



Eramosa Public School Advisory Council October 10, 2023 7:00pm

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kcw-vrrh-cvy>

Or dial: (CA) +1 587-688-1613 PIN: 283 346 191#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/kcw-vrrh-cvy?pin=8896525637861>

In attendance: Dawn Airdrie-Donovan, Blaire Comacchio, Cassie Hatch, Melissa Hill, Amy Jackson, Diana Josiak, Billie LeBlanc, Marya Morrison, Heidi Muller, Angela Murray, Dawn Raynard.

Regrets: Jenny Broadfoot, Rebecca Dufour, Tia Marttala, Bhumika Munroe, Jeff Murray.

1) Welcome

- Warm welcome to Melissa Hill, Eramosa's new kindergarten teacher, and tonight's teacher representative.

2) Approval of September minutes

A motion was made to approve the September minutes. Consensus gained and approved.

3) Principal's Report:

-International plowing match field trip was a success

-students did very well at Cross Country

-we are hosting a soccer tournament on October 19

-Kindergarten - Gr 3 students are heading to Erin Hill Acres Farm on Oct 26.

-PD Day Oct 27th Teachers are to work on progress reports and workplace violence training.

-lots of assessments taking place in our classrooms (reading and math)

-assessments help us meet students where they are at in our small groups for math and language

-this ensures that we don't assume what students do and don't know that we can use our assessment data to target instruction on what skills our students still need to develop.

-Early Reading teacher in for 8 weeks working with 9 students in grade 1\2

-We have a Math teacher, Nathan Ellis that will be working with our grade 3 students and Mrs.Semanyk for this year on Math instruction. We were deemed a ministry priority school for grade 3 students.

-lunch and learn with Early Reading Teacher

CCAT will be starting Oct 16 (Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test)

This is a test our grade 3's write to determine giftedness

Wish List:

Deck of cards for k-6 classes. 10 cards for each.

*60 decks of cards. \$175 total

Uno is a good game for indoor recess in classrooms. 5 decks each for grades 2-6.

We will need more basketballs and Volleyballs as well for gym equipment. The older ones can be used for outside for recess.

Kindergarten:

From Wintergreen (and maybe they could replace our dollhouse?...): Dollhouse broke in kindergarten \$500 to replace.

*\$36.95 Super-safe handheld mirrors

*\$11.00 x 2 = \$22.00 baseplates for lego

\$24.95 Digger and Dozer Sand Tools

*\$69.95 Mold and Play Sensory Sand 10lbs

\$32.95 Squish and Squeeze Sensory Beads

We're also wondering about a possible weighted blanket

PIC CHAIR / CO-CHAIR CONTACT INFORMATION - Action

Please be reminded to complete the attached chart following your September School Council Elections. Confirm with the Chair / Co-Chairs that they approve of you providing their personal email address to board office staff for PIC correspondence.

School Council Chairs / Co-Chairs 2023-24

Approvals from wish lists:

- 60 decks of cards
Blaire made a motion to approve \$175.00 for the purchase of classroom decks of cards. Consensus gained and approved.
*Before these are purchased: We will be making a request for donations of card decks from the community. We can then fund any remaining decks that are needed from the approved \$175.
- Super-safe handheld mirrors (to be used to help students learn proper mouth formation as they work on mastering each letter sound)
Blaire made a motion to approve \$41.75 (cost + tax) for the purchase of these mirrors. Consensus gained and approved. These can be purchased immediately.
- Baseplates for Lego
Blaire made a motion to approve \$24.86 (cost + tax) for the purchase of Lego baseplates. Consensus gained and approved. These can be purchased immediately.
- Mold and Play Sensory Sand (kinetic sand)
This need will be filled by donations from the community. Angela Murray to bring some in tomorrow, and further call for donations will be made.

- Weighted blanket
Dawn Raynard will donate this item.

- Dollhouse repair
Blaire and Angela to figure out fixing this item.
Update: Wendy Jackson has already taken care of this and will fix the item.

Remaining wish list items to consider at next meeting/by community donations:

- Uno: 5 decks each for grades 2-6.
- Gym equipment: new basketballs and volleyballs.
- Digger and Dozer Sand Tools \$24.95
- Squish and Squeeze Sensory Beads \$32.95

4) Financial Report: Overview of profits from 2022/2023 fundraisers/events.

