

June Minutes

1. Welcome and Attendance

May minutes approved.

2. Review and approval of minutes

Kirsten Jacobsen-Hughes
Karyn Jacobsen-Hughes
Julia MacEwan
Steven Mariasine
Kristen Guptill
Angelina Nikkel
Kirsten Baker
Janice Ballinger
Kim Seymour
Barb Healy
Elizabeth Conabree
Wendy Firth
Elvan Kuzucuoglu
Robert Crampton
Barbara Brunzell
Pete Veurtjes

3. Treasurer's Report – Steven Mariasine

See attached

4. Principal's Report

Staffing – some positions still being staffed, including several term positions. A 0.67 full time position is also being staffed.

Time tables have been set up for next years. The school's learning plan for next year is Math, so they have worked to make sure Math is taught at the same time each day.

Class lists are still being assembled. In previous years, parents found out who their teacher were around Labour day. How does council find out who their teacher will be? Would it be better to find out on the first day of school? There is general support amongst council to have kids know a little bit before school starts.

About 50 people came to kindergarten information night. The evening went well. There are more than 60 new Kinders next year. We expect more over the summer.

Fire drill – still need to do two more next year. One when the teachers will know, and one that will be a surprize.

School beautification – a quote to improve the front of the yard has been approved by Admin. It is not clear when this will take place. There may be some plants in that area

worth saving. Some parents have volunteered to move some of the nice plants near the mulched areas by the window.

The Carleton trip for grade 5 went very well.

Best of season feedback received from teachers. Historically, this event was initiated by the school, and council and the school made it a joint event over time. Because many homeroom teachers don't actually teach the arts in their classrooms, but they are spending time teaching the arts to their kids for this event. Teachers are also feeling that after school events are hard for teachers to participate in – teachers can't be obligated to come, and making it voluntary is challenging to offer consistency for the different classrooms. Consider changing the format for next year. Council discussed ways in which the event could be modified for future years. Elvan and Wendy have volunteered to help run Best of Season next year, possibly coordinating with teacher representative(s).

Pete and Denise thanked council for all the support and advice they received over they year.

a. Wish list update

Autism group, primary, and Kinders have provided their wish list items for next year. Juniors will submit theirs soon. Lists have been prioritized.

b. Finance report

Budget has been changed this year so that they school did not pay for supply teachers, etc. This means schools have a smaller, but more predictable budget. As this is a new approach, admin has been conservative with the budget this year, and they are hoping they will be ahead.

5. OCASC Report – Liz

The director of education for the board has resigned (Jennifer Adams), so there is an ongoing process to select a new director. You can provide your input online until June 15th. Parents can live stream a board meeting, including committee of the whole, which deals with budget. Council will need a new OCASC representative for next year. Barb and Martin have tentatively volunteered.

6. Realistic Expectations for next year

See attached summary of volunteer stats for the 2017/18 year.

Finding volunteers this year was very difficult. A change may be needed for next year, including limiting the number of events that are offered next year. Council should be selective about what events to offer and consider reducing how volunteer intensive they are. Suggestion to hold Halloween event, 1 directed fundraiser, holiday event, movie nights, and an end of year fun fair type event. There was a suggestion to hold a dance in late winter / early spring – in past years this was a real highlight for kids. Kim mentioned a program called Sign-up genius, which is a free program, and allowed parents to sign themselves up for different events. This allowed parents to sign up exactly when they wanted to and for jobs that suited them. A general call out sheet

may provide you a starting point of volunteers who would be happy to be contacted through the year, but specific events may need to have more detailed sign up sheets closer to the events. The hot lunches program may also have a volunteer scheduling function that could be explored. For the core events, it may be useful to pre-book the dates early in the Council year. Council has already booked the school for the last Friday of each month. Halloween has been booked for Oct 26. Consider having Admin sent out call out for coordinator during introductory message to parents.

Some of the events that are really school events (e.g., picture day, leaving ceremony, book sale) will be organized by the school next year – the school will coordinate their own volunteers.

7. Hot Lunches/School Cash Online

There is an early bird special for renewing early. A few people have mentioned that the system is not that user friendly. With school cash online being available, council may consider using for a few things, like donation letter or pizza sales. Currently 70% of parents are signed up for school cash online. School would collect the funds for those events and cut a cheque to council once the event is over. Admin is willing to support this usage of school cash online. Motion to not renew hot lunches passed.

8. Cookbook Update – Carole & Elvan

Initial order of 75 have all been sold. A second order will be made. Initial feedback is that the books are amazing.

9. Family Fun Fair Update – Julia & Robert

There will be 6 trucks for the touch a truck event, organized along the side of the school. Events include Hot 89.9, Nintendo switch, grade 6-run games, BBQ, face painting, ice cream truck, and 6 inflatables.

10. Other Items

a. Yard Sale Update

The event went extremely well. The lemonade stand raised \$225.20 for the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre.

b. Outside classroom committee – update

Waiting on quotes for outdoor classroom ideas from the board representative, starting with some of the existing quiet space. The initial \$6,000 can be used toward the early plans, but this will not start until next year.

c. Facebook Page – Kirsten

Looking for a new owner for the Facebook page. Discussion about challenges in moderating and finding the balance between a Council page and a strictly parent page. Martin has agreed to be the Facebook account owner for next year. Kirsten to sign over the account to Martin. General agreement that the page should remain a

parent page, with council involved as part of the parent community. The page needs at minimum one more moderator.

d. Succession – anyone interested?

Please consider volunteering for council positions next year.

11. Adjournment – next meeting September 13th

First meeting will be September 13, 2018.