



Kars on the Rideau School Council Meeting Minutes of November 08, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Present: Kim Cable, Rick Haggard, Denise St. Jules, Lori Gruber, Jen Wright, Bonnie Fiarchuk, Diane Dey, Jen Ball, Robin Churchill, Shereene De Rosayro, Steve Montero, Carm Janneteau, Lianna Titcombe

Regrets: Michelle Marette, Paula Panetta, Andrea Winter, Jennifer Mercer, LEEANNE Van der Burgt, Michelle Crogie, Michelle Farncombe, Pouneh Shalkeri, Rachel Polite, Rowena Pearl, Tanya Simard

Chair Report

Kim welcomed everyone and mentioned tonight's meeting had a relatively short agenda.

Attendance: Kim reminded group that attendance is important, and although the bylaws allow for 3 absences, we should make every effort to regularly attend meetings, especially voting members. Regrets are appreciated if members are unable to attend.

Treasurer Report

Lori reviewed the latest financial report, mostly Jar Walk and Hot Lunch activity to date. Forecasting a \$2800 closing balance so far.

Principal Report

Rick noted meaningful Remembrance Day Ceremonies, with great participation including 80 band members, and 80 choir members, and fabulous organization and effort by all to honour those who have fallen and those who serve, along with their families.

Tech Update: Rick reported we are in good shape for technology. We have just received the last order of Chrome Books and iPads. All homerooms will have a "tech bucket", each division/grade has specific needs: ie: Juniors have more iPads than Chromebooks. Each class has 6 or 7 devices per classroom 'bucket.' Classes can 'borrow a bucket' as needed from each other. Overall there are

100 laptops to be dispersed. Rick mentioned we are fortunate to be one of very few schools with TWO Tech Labs as well.

Ottawa 67's Game Day: Rick reported there was a fabulous response to the upcoming event. At \$12.00 per ticket all are welcome. Last year, 50-60 parents attended, also welcome on buses with their children. Wed. Nov. 16th is Game day.

Christmas Assembly will be organized by Kim Crewe and team.

Safe Schools: Denise reported, that in accordance with our 'Safe and Inclusive Committee, we must make every effort to change vocabulary/mindset from 'Anti-Bullying' towards 'Promoting Kindness.' The committee also is promoting awareness to MINDFULNESS, which is a strategy of being mindful and 'in the moment' geared to help anxiety and conflict resolution. There is opportunity for parents to become involved as well.

Denise also mentioned that since the WITS Program (Walk Away; Ignore; Talk it out; Seek Help) is geared toward younger students, she suggested one option is to have the juniors teach the younger ones, or be leading promoters. Another key to success will be to give teachers the resources necessary to effectively implement the program.

Rick mentioned another initiative, 'Restorative Circle' has proven to be successful by problem solving around the table together, where kids are part of the solution.

Rick passed around an updated **Calendar of Events** Schedule.

Current Business:

a) **Approval of October Minutes.**

MOTION to accept minutes as published:

Motion made by Kim

1) Shereene 2) Bonnie

Motion **PASSED**

b) **Bylaw Update** – The Bylaw currently allows for \$100.00 for **each homeroom teacher and EA**, to assist with the purchases of classroom consumables (not otherwise covered by the board). Kim suggested a change to KOTR Council Bylaw's to include **teachers without homerooms**, since there are currently 6 who under the current bylaw will not receive this funding. To ensure every fulltime teacher/EA receives this funding, the Bylaw wording should be changed to all 'fulltime (equivalent) teachers and EA's". This will change the total amount funded from \$3700 to \$4300.00.

MOTION to change KOTR Bylaw re: funding for Classroom Consumables for the number of EA's and Fulltime Equivalent Teaching Staff (\$100.00 each).

1) Robin 2) Jen Ball

Motion **PASSED**

\$4300 granted to school for teachers to draw from for classroom consumables.

Rick noted that in conjunction with Board policies and good practice, funding will be done through the office and reimbursements done with receipts.

c) Fundraisers Update

Fundscrip Gift Cards: Steve reported that this company has recently changed their policy, instead of card purchases being online, we would have to fill out paperwork for each purchase making this fundraiser very labour intensive and impractical. It was agreed; we will not pursue this any further.

E-Cause Toilet Paper: Agreement that this would be best pursued after the holidays, since Loonie/Toonie and Hot Turkey Luncheon will keep us busy until the New Year.

Indigo Book Night: Indigo Barrhaven offers to open their store for Kars on the Rideau shoppers, and a percentage of sales goes to the school. There are some limitations, and concerns about getting parents out to Barrhaven to shop on a certain night (since it is not local).

Market Place/Spring Market: other schools have done well with this. Money is made on renting tables to local artisans, home-based businesses, or anyone interested in renting a table. It is minimal labour, and great for the community. This would be held in the large gym. Timing not to interfere with North Gower Market in May. Easter considered. Could be a prelude to Farmers Markets in communities. Council agreed to explore this idea further.

