

**EPS SAC Minutes**  
**Monday January 31, 2022**  
**Meeting conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams**

**Present via Teams:** Rosa Richardson (Chair); Christie Paulton (Treasurer); Beth Cowan (Secretary); Joe Oldridge (Principal); Andria St. Germain (Vice-Principal); Dana Brown (MAL); Sonya Sartori (MAL); Lisa McDonald (MAL); Stephanie Phillips (MAL); Nikki Fowler (MAL); Shelley Smith (Teacher Representative) and Kelly Hotts (Community Member)

**Regrets:** None

**Welcome:** Rosa Richardson (Chair) commenced the meeting at 6:05 pm.

**Adoption of October Minutes:** Motion to adopt December 2021 minutes made by Christie Paulton and seconded by Beth Cowan. Motion carried.

**General Business- Rosa Richardson (Chair)**

***Parent Reaching Out Grant (PRO)***

**Book Talk-**

- *How to Get Unstuck from the Negative Muck* (a kid's guide to getting rid of negative thinking), by Lake Sullivan PhD.
- Amazon.ca for price of \$15.50 each (hard copy).
- Mr Oldridge initially will order 10-15 copies of the book.
- Possible bag fillers to include the following: motivational pencils, bookmarks and pads of paper which will be donated by Rosa Richardson (Thank You!).
- The Book also has an accompanying journal available on Amazon. ca for \$9.15. However we will consider purchasing journals from the Dollar Store or Essex Public School sponsored journals (Mrs. St.Germain is researching) for cost savings.
- Program will commence the first week after March break and wrap up by the end of April; running every week from 6:30-7:30 for three weeks with the possibility of an additional two weeks for further discussions or make-up sessions. See tentative schedule below.
  - Monday March 28th- Chapters 1-3
  - Monday April 4th- Chapter 4-5
  - Monday April 11th- Chapter 6-7
- Rosa will develop a program flier with further information and RSVP details.

## ***Fundraising***

Table until further along with planning of the book talk. Consider fundraising opportunities at the school level in the spring (weather permitting) such as read-a-thon/walk-a-thon to raise money for the playground. Will re-visit this topic in February.

## **Financial Report - Christie Paulton (Treasurer)**

*Bank Balances as of Monday 1/31/2022*

Food Days: \$2,148.31

Fundraiser: \$545.76

Playground Account: \$6,741.88

Grant Account: \$918.94- \$500.00 deposited September 17, 2021 annually by the school board.

## **Principal's Report- Joe Oldridge (Principal)**

Principal's Report

- Changes to Covid response- no longer notify parents of positive cases (except for GAINS program) although few cases are confirmed by testing.
- We are facilitating a vaccine clinic at the school in the gym on February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3-6 pm. This will be promoted through the school board and health unit and is for anyone in the community. By hosting this our hope was to make things easier for Essex residents who want to get vaccinated.
- Happy to have food days started again.
- We moved Grad pictures until the end of March thinking there was a better chance for them to happen then.
- We have 3 students returning to us from the Virtual school next week. There will be no reorganization
- Our assemblies have been a monthly highlight. These are occurring through MS TEAMS as a live event and always coincide with a spirit day. This month our assembly will be on February 25<sup>th</sup> and will coincide with Jersey Day.
- Report cards go home on February 14<sup>th</sup> with interviews (virtually) on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> will be a PA day.
- Conversation with facility services pieces of rubber have being vandalized places on the playground and needs to be removed sooner than later. Consider doing renovations in stages; perhaps removing all the rubber surrounding both playgrounds and the cost will play a determining factor in what gets repaired
- Rick Emery rearding field move the kids to the back of the field. Aerate, overseed and roll to try to thicken up the grass since it is getting pretty patchy.
- Will look into Spring picture day considering current overall health

and safety measures during Covid.

- Print copy per family of the EPS monthly newsletter and posted on Edsby 1/31/2022.

### **Vice Principal Report**

- Kindergarten Registration- working on revising our videos and media which should be done by the end of the week. At this time, we have approximately 10 students already registered. We have purchased T-shirts once again for the new registrants. Our virtual open house will take place on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7.
- Registration is open now. Please use word of mouth to promote the amazing things that are happening at Essex Public School. Have parents call the school for more information regarding Kindergarten registration and our virtual open house. We can't wait to meet our future Phoenix!
- We are looking for help promoting by placing posters at local businesses. If you have a business or a connection in the Essex Area and are willing to help out we can get you a poster as soon as possible. Call the office for details.
- Pink Shirt Day - February 23, 2022
- Based on some professional learning and data around bullying prevention and awareness we will be engaging many conversations and activities with the students throughout the month of February to educate students on these very important topics. Below are some sample activities that our staff will engage in:
- Commitments to use mentor texts (from book list and library) and bullying prevention resources in the classroom that connect to anti-bullying/anti-racism from Grades JK-8. Connect the messages to explicit teachings of bullying terminology and strategies to prevent and stop bullying behaviour.
- Have ALL students identify at least one trusting adult in the building - write it down.
- Showcase and celebrate our Phoenix Proud Students (Hero/Extraordinaire) through 'I AM' posters, good news tickets, monthly videos and announcements.
- Volleyball paused since return from the holidays. Unsure if and when schedule will resume.
- Continue to look for recruits for part-time school aides to serve as back-ups.

### **Teacher Representative-Shelley Smith**

Shared how despite the continued challenges of Covid, EPS has continued to be a place of positivity and growth for the children. Pizza arrived at

12:00 pm on Monday which helped with lower levels and staggered lunches. All teachers that submitted receipts for the 2020-2021 school year have received their reimbursement.

**Community Representative-Kelly Hotts**

No new updates

**New Business-** none

**Next Meeting:** Monday February 28, 2022 @ 6:00 pm via Microsoft Teams.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:28 pm made by Beth Cowan and seconded by Sonya Sartori.