirsten Jacobsen
Julia MacEwen
Sarah Steeves
Barb Brunzell
Kim Seymour
Liz Conabree
Elvan Kuzucuoglu
Wendy Firth
Dave O'Neil
Kerry Green
Pete Veurtjes
Denise St. Jules
Delin Hayton
Angelina Nikkel

2. Review and approval of minutes

Approved

3. Treasurer's Report – Steven Mariasine

See attached

4. Principal's Report

- a. Wish list update
- b. Staff retiring

Staffing – we are losing a few teachers to other schools and were able to re-hire one surplus teacher. There is more hiring to do. EA allocation is not available yet. We are losing one EA who has been surplus. One teacher is retiring.

Kinder information evening will be June 13th.

eWaste and textile recycling will be taking place at

We have still not been billed for the water fountain.

All of the teams have been asked to generate wish list items for next year so that council can plan next year.

Book fair – thanks to all the volunteers – over \$7,700 was sold in books and products, which is a profit of ~\$1,700.

School beautification – some of the work will be covered by the board, but some will need to be covered by the school – this will be budgeted for next year.

EQAO – grade 3s and 6s – starts May 23rd. Admin is working out accommodations for the kids who need them. Admin is working to keep the anxiety levels down. If kids are absent, there are a few make up days. May 31st and June 1st are make up days.

Yard clean up started yesterday and some classes will still be working on clean up tomorrow.

5. OCASC Report

Next meeting is next Thursday. IB program at Merivale and school banking were the focus. An OCASC rep will be needed for next year. Barb Brunzell tentatively volunteered.

6. Science Night Report – Amie

There were ~170 kids. Radical science did the main show and provided the materials for the stations. In future years, we should consider running some of the stations ourselves. It was difficult to get enough volunteers to run the event, and coordinating the pacing was also a challenge. Next year, we should ensure that the main stage has the AV set up so that the presenter can be heard. The high school student volunteer really helped fill the volunteer gaps. Discussion around how to improve volunteer reliability in future years, including the potential to identify “lead parents” for different grades who could help coordinate volunteers.

7. Cookbook Update – Carole & Elvan

Currently, 250 recipes have been collected and final formatting is taking place. Orders will go through the school board so council can order whatever number they want. The book is about 200 pages. Once the order is placed, it only takes a few days to receive the books. Discussion around potentially offering discounts for bulk orders.

8. Other Items

- a. Retirement gifts

Council purchases a book for the library (\$50 budget) in the teacher's name. Wendy will take this on.

- b. Outdoor classroom committee – visits started

Several schools have been visited by council members. The committee is gathering ideas. Looking to do the outdoor classroom in the front, but still not decided. The committee is getting a quote next week to begin to understand the costs of this undertaking. Barb Brunzell will provide contact information and details provided by another school who put in an outdoor classroom. The company who the board goes through is Evergreen – they can send a resource to the school to help identify spaces and types of outdoor classroom options.

- c. Spirit award – looking for nominations

Xander and Kai Jacobsen-Hughes have been nominated. Motion passed.

d. Pro grant – needed? Volunteer to write?

Parents Reaching Out (PRO). We discussed bringing in a speaker to the school. Yoni Freedhoff is a local area doctor who promotes healthy eating – he has offered a workshop along with a public health nurse for parents. Barb H has agreed to write the grant.

e. Yard Sale update

June 2nd – need 1 more volunteer for face painting, 1 for council table, 1 for canteen, set up and take down, and donations for the council table. The grade 6s will have 2 tables, and the teachers will also have a table. There was a suggestion to participate in lemonade standamonium, which is also on that day – proceeds go to the Cancer foundation. Sarah Steeves volunteered to register the school. Angelina volunteered to help with facepainting.

f. Grade 6 leaving ceremony

Janice and Wendy have volunteered to run this. Contact Janice if you're interested in volunteering.

g. Mathletes

Need to book for next year around this time. Council will have to pre-approve the associated cost. Denise offered to take on Mathletes. Council voted to approve the costs associated with Mathletes for up to \$3500.

h. Community Use of Schools

Anticipated uses for next year have been arranged with Admin. These will be booked once the school calendar is out.

9. Adjournment – next meeting June 14th

This will be the last meeting. Will solidify fun day plans, discuss succession planning, improving elections process, review council finances, and look at wish list items for next year.