



# W. Erskine Johnson School Council

## October 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes

*Meeting commenced at 6:30pm.*

*Attendees:* Principal Marilyn Burans, Former Co-Chair Megan Cornell, Secretary Lili O'Reilly and 30 parents. See attached attendance list.

- Introductions by outgoing Co-Chair Megan Cornell.
- Principal Marilyn Burans explains the role and functions of the parent school council and the executive positions of two co-chairs, treasurer and secretary. Parent school council meets once a month during the school year.
- Megan Cornell will continue to be a parent representative from W. Erskine Johnson School to the OCDSB.
- The North Kanata Gr 7&8 ARC Transition Committee has disbanded with the successful transition of the grades 7&8 students to the Earl of March Intermediate Secondary school.
- The review/consultation process for the new Kanata North OCDSB JK-6 IMF School has completed and no longer needs a Boundary Review Representative. School construction has started.
- Future OCDSB issues involving Kanata North will likely be a needed high school in about 5 years.
- Last year parent council raised \$25K by fundraising money for the school, which was used to increase the school's computer technology by purchasing chrome laptops and iPads along with carts/cables. School also purchased outdoor resource materials from the funds raised by SC. A portion of the donated money was used to help needy children unable to afford school programs.
- There is a balance of \$4067 in the school council bank account, about 2K of which wasn't spent at the end of the school year. At the end of last year a motion to table the allocation of \$100 school supplies teacher grant for the upcoming school year was passed.
- The Hot Lunch Program includes delivering pizza, pita and milk using an online ordering system, and is run by parent Brian Turner; the other outgoing co-chair for council. Diana Lloyd schedules the parent volunteers.
- Movie Night is an after school event run by parents that happens 4-6 times during the school year. Popcorn and/or pizza are sold to raise funds

### Questions from parents

**Q:** What is the \$25K transfer in the treasurer's report?

The funds from school council transferred to the WEJ school account. School purchased the computer notebooks/ipad/peripherals, etc.

**Q:** What is the cost and profit for a Movie Night?

\$35 for first movie rental, \$75 for subsequent movie rentals. Profit is \$500-\$800 and attendance is 200-300.

**Q:** Why don't the Kindergarten students get to order from the Hot Lunch program?

Teachers choose not to participate as the SK/JK students are too young, insufficient time for them, and very messy.

**Q:** Can the Hot Lunch program be expanded to more days?

The Hot Lunch program is limited to the number of people and their availability. A minimum of 4 parents is needed per meal per day to distribute/serve the food to all the students.

**Q:** Can other hot food vendors be added to the Hot Lunch program?



Yes, but the company must be approved by the OCDSB. “Lunch Lady” is being considered. “Mazula (sp?)” vendor also suggested.

**Q:** Can bake sales be used to raise funds?

Bake sales are used within the school by classes to support a global charity. A suggestion is to have a bake sale during a Movie Night.

**Q:** Can parent council run other fundraisers?

School administration (principal and/or OCDSB) has to approve the type of fundraiser, but parents are needed to be involved to organize it and run it. WEJ toques/hats are still available to buy. Lone Star Family Fundraiser night at the restaurant has been done in the past. Parent suggested an auction night fundraiser. Richmond Nursery Fundraiser was used last spring.

**Q:** Can cash or cheques be used to pay for fundraisers or sent to the school?

No, cash or cheques will not be handled by the teachers while union’s work action is ongoing and contract negotiations are unresolved.

**Q:** How does the school council communicate?

The parent council has a website, <http://wejcouncil.ca>, electronic newsletter parents can subscribe to, and a Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/WEJSchoolCouncil>.

**Q:** Can we have a Gift Card fundraiser?

In the past, parents have chosen not to run this fundraiser with students transporting the gift cards, citing concerns with losing or misplacing valuable gift cards. Suggestion offered to offer fundraiser at a movie night.

**Q:** Could a food festival be run at school?

Yes, but many parent volunteers are needed to coordinate and run it.

The following parents were elected to School Council.

Co-Chairs:	Shawn Armour & Ling Tian
Secretary/Communicator:	Lili O’Reilly
Treasurers:	Laura Cui & Julie Li
Hot Lunch Coordinator:	Brian Turner
WEJ OCDSB trustee Rep:	Megan Cornell
Fundraising Events Committee:	TBD
Poinsettia Plant Fundraiser Coordinators:	Tracey Sondagar, Emily Moses and Karen.

**Motion** to approve the Hot Lunches program as soon as possible. Approved.

Next school council meeting will be **Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>** (the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the month) at 6:30pm in the school library.

*Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.  
Meeting minutes by Lili O’Reilly*



## *Attendance*

Megan Cornell  
Yiqun Ding  
Stephan Qi  
Ruoshan Guan  
Xiaoping Qin  
Ling Tian  
Shannon Wang  
Yuli Guo  
Renee Poettchker  
Lili O'Reilly  
Karen McArthur  
Tracey Sondagar  
Howard Xie  
Sutharshan Manikavasagor  
Suresh Alvapalli  
Shawn Armour  
Tamara DiMaso  
Simran Kaur  
Chenjuan Zhou  
Rui Mao  
Sarah Clayman  
Deb Anderson Nelson  
Julie Li  
Laura Cui  
Julie Zboril  
Wencheng Situ  
Yan Ren  
Diana Lloyd  
Karen McBurney  
John Chuah  
Emily Moses  
Rabia Hamed  
Qian Yu Lu  
Ge Zheng  
Kelly Lacey  
Brenda Campbell  
Isabelle Filion