

**Edward Johnson School Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, October 5, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.**

Laura S.      Katherine W.    Catherine F.    Meghan O.    Paola H.      Nadine P.  
Dan P.        Monica G.        Jamie B.

1. Land acknowledgement – Katherine
2. Welcome and approval of Minutes - Laura
  - Minutes approved
3. Principal's Report - Katherine
  - Getting back to some normalcy, good to see kids at school
  - Recess is seeming quite "normal" as compared to last year
  - Orange Shirt Day went well; was nice to see engagement from students and the community
  - Slowly starting to get some clubs in place
    - "Big Buddy" program (helping kids to be leaders in the school and help to resolve problems, 85 kids signed up, have ordered more pink vests for the kids to wear). Carla S. has taken this on.
    - Reached out to Grade 5-6 students re: starting a Student Council; lots of interest
    - Can actually run clubs in the gym now, which is great
  - Katherine is encouraging the students to come up with spirit day ideas
  - Some thoughts on the spaghetti dinner done in previous years as a school fundraiser. Likely not happening this year as the logistics would be difficult with covid restrictions. Will try to think of something else to do.
  - She has reached out to the Dance-Ed people, trying to get a sense of what it will look like (not sure what kinds of protocols will be in place). She will let us know once she hears back.
4. Teachers Report – no teacher present
  - Carolyn Robbins is next teacher person on rotation to attend
5. Treasurer's Report – Meghan and Catherine
  - Not a lot of financial activity last year
  - \$6,500.00 roughly in the account right now (\$1,300.00 of this is still allocated to the outdoor equipment, yet to be purchased)
  - Bottom line is that \$5,432.78 to spend this year without any fundraising
  - Dance-Ed was a contractual commitment that we made last year. Cost is \$8,900.00 with taxes (FYI – we will get most of the tax back eventually). School population is currently 331. Last time we charged \$15.00 per kid to participate, the school supplemented \$5 of the parent portion and council paid the balance. If we go ahead, we will need to allocate at least \$4,500.00 or more to Dance-Ed as this is the estimated council portion. There are three "outs" in our contract:
    1. We can pull out completely within 45 days of the event (full refund)
    2. We can choose to hold out and cancel at the last minute, in which case we would need to pay a 50% deposit which they would hold for the next year
    3. There is an option to do a virtual Dance-Ed

- Perhaps we can look into a hybrid program where some is in person and some is virtual. We could also look into charging families more per child to participate, or perhaps a sliding scale (i.e., \$25 each for one student, \$20 each for two students, \$15 each for three students, etc.). Katherine will try to get more information from the Dance-Ed people so that we can make a decision.

#### 6. Fundraising

- Pizza fundraising is not available to us yet; hopefully will be in the future
- Jamie reached out to Indigo; she is waiting to hear back. Would likely provide the school community with a code to use in conjunction with purchases.
- Pumpkin fundraiser sold out, will be about \$500.00 raised when all is said and done
- Will need to get creative with fundraising given restrictions
- What if we partner with local small businesses to help fundraise for the school?
- What about reaching out asking for any parents that can donate to the school to do so; in lieu of contributing to fundraisers they would normally contribute to. Could run these donations through the Upper Grand Learning Foundation (tax receipts issued for more than \$20). Monica will draft communication to go out to families to request donations
- Holiday basket raffle is a possibility. Could display the baskets in the school for a short period of time to generate student interest. Could also send pictures to school community by email. Raffle tickets could be purchased through School Cash Online. For the most recent raffle, Council paid the cost of the baskets (as opposed to asking parents to make donations)
- Cookbook fundraiser is a possibility (approx. \$700 raised in the previous cookbook fundraiser). Could make it an international cuisine theme. We will go ahead with this provided that Jamie thinks she can get it done.

#### 7. Equity and Inclusion – Natasha

- Thinking of getting Mme Roberts class start on a project re: indigenous culture. Do we have any ideas for resources we can provide that class to get them started on it? Katherine will need to be involved in this as there are some very specific guidelines that need to be followed to be in line with Board policies
- Laura, Natasha and Katherine will look into this

#### 8. Garden Club – Laura

- The front garden area needs some tending to
- Thinking of getting the kids involved, with teacher support
- Perhaps the kids can have a garden club?
- Laura will reach out to a teacher to see if there is any interest in helping with this
- Perhaps this is something that the Student Council may be interested in

9. PIC Report – Monica

- Attended the first meeting of the school year
- Got to meet the new superintendent of education
- Brent (the previous superintendent) is now overseeing a small number of superintendents
- Got to meet the new director of education

10. Parent Communication Survey – Monica

- Will circulate a letter re: fundraising for review
- Will resend the parent engagement survey again (used Survey Monkey)

Conclusion of Meeting

Next meeting Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.