Jen Ball and Robin Churchill have agreed to lead committee for Spring Market Fundraiser. Rick suggested he would phone 'Community Use of Schools' to request use of both gyms. Rick also suggested, some companies come in and give a percentage of sales. **SPRING MARKET** to go into Coordinator Updates on monthly Council Agenda.

d) Funding Requests

Rick has requested funding for junior gym equipment (gr. 6, 7, 8). (Primary has been replenished.) Rick reported that he might reprioritize (and tech) and has asked for \$4000. Gym priorities are established according to SOPHEA guidelines. Juniors require 'game' balls for when hosting tournaments. We need a dedicated room for one-time use balls; coaches bags; exclusively for kids on teams. Another storage area needs to be for outdoor equipment such as snowshoes, outdoor balls, etc.

School Requests: in priority order

1. Gym Equipment: \$4000 (as above)
2. Kindergarten Equipment: \$1000 (Outdoor trucks, etc. when play structure is closed)
3. Technology: \$10,000 (ongoing, ladybugs; iPads; Chromebooks; etc.)
4. Yard Painting \$2000 (lines painted for jumping games; 1-100 (10x10) Math Outside, etc.)
Rick looking into company who did this before.

Kim tabled **MOTION** \$4000 for Gym Equipment: Robin suggested we split between 1st and 2nd priority, allowing **\$3000 for Gym Equipment and \$1000 for Kinder Equipment.**

1. Robin
2. Diane

Motion **PASSED**

\$4000 granted to school for gym and kindergarten purchases.

Educational Funding Request:

Hoop Dancing Workshop

On behalf of Nicole Zahorka, Rick requested funding for Hoop Dancing workshop (a MASC workshop), by Artist Rhonda Dextator.

Cost is \$630 for grades 3,4,5.

Kim noted that these classes might be exempt from further dance workshops if Council funding needs to cover other classes. Priority will be given to classes that haven't been funded for similar workshops. Council tries to spread funding equally amongst all grades during a school year.

Kim tabled **MOTION to fund Hoop Dance Workshop for \$629**

1. Jen Ball
2. Shereene

Motion **PASSED**

\$629 granted to school for use by N. Zahorka.

Coordinator Updates

a) Teacher Representatives

Michelle M. absent: Educational Funding request for MASC workshop 'Hoop Dancing' (See above).

b) Hot Lunches/Milk Program

While our second macaroni and cheese lunch last week was better received, we have decided to go back to another pasta meal we've delivered before. Our supplier will provide a different pasta dish for the last 2 scheduled macaroni & cheese lunches this term (Nov-30 & Jan-11). This new meal will include noodles, butter and parmesan cheese. It will also come with apple slices as an accompaniment. Pasta will not be offered term 2.

c) Jar Walk Debrief

The Jar Walk was very successful and raised \$2570.00.

d) Loonie-Toonie Sale

Shereene reported organizing is under way to align jobs with volunteers. So far we have 17 volunteers. Megan is back and will help with sorting etc. Donations are to be dropped off at the table near the office. Rick said he would send out electronic flyer, right after 67's game over.

e) Hot Turkey Lunch

No update.

f) Dance-a-Thon

There will be a Committee meeting on Sunday - working on prizing plan.

g) Greening Committee

Bonnie reported that things were wrapped up for the season. In spring they will look at beds around kinder area. Grade 9's will help with this.

h) Research and Funding

Kim shared a funding opportunity, passed on through Michelle F., which ties into bullying/safe schools theme: The "Proud to be Me Grant": Jen W. is looking into this grant. The deadline to apply is March 1st, 2017.

i) Website

Council web updates are ongoing. Rick attended a workshop and the School Board is rolling out new websites for schools at the end of the year. These would replace the school's site, increase ease of communication and be easily accessible. We need to find out how Council's online activities can be accommodated.

j) OCASC

Membership is paid. Still looking for someone to take this on and attend meetings. Please note that OCASC meeting minutes can be reviewed in lieu of meeting attendance.

Other Business

Kim reminded us of our attempts to reduce volunteer workload in fundraising. Rick mentioned more schools are doing more and more electronically. Hoping to soon 'sign up online' for parent teacher interviews.

Hotlunches.net (online order management). This app was developed for school councils and reduces labour while improving order accuracy. Can be used for any fundraiser or order management campaign. We can optionally choose a payment solution to go with it (like PayPal) Cost is ~\$300 per year.

Other schools use online data collected through hotlunches.net to get parents' permission to release data for a "student directory". This facilitates play dates, birthdays etc. Rick says these systems are used by lots of schools, some with drawbacks. They do get better every year.

Book Sale: Diane and Rowena will hold a brainstorming meeting at the end of November.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next meeting will take place on Dec. 13th, 2016