

# Essex Public School S.A.C. Minutes

## November 16, 2020

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

**Regrets:** Kelly Stack (Chair)

**Welcome:** Meeting called to order at 6:02pm by Christie Paulton in Kelly's absence.

**Adoption of Minutes:** Christie made a correction from the minutes of the last meeting adding Shay and Rosa as co-secretaries.

Minutes from previous meeting – moved by Shay and seconded by Dana, carried.

### **Financial Report:**

Playground account: \$6491.88

Fundraising Account: \$8905.30

Food Days Account: \$952.21

Grants Account: \$1085.68

- Sound System upgrade and new technology are school needs at this time. Looking at spending some money this year, Mr. Pallotto will request a new quote for sound system.

ProGrant – have not received update, will have to check and see if Kelly has received any new information.

Spring Fundraiser – looking into organizing a fundraising program going in the Spring 2021.

### **Principal Report**

Learning Model Change – impact on school organization was minimal in November re-entry date. Final opportunity this school year to change learning model for students will be in January. (Attendance Survey will be sent to all parents). Feb 1 re-entry date for in person learning or change in learning model. November 16, 2020 – 25 students returned

to EPS in person. February 1, 2021 will be last opportunity to change student learning model until end of school year.

Progress Reports sent home today. No scheduled parent-teacher interviews at this time. Ongoing parent communication is always essential to a students progress. Home-School connectedness and partnership continues to be crucial towards ongoing student learning.

COVID-19 Update: WECHU moved Windsor-Essex to stage 2 (Yellow). Essential visitors only in schools (including outside services for children); and fall pictures deferred to spring.

In the event of a cohort being asked to stay home for 2 weeks (by WECHU) they will move to online learning.

If schools were to be closed, our goal is to move seamlessly to online learning. Parents are encouraged to practice with their children at home: how to login to Edsby, how to use Office365 including OneDrive; how to view and use Class Notebook (if applicable).

SIPSA update: notice a large number of students in K-2 struggling with reading fluency and reading comprehension this year. School has purchased 2 LLI Kits – Levelled Literacy Intervention Kits; Orange – KG-phonemics; Green kit – grade1-2. Used primarily by LST Mrs. Reimer-Jones but goal is to have teachers from K-2 begin using kits for very small group reading intervention in class.

Math / Numeration – tabled until next meeting.

Profile of a Principal – can submit updated Profile of a Principal anytime this year. No deadline. Christie Paulton to share profile on file at the GECDSB with SAC members.

Green Heart Lunch has submitted their COVID-19 safety plan and has been approved to proceed by the GECDSB. Harvest Fresh and Dominos are waiting on approval and delivery. School will proceed with caution permitting one member from each organization to enter EPS and bring individually packaged lunch orders. School will put in place a delivery model ensuring minimal staff touching containers.

Child Care Addition update – proceeding according to plan; electrical connection to new build coming soon. Security in evening and on weekends has been increased on school grounds and construction area. 10,000 sq ft. – no opening day yet.

Fundraising update – Possible fundraiser by the school to be announced. Also possible fundraiser by SAC in the Spring (COVID friendly). Funds to be allocated towards our sound system upgrade. Technology needs to be purchased as well – but school will wait to order in the new year.

Diorama celebration – utilized as a teaching tool both for Fire Safety Prevention Week and Remembrance Day (they brought the Cenotaph to the kids). Thank you to Heidi and James Spring.

Sound System Upgrade – in gymnasium. Principal will inquire about an updated quote and tentative installation date.

### **Vice Principal Report**

Snack program is under way – part of OSNP (Ontario Student Nutrition Program)

- Variety of fresh fruits and prepackaged foods (bananas, clementine's, apple sauce, granola bars, etc...)
- Operates 3 days per week
- Food delivered to K-8 classrooms following COVID safety protocols

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week – We All Belong (Theme)

- Focus on inclusion, kindness and acceptance – staff will engage in a variety of activities, not only this week (Nov 15-20), but throughout the year to go along with the theme. We do this in a variety of ways such as:
  - Through lessons, mentor texts and videos to spark conversation.
  - Showcase a new resource called: “The Day You Begin” by Jacqueline Woodson
  - Proactive strategies in place to promote belonging: staff and students engaging in cooperative games, Tribes collaborative and community building activities, engaging in lessons using videos and a variety of mentor texts.
  - Peer mentoring groups for both boys and girls in various grades (5-8) to support positive peer relationships – working with various staff within the school as well as through support from our community partners (Big Brothers/Big Sisters). Virtual Groups coming in the new year.
- Grades 1-3 engaging in role play activities to learn how to play fair, be kind, use their words, have safe hands and include each other in play.
- Educating and reminding students about the different types of bullying and teaching them strategies to positively solve conflict with peers and report to an adult when someone is hurt or unkind.
- OLWEUS bullying circle activity to understand the roles in a bullying situation and what to do to support someone being targeted (words to say and how to report)
- Unlearn posters – opening the door for conversation about a variety of social topics in the world today
- VIP Officer has been sharing information on cyberbullying
- Pink Shirt Day this Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. St. Germain left us with a quote: “If you do not intentionally and deliberately include, you will unintentionally exclude. No hatred required.” Joe Gerstandt

**Staff Report** – Mrs. Smith reported all students and staff are working hard. Interactions have been limited due to COVID-19 restrictions as students learn and play in their cohorts.

**New Business:**

Stephanie asked if the school is noticing an increase in bullying while outside at recess. Mr. Palotto reassured parents that there is ample supervision outside. However, students are always playing with the same peers due to covid cohorts.

Amanda Park asked about rotating zones outside because some areas are more enticing for the children. Mrs. St. Germain will be looking at some possibilities in the future.

Dana said everything is good to go for Pizza Mondays. They have come up with an individual box containing half a small pizza cut into 2 pieces. The cost is \$2.75. We can raise the price to \$3.00 and get a quarter profit from each order. Ordering to be set-up on school cash online. Domino’s Pizza must still submit their COVID Safety Plan to the Board.

Turkey Lunch and Christmas Bazaar are unfortunately cancelled due to COVID. Christie suggested something for the kids instead of these events. Mrs. St. Germain suggested schoolwide bingo, including prizes. SAC members to set up a separate virtual meeting to discuss.

Discussed that SAC has traditionally given the teachers gift cards (\$150) to be used in their classrooms. Shelley Smith mentioned that there were a lot of extra costs this year and gift cards would be appreciated.

Motion was made by Rosa that we give the \$150 spending allowance for every teacher now instead of waiting to our next meeting to help with extra costs in the classroom around Christmas. Seconded by Shay and Dana. Motion carried.

**Date of Next Meeting:** January 11, 2021

Adjournment and Farewell: Motion to adjourn at 7:46pm by Shay seconded by Dana and Amanda