

**W. Erskine Johnston
School Council Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2017 @ 6:30pm**

Principal's Update (Marilyn Burans)

- Enrolment is up to 643 students
- Auditions have started for this year's talent show
- Junior Intramurals continue
- Primary Dance Club
- Many primary and junior students have been playing chess in Mr. Jackson's room or learning to knit in Ms. Lewis' Finger Knitting Club.
- Chess Tournament – 18 students participated – 8th OCDSB Chess Tournament. Primary Team won for third straight year. Junior Team A came first out of 32 teams. Junior B team came third in their pool.
- The Junior and Senior Kindergarten students, along with the Grade 2 students had Dental screenings.
- WITS Junior Leaders have been selected and are out on the yard helping fellow students. Door decorating Contest took place re WITS strategies.
- Grade 3 students are participating in a Swim to Survive program. Each class has 3 sessions.
- Scientists in the School have led students in a myriad of activities and experiments. More experiments are coming.
- Grade 6 students had a great day at the Aviation museum Thursday March 2.
- Boys and Girls Junior Volleyball teams attended a tournament at Kanata Highlands. The players displayed excellent teamwork and spirit.
- The Kindergarten's Winter Play day took place on Thursday March 9.
- DPA dances for all took place Friday March 10th.

February Meeting Minutes (Feb. 21, 2017) - approval deferred to next meeting as we did not meet quorum tonight

Hot Lunch Fundraising Update:

o **Term 3 lunch program update** (Sutha) - still receiving requests for late orders for milk/juice, pita and pizza so will open up ordering from Thursday, March 23rd until Sunday, March 26th noon. This is the last term until the end of the year.

- Ms. Burans recommended that in the future we start taking food orders even earlier (1-2 weeks before we are now), so that final orders and lists can be made the Wed-Friday BEFORE the Monday that the new orders will start. It was too hectic in the office the Monday after March break and many teachers did not receive updated lists.

Financial Glance:

o **Financial Report** (Julie / Laura) - we received the cheque for the Sens night fundraiser (\$732) and are waiting on final numbers for Hot Lunch Term 3. Cash available for projects: \$21,426.58 (see full report for details)

Playground Update:

- **Kindergarten Playground Structure Update** (Mandy) - playground element ideas were voted on by kinder students and they generally liked many of the ideas proposed. We hope to be able to purchase 7-8 items (see attached for details of playground ideas). Estimated cost \$30,00 equipment & installation + \$30,000 site prep = \$60,000
- **K-6 Playground equipment** - Marilyn adjusted list that was presented to us in the fall and will get a quote for higher priority items (balls, hula hoops, skipping ropes, sand toys). Will try to purchase some of this equipment for the students to use ASAP.
- **Go Fund Me Update** (Shawn) - he spoke to a financial representative from the school board and they would prefer that school councils did not use Go Fund Me. First, the money is not strictly a "donation" and when cashed in counts as "income", and secondly the council is not protected in any way when using this site. She proposed for us to use their "donation" site called "Chimp" which will allow people to make donations online and to receive a tax receipt. Shawn closed the Go Fund Me account and withdrew the money, giving the cheque to the council for (~\$1600). Shawn will contact those who had donated through Go Fund Me and ask if they would like a reimbursement to donate again through our new vendor to receive a tax credit. Since tax credits will be given, we can no longer put names on a plaque for larger donors. Therefore we will have to think of other ways to recognize these people. Perhaps at a BBQ in the fall?

Events:

- o **April – Movie night: April 13th, "Sing"**: Fridays are booked for basketball, gym is closed for repairs last week of April. The only time available is Thursday, April 13th. We will show the movie "Sing" (Shawn to purchase & set up, we will use leftover popcorn & drinks from the dance, nothing new to purchase).
- o **LoneStar Dinner Fundraiser - Wednesday, April 5th** - 700 cards to distribute to students and teachers. The card will be given to the wait staff when dining in or purchasing take out. 10% of the total food sales will come to us. Will advertise the week before and flyer/cards will be sent home the week before in the back packs.

Parent Concerns / Conversations:

- o Parent info sessions: RMPS is having a session on March 30th on Screen time. We proposed possibly having a parent info session with the grant money received on the topic of "cyber/internet safety".

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 18th, 6:30pm