

SAC Minutes: Monday, November 18, 2019 @ 6:00 PM

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 6:12PM by Kelly Stack.

Present: Laura Vermeer (Co-Chair), Kelly Stack (Co-Chair), Heidi Spring (Treasurer), Beth Cowan (Co-Secretary) Marianne Lee (Co-Secretary), Kelly Hotts (Community Member), Shelley Smith (Staff Representative), Bruno Pallotto (Principal), Andria St. Germain (Vice-Principal), Christie Paulton (MAL), Christian Paulton, James Spring (MAL), Lori Fawdry (MAL), Rose Morand (MAL), Nikki Fowler (MAL), Dana Brown (MAL), Christine Pyne, Colin Pyne (Student Representative)

Regrets: Amanda Park (MAL), Stephanie Phillips (MAL), Beth Guenther (MAL), Rebecca Tonan (MAL)

Adoption of Minutes: *Motion to adopt October 21, 2019 minutes as distributed, made by Kelly Hotts, seconded by Rose Morand. Motion carried.*

Financial Report:

Bank Balances as of November 15, 2019:

Chequing Account: \$ 2135.21

Fundraising Account (MacMillans): \$762.00

Playground Account: \$ 6491.88

Grant Account: \$ 778.01

Teaching Staff Representative Report:

Mrs. Schmidt requested a Badminton Racket Storage Cart and Quick Start Net: \$667.31 for both.

Motion to purchase a Badminton Racket Storage Cart and a Quick Start Net for \$667.31 made by Kelly Hotts, seconded by James Spring. Motion carried.

General Business:

Kindness Week:

Essex Public School would like to spread kindness for Kindness Week (November 18-22). Students and staff are asked to engage in kindness acts and promote kindness by wearing some fun spirit wear each day to help enhance focus for Character Education and promote positivity.

Holiday Bazaar Update:

Most of the vendors are in place and have paid. Some returning vendors will pay on the day of set up. We have thirty-four 8-foot tables. The committee may need some extra six-foot tables the night of set up. Mrs Armstrong's daughter will be coming in to sell her books. We will not be charging her the table rental fee as she is donating a book to EPS. No new updates on food. Staff menu was reviewed and discussed. Kelly Stack donating chili, Rosa Richardson donating potato soup. Old School Deli donating chicken noodle soup, take away containers and cutlery.

Hot Chocolate Concern: A concern about younger grades consuming hot chocolate in the gym was brought to SAC's attention. Mrs. Smith asked if kindergarten and primary teachers can order for their class and have the hot chocolate delivered (by student volunteers) to the classroom to enjoy there. Adults have delivered hot chocolate to kindergarten classes in the past. Mr Pallotto will discuss with the staff at the upcoming staff meeting and decide whether or not grade eight students will be used for hot chocolate delivery and if so he will set that up with Colin Pyne, and other grade eight student volunteers.

The Essex Public School Holiday Bazaar Volunteer Form was passed around, reviewed by SAC and discussed. It will be placed on Edsby, and a hard copy will go home.

MacMillans Fundraiser:

Cash Online orders are to be updated. Approximate totals were given by Kelly Stack. The purchased items will be delivered to the school November 29th (10am – noon.) Parent can pick up orders that same day (3-6 pm) in the courtyard. Pizza parties will be offered to the top selling classes per division.

Turkey Lunch:

UNIFOR donated \$300 to purchase last year's turkeys. They were purchased at No Frills. SAC will ask UNIFOR again, but if not we will ask for donations from other local businesses. Money profited from last year's Holiday Bazaar could also be used to purchase this year's turkeys. Essex Rotary will be cooking instead of the University of Windsor this year and they will be donating all of the other food items (other than turkeys.) Stephanie Winger is donating cookies. Andrew Johnson from Foodland has donated stuffing in the past. Jeff McPhee from No Frills has donated a gift card to purchase juice in the past. There is a possibility of getting the juice donated from McDonald's this year. SAC had a discussion about portion sizes. Portion size serving spoons will be purchased this year in order to keep portions uniform.

Student Rep Report: Colin Pyne offered input on the annual Holiday Bazaar from the student body members he interviewed and reported his findings at the Bazaar Committee meeting. Colin will make daily announcements, starting tomorrow about re-gifting table donations. He and the grade eights already made 150 paper gift bags to donate to the gift-wrapping table at the upcoming Bazaar.

Principal's Report:

Parent Engagement Grant:

Ministry of Education \$500 grant deposited for SAC to use for parent engagement. Examples of what the money can be used for were presented to SAC.

Student Safety:

Morning supervision starts in the school yard at 8:20 am. Students in the yard prior to that time without a family member are not supervised and this raises safety concerns. The playground equipment is now officially closed for the season due to snowy weather creating unsafe play situations.

Immunization Letters:

Windsor Essex County Health Unit sent letters home to families whose children currently have immunization records that need updating. The Ministry of Health dictates that these records must be updated. If they are not updated with the Health Unit by Monday, March 2nd a school suspension may be the consequence.

Kiss and Ride Procedures:

Parents are asked to please move their vehicles up in the drop off lane. Adults are to stay in their vehicles. If adults wish to walk their children into the yard, they are asked to park their car and walk them up to the school grounds.

Fundraiser:

Thank you to those parent volunteers who helped with MacMillan's fundraiser.

School Improvement Plan:

Professional Development on SIPSA will be Friday, November 15, 2019 for EPS staff members. The focus will be on student well-being, reading, math, and writing SMART goals. Staff will also discuss how will these goals be monitored. SMART Goals are to be reached by June 2020. Mr. Pallotto focused on the well-being SMART goal, and presented to SAC how EPS staff members plan to support children in their mental health and well-being. Some of the following were discussed: resources that can be used, action steps, participation in

restorative practices, and the students' ability to find one trusting adult they feel comfortable talking to about their mental health concerns.

Vice-Principal's Report:

Big Brothers and Big Sisters Programs:

"Go Girls" and "Game On" are creating wonderful opportunities for EPS students. There has been very positive feedback from the students involved.

STEAM Opportunities: (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)

Teachers can send up to three students up to the library during first recess to participate in team building and cooperative activities together.

Character Education:

Focus for the school year is on kindness and empathy. There is a lot of discussion with students about restorative justice; how actions affect others, viewing conflict as learning opportunities to problem-solve properly, involve students in deciding what they can do differently and a team agreement approach. Friday, November 29th at 8:40 am is the next character assembly. Parents are welcome.

Bricks for Kids:

Takes place on Mondays after school for those who signed up.

Fundraiser:

EPS raised almost \$17,500. Top selling classes in each division (4 in total) won pizza parties. Date for the pizza parties to be determined.

New Business:

Greenheart Pasta Lunch for the school will have a cost of \$1 per student versus free (last year). SAC discussed pros and cons of the lunch, and whether or not we want to participate in a Greenheart Pasta Lunch this year.

Motion to not participate in the Greenheart pasta lunch made by Beth Cowan and seconded by Heidi Spring. Motion carried.

Date for Next Meeting: Monday, January 20, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment and Farewell:

Motion to adjourn at 8:21 pm made by Heidi Spring, seconded by Dana Brown. Motion carried.