- EPSAC BBQ: \$256.56
- Pumpkin Pass: \$280.00
- Halloween Dance: \$646.85
- Wreath Making: \$945.00
- Poinsettias: \$1220.67
- Breakfast with Santa: \$1013.10
- Bottle Drive: \$360.45
- Chicken Dinner: \$4145.76
- Popcorn Day: \$179.00
- Hotdog Day: \$216.00
- Candles: \$265.00
- *Total Profit 2022/2023 = \$9528.39

5) Further Funding Requests

- International Plowing Match funding clarification:
 - Total cost of bussing was \$946.83
 - \$425 was covered by student fees
 - In September we approved \$521.82 to cover the remaining amount, but the actual amount needed is \$521.83.

Blaire made a motion to approve \$521.83 to cover remaining bussing costs for this field trip. Consensus gained and approved.

- Request for bus funding for River Run shows: six shows at a cost of \$274.08 each for a total of \$1644.48
 - If we can approve this in advance of permission slips going out then credit can be given to EPSAC for supporting the cost of transportation, aiding in transparency to the community as to how funds are being used.

Blaire made a motion to approve \$1644.48 to cover bussing to all River Run shows. Consensus gained and approved.

- Grade 6 year end trip: would appreciate any funding for this.
 - A decision was made by the council last year to approve \$500 for this trip each year on an ongoing basis.

- Grade 6 grad night: request for funding to help with this event.
 - \$400 was given last year for awards and ceremony
 - There are decorations leftover from last year that can be used again
 - We will circle back to this at a later meeting to determine amount needed once we settle our fundraising plans

*We will plan a fundraiser that targets the grade 6 needs (trip and grad night).

- Eric Walters author visit
 - Eric Walters to come in for a half day
 - Visit will include programs for all grades K-6.
 - Total cost is \$678 (he normally charges about \$1200)

Blaire made a motion to approve \$678.00 to book Eric Walters visit. Consensus gained and approved.

6) Events Committee update

- Poinsettia communication to go out soon, as other community groups are already advertising their upcoming poinsettia fundraisers
- Rockwood Lions have offered to help us run a bottle drive, so we will be planning on hosting one in early January (exact date TBD). Lions Club will bring their can crusher and help us store/transport empties using their connections.

*Ensure this is communicated to the community before winter break so everyone can save their holiday empties!

7) Food days (fruit/yogurt, salad etc):

- Funding for this is provided by Food and Friends. We currently have a lot of funding but need the manpower to make these healthy food days happen!
- Mondays and/or Fridays preferred since there are Lunchbox food orders Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.
- Committee established:
 - Co-chairs: Dawn Raynard + Blaire Comacchio
 - Members: Amy Jackson, Diana Josiak, Marya Morrison, Angela Murray.

8) Communications Committee discussion: Facebook group

- Some things to think about:
 - Do we want members to be current parents only? Is this a privacy/safety issue if just anyone is able to be in the group?
 - To gain access to the group, community members need to answer an admission question that asks them to state the name(s) of their child(ren) so we can confirm they are currently attending Eramosa PS (Heidi set this up last year).
 - It is generally felt that we should not remove existing members. There are families who want to maintain membership in the group even after their children have graduated, because they like to keep updated on Eramosa events/fundraisers so they can continue to support the school.

- Do we want group admins/moderators updated each year (possibly to include anyone participating in the parent council)?
 - The group agrees that admins/moderators should be current parents only.
 - Heidi to look into this and consider tactfully removing admin/moderator status from members whose children have already graduated.

9) Additional thoughts:

- Some possible holiday events being considered by the school:
 - Holiday nighttime concert
 - Holiday gift shop
 - This would be a fun event for kids during the school day
 - Each item would cost about a quarter; kids come and have fun shopping for their loved ones
- Billie suggested the possibility of bringing in an outside vendor to teach coding (like code ninjas) and robotics
 - Someone from the board is coming in to train staff on tech in the library (podcast station, mac computers etc.)
 - Bhumika has offered in the past to come in and do some robotics training, so that is a possibility as well
- Billie suggested using some funding to bring in dance instructors as a fun activity for the kids, as well as a way to give teachers a bit of a break
 - This is a fun idea and the kids would definitely love it, but there are concerns over how much it would cost
 - Tabled for possible consideration in future
- Fundraiser ideas:
 - Amy suggested Fundscrip, a gift card-based fundraiser
 - All purchases are made directly through the site, so there is less work needed on our end (cards can then be shipped directly)
 - This could be a good seasonal idea, in advance of holiday gift buying
 - Marya to consider
 - Cassie suggested Fresh Box
 - Marya to consider as a possibility for grade 6-focused fundraiser

Next meeting: November 14