

# Essex Public School S.A.C. Minutes

## March 29, 2021

**Present:** Kelly Stack (Chair), Christie Paulton (Treasurer), Bruno Pallotto (Principal), Andria St. Germain (Vice-Principal), Shelly Smith (Staff Representative), Kelly Hotts (Community Representative), Dana Brown (MAL), Amanda Park (MAL), Rosa Richardson (Co-Secretary), Shay Freeman (Co-Secretary), Niki Fowler  
**Absent:** Stephanie Phillips (MAL)

**Welcome:** Meeting called to order at 6:16pm by Kelly Stack.

### **Adoption of Minutes:**

Minutes from previous meeting – accepted by Christie and seconded by Dana carried.

### **Financial Report: Christie Paulton**

Playground account: \$6491.88

Fundraising Account: \$8360.79

Food Days Account: \$1539.46

Grants Account: \$357.37

### **Principal Report**

#### ProGrant

\$623.05 received this year for ProGrant. Last years funds were returned due to COVID and the inability to offer any parent engagement opportunity.

#### Screening Tool and WECHU Protocol

Parent community agrees that daily COVID screening has been communicated and followed by parents. Mr. Pallotto thanks our families for continuing to use the school screening tool to keep our school safe. The school asks that if your child exhibits even the slightest of any of the symptoms listed in the online screening tool, please err on the side of caution and keep the child and siblings home until they no longer exhibit symptoms.

#### Child Care Addition Update

Construction is almost complete. Waiting on Ministry approval. Furniture will start to be moved in soon. More news to come for the Grand Opening of Storybook Early Learning Centre in Essex Public School.

### JK Play Area Enclosed

The new fenced in JSK outside play area is complete with hard top and grass areas for the children. This area will be used for DPA and Nutrition Breaks. There is 1 picnic table installed and a second picnic table to be installed soon.

### Lunch Programs

Harvest Fresh, Green Heart Lunch Club and Domino's Pizza are now safely being offered every week for our students. Any parents have any concerns about the safety of the delivery of these lunch programs please visit the respective website for their COVID Safety Plan approved by the GECDSB.

### Self-Regulation Pilot Initiative in the Early Years Classroom

Self-regulation education allows children to understand the root of their behaviour, including understanding their emotions, and their surroundings. Self-regulation tools allow students the ability to regulate their body during times of excitement or frustration. Children are better equipped to calm their body/mind after specific situations and to focus on learning. It is important that our youngest learners are taught the benefit of self regulation through effective strategies and resources available to us.

Example: Dr. Stuart Shanker, Zones of Regulation and Board Personnel. We want every child to have successful learning opportunities. "Am I Co-Escalating or Co-Regulating"

### New Water Dispenser Unit at EPS

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Water Dispenser Unit is on its way. Administration is seeking input from students, staff and families on the precise location. There is currently one on each floor.

### Graduation 2021 Update

Communication about Graduation 2021 has commenced with students and families.

### Learning Models for September 2021

More information will be shared soon with families about possible learning models for September 2021. The Ministry of Education and GECDSB are reviewing parent input and feedback from the current learning models offered this year.

## **Vice Principal Report**

### Ontario Student Nutrition Program

On Tuesdays, all students have access to fresh COVID safe foods and prewrapped snacks. (apples, clementine's, bananas, melba toast, granola bars, cereal, fruit cups, etc...) Thank you Mrs. Wells for helping with the safe food delivery for our student nutrition program.

March was nutrition month and the kids were able to learn some new facts about pears, apples, carrots and celery.

### Character Assembly

March Character Assembly will be on Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. This day will also be tropical day for EPS. The focus for March was PERSEVERANCE – the ability to keep doing something despite obstacles and challenges. EPS celebrates many students who persevere every day. The assembly will be shared during the day with students, this usually happens on the last Friday of the month.

Please check EDSBY Calendar for important dates and any upcoming events. April Character focus is RESPECT and April 30<sup>th</sup> will be decades day.

Please contact the office if you are experiencing trouble connecting to EDSBY or linking to your children's accounts.

### Peer Mentoring Group at EPS

We currently have a Grade 6 group of boys with our CYW, Mr. Brown. They work together on team building, cooperative games and building relationships with peers.

Go Girls and Game On Programs to hopefully begin at the end of April. This will be done virtually from Big Brothers and Big Sisters. This program will focus on peer mentoring, cooperative games and building peer relationships. This program runs for 6-7 weeks with a target audience of grade 6-8 students.

**Staff Report** – Mrs. Smith reported that food days are great for the kids. These days give the children some normalcy. School Cash Online is working out great. Mrs. Smith will remind teachers to submit receipts.

### **New Business:** Kelly Stack

Pizza Days are up and running. Dana is asking that trays be left outside the classroom doors in the school hallway. This way she can ensure they are sanitized and returned to the server before she leaves.

### ProGrant

Parent Reaching Out Grant – approved for Sarah Westbrook as a virtual presentation. The topic chosen will be Resilience Nurturing Child's Emotional Health

Dana suggested that she could do an EPS fundraiser pizza night with 2 options, possibility for later in year.

**Date of Next Meeting:** April 26, 2021 at 6:00pm

Adjournment and Farewell: Motion to adjourn at 7:33pm by Dana seconded by Christie.