**ABERFOYLE SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017**

**In Attendance**: Mr. Tribe, Ms. Sunega, Kelly Hodgson, Holle Hennink, Allison Kworta, Kristina Holmes, Jenn Deter, Lisa Bratina, Caroline Derderian

**1) Welcome All Members- Meeting  was called to order at 6:34**. Co-chair Kelly Hodgson welcomed all members.

**2) Treasurer's Report**- $1700 presently in bank. Some of this money has been allotted for makerspace, green projects, new instruments, cardboard boats, grade 8 graduation, chess club and Scientists in School.

**3) Principal's Report**- **Report cards** are going home on February 16, 2017. **CASL** e-mail program has replaced Campaigner. Messages have been sent home asking parents and guardians to give explicit permission to receive information. The link to access this is [www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL](http://www.ugdsb.on.ca/CASL). **Mr. Fiddes has requested an additional $159.00** as the Cardboard Boat Race teams will be moving to the Provincial Finals at RIM on March 2. These funds will cover the cost of renting Centennial Pool again to prepare for the tournament. **Mr. Fiddes has also asked that council considers funding chess workshops with Hal Bond for junior classes** as well as the primary level. This would cost $190. Aberfoyle School has started the initial steps of a **five year school improvement plan** to further improve learning at the school. The next meeting is February 28. **Kindergarten staff are addressing the new report card** that is being launched. They are reviewing the program and how children's achievement can be communicated to parents. A meeting was held on January 17. **Kindergarten registration** was January 9-26. This was a new time frame for registering so registrations are still continuing to come in. Aberfoyle currently has 24 JK registrations. **The status of Paul Tribe** has changed from "acting principal" to "principal". This means his tenure will continue with the Board. Whether he will stay at Aberfoyle or not will be based on the staffing process and we will find out in the spring. The **Before and After School child care survey** has been extended to Friday, February 10. Mr. Tribe has included this information in the newsletter and he has also sent home an e-mail reminder with the link <https://docs.google.com/a/ugcloud.ca/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSdjWPnRmkL> lkeLnmbrjgMZYbZRQi9kEK8iETXh8BRXAoNlug/viewform#start=openform. **Recent purchases for Aberfoyle** include new benches for Ms. Singh's class, new speakers for Ms. Stewart's class and the Pods and a new gardening bin at the front of the school for tools etc. There is a **Parent Involvement Committee** event Wednesday, April 26 from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Centre Wellington District High School. Kelly to provide details.

**4) Teacher's Report**- Ms. Sunega reported a huge success with makedo tools, cubelets etc. It started with intermediates and now has moved to juniors and primarys. Intermediates are using the new technology and enjoying the new activities in the library (such as duct tape clothing) as they don't regularly have many opportunities to spend time in the library.  Juniors are starting to use it as well. Everyone is learning together, feedback is positive and Makerspace will continue to be offered at recess. The purchase of a computer designated for Makerspace is the next item that needs to be purchased so students can hook it up to the 3D printer etc. A Macbook would be preferred as then it could be put to use for virtual fieldtrips in the future. **Ms. Sunega is still looking for lots of funding**; furniture needs to be updated, the library needs more electrical outlets, new bookshelves and carpeting (individual carpet tiles.) Library fundraiser is suggested. Kelly suggested a monetary goal for Ms. Sunega to deliver to council members so there is a goal to achieve. Furniture and fiction are the two top priorities. There is a leaning towards fiction, especially for the intermediates who do all of their research on line and only check out fiction books for pleasure reading. Presently Ms. Sunega requires $8000 for furniture. Aberfoyle's library is far behind and it will take a few years for us to catch up. She would also like to see a closed off space for reading with students. **Read-a-Thon** suggested as a library fundraiser by Lisa and council members and Ms. Sunega were very receptive.

**5) Chair Report- Pro Grant Update**- parent reaching out-$1000 grant- must spend the money on the event. **After School Childcare Survey**- very low response. Mr. Tribe thinks that there are more people who are interested but have not filled out the survey. Viability of program is based on responses therefore he shared the reminder that if parents/guardians require after school care they must fill out the survey. **Principal Leadership form** must be completed before April 21; Kelly requested input from council members.

**6) Fundraising Updates**- **Spring Bulbs**- Holle Hennink has researched the bulb program and has offered to run this new initiative. The school keeps a large percentage of the sales and it looks like an initiative that will be successful at Aberfoyle. She requested help from fellow council members as she has never coordinated a fundraising initiative before. Ms. Sunega and Lisa will help. **Chapters gift card day fundraiser** will be discussed at the next meeting.

**7)** **Open Discussion**- **Greening committee**- Jenn reported that the grade 8 students will be  planting some more saplings in the school yard this spring. Logs are being delivered to create some extra play space in the old swing area. There is a chance of getting some spade trees again this year. **Revival of Drumfest**- most members were receptive to the idea. Ms. Sunega has had a drum instructor come in to the classrooms to work with the students which was very successful as the students really enjoyed their time with him. Discussion of returning to the traditional Drumfest event during which each class had a performance planned, gift baskets were raffled off and a bbq was held. Potentially this could be a good fundraising initiative. **Council members voted in favour of Mr. Fiddes' two requests** for funding of the Cardboard Boat Race team and the chess workshops for the junior level. Jenn requested **additional funds for the grade 8 graduation** and council members approved an increase in the budget from $300 to $500.

**8) Meeting was adjourned at 8:13.**

**Important Dates to Remember:**

**February 14-** Valentine's Day- students are being asked to wear red, white and pink. Intermediate dance to be held in the afternoon.

**February 16**- Report cards go home.

**February 20**- Family Day

**February 22**- Colour Day

**February 23**- Pink Shirt Day- Anti-Bullying Day

**There will be no school council meeting held in March. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 12 at 6:30 in the library.**