

JDH School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday Nov 8, 2023

Location: JDH Library & Google Meet

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm, motioned by Ali, seconded by Heather

In attendance: Stephen, Nathan, Heather, Basel, Ali, Jenn, Julie, Kelly, Julia, Michaela, Kayden (Student Rep)

Jenn taking notes

Meeting started with approval of the agenda as presented by Stephen, motioned by Ali seconded by Heather

Chair's Report – Stephen

- “Come Get Involved”
- How to get involved in School Council – need to communicate to parents
 - Join Council
 - Join a Committee
 - Volunteer your hours
- QR Codes are being discussed to be included on a sign in the office
 - QR code to sign up for the Newsletter
 - QR code to join the School Council FB group
 - It was suggested by a member to possibly add these to the digital sign out front
 - Nathan suggested it would need to be tested
- Need a Volunteer to Lead a “Parent Involvement Committee”
 - Communication of Fundraising Committee Meetings & Events to community and Executive
- Fundraising
 - Promotion of events to get the best turnout
 - Encourage parents to share on their social media when appropriate ie) Movie Nights – these can be open to friends and family of students in the community

Principal's Report – Nathan

- Tracy Baker is out this week and David Marquee, retired Principal is in this week, enjoying the ‘busy’ school that JD Hogarth is
- ECE appreciation day was a success
- The Intermediate Dance hosted by Grade 8’s was a success – the Banana costume was popular as were food-themed costumes
- Seven student teachers are in with grade 7&8s from Laurier and Nipissing
- Remembrance Day Assemblies coming up Friday November 10th
 - A lot of student artwork

- Huge wreath in front hall
- Plan approved for fenced-in Kindergarten playground!
 - Construction to occur Nov 20-Dec 1, weather permitting
- Food & Friends hot lunch days are underway
 - Details can be found on the website
- Progress reports available November 16th
 - Links are found in the Newsletter
- Crossing guard is needed
 - Paid position, details on the website

Treasurer's Report – Heather

- Event Summary
 - Sept Open House raised \$166 from Food Trucks (10% of proceeds go to School Council)
 - Oct Movie Night raised \$41.46 profit (this is down from expectations of \$400-\$500)
 - School Dance Popcorn raised \$28 profit
- Community Use permit, insurance, popcorn supplies and popcorn machine expenses were all covered
- Board Grant of \$500 covered Community Use, Insurance and purchase of a Popcorn Machine
- Account Balances:
 - Arts Day \$0
 - Curriculum Enhancement \$1022.26 (Needs Focus this year)
 - Fundraising \$2956.47 (Needs Focus this year)
 - General \$0
 - Math & Technology \$0
 - Outdoor Education \$0
 - Playground \$13,991.47 (focus of 2022/23)
 - Board Grant account balance is -\$13.89
 - Motion to transfer funds after all cheques clear to bring Board Grant account balance back to \$0
 - Ali to second motion, unanimous vote, motion passed

All Members Meetings and Fundraising & Events Meetings posted on Website and Included in Newsletter

All Members Meetings:

- Wed Jan 10th
- Wed April 3rd
- Wed June 5th

Fundraising & Events Meetings:

- Wed Feb 7th
- Wed May 8th

Event Planning Discussion – remaining for 2023/24

- 2 more movie nights
- Danceathon in Spring (before March Break)
 - Separate meeting coming
- Spring 2024 Open House/Silent Auction – will look to get silent auction donations from local businesses in addition to classroom baskets donated by families
- Pizza Nights – Heather to confirm dates with New Orleans Pizza
- Kindergarten Preview Day
- Possible addition of a “Board Game Night/Sunday”
 - Revisit in January; Needs 4 volunteers for a committee
 - Meeting to happen after next main school council meeting on Wed Jan 10th
 - Interest expressed from Basel & Kelly
 - Kelly suggested perhaps Student reps poll students to gauge interest
 - Maybe a Family Friendly game event leads into an evening D&D night for older kids in the library?
 - Potential Video Game Tournament with student teams
 - Possible “Retro Night” which Nathan can help to host with retro video games
 - Possible cross-promotion with local video game store?

Student Rep Update – Kayden

- October Movie Night process
 - Kayden and Sophia research available suitable movies and survey students
 - Most voted on Paddington 2
 - Thursday night before a PA Day – this was a first, turnout wasn’t great but those who attended were engaged and had a great time

New Popcorn Machine Rules

- Purchased a popcorn making machine this year rather than renting or borrowing
- Machine is lent from School Council to other fundraising purposes ie) Grade 8 Intermediate dance – helped raise funds for school trips
- Supplies cost \$4 per package with bags / \$0.50 per bag assuming 8
- Cleaning of machine – Nathan to coordinate assigned people to be trained to clean it properly
- Health & Safety – students not to set up or make popcorn – teachers/adults will be trained and will execute this
- Storage – currently at Stephen’s house – Nathan to find a suitable and safe, secure storage area at the school

Parent Feedback – Hot Topics

- Grade 5 Recess

- Looking for a way for Grade 5s to spend time together with their age group since 2 classes go for recess with younger age groups and 3 classes go out for recess with older age groups
 - This was necessary due to staffing issues, Nathan tried hard to find alternate solutions for recess
 - Nathan will focus on collaborative events with all Grade 5s
- Announcements – Activities & Events
 - Parents looking for solutions to receive more communication regarding extra-curricular activities and events
 - Nathan explained the process of announcements and they are fed to a digital TV slideshow on feeds in classrooms – this will become more regular
 - Nathan will focus on including more information in the push email Newsletters – positive feedback about receiving these so far
 - Room for improvement as this is a huge school with many activities but it is heard that parents would like more visibility so as to help kids develop skills to seek out the detailed information they require to participate in clubs and events they are interested in
- Refining process for parent feedback
 - Some topics are posted on Facebook but Stephen will focus with Nathan on implementing a more formal and structured process to receive and reply to parent feedback

Fundraising

- Goal of raising \$10,000 this year

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm by Ali and seconded by Basel, agreed by all.