

**Maurice Cody School Council
Meeting Minutes, January 16th 2018, 6:30pm**

Katrina (Kat) Hopkins welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. She sent regards on behalf of Sarah Claydon who had a family emergency so was not able to join us.

Approval of the December minutes – Kat Hopkins

Kat requested someone approve the December minutes from the last council meeting. Laura Witkowski made the motion and Jen Ankenmann seconded the motion.

Skating Party Update – Sandra Rayner / Michelle Wagland

The skating party is Friday, January 26th from 6-8pm. We are working with a potential sponsor, but we will have hot chocolate and music so come join us! We'll be looking for volunteers which will be posted on the Cody site shortly! We'll also put together a blurb for Mr Nigro to send out to parents and class reps to pass along.

Question: Will there be information on helmets?

Answer: (Michelle) yes! We will be posting all the information from the city of Toronto site that lists the age groups for helmets, so everyone can abide by them.

Question: What if the weather is not good?

Answer: (Mr Nigro) we will send out an email by end of school day, so parents will know if its canceled.

Winter Fair recap – Julie Brown & Julianne Bryant (Michelle Wagland on behalf)

#winter150 was an enormous success! A big thanks to everyone who made this year's winter fair possible. This includes the amazing volunteers, committee members and school staff (especially the Brads, Jane, Mr. Nigro, Ms. Valla and all the basements teachers who graciously lent us their classrooms). The winter fair was a great fundraising event for Cody but also allowed us to connect with our community, former Cody students, teachers and principals, grandparents, parents, and the list goes on. Our **projection was \$16k** but we **raised \$20092.87** for Cody and we are thrilled at the success of the event. We're already looking for volunteers and committee members for next year, so stay tuned!

On behalf of the FSA a big thank you to Julie and Julianne (two brand new kindy parents!) for stepping up and taking on the Winter Fair and making it such a huge success!

Finance Update – Kat Hopkins

- Winter Fair was a great success. We had a total revenue of just over \$5k.
- Shortfall excess of \$6k right now
- We have a couple of asks coming through – one for Enrichment Sue will discuss and one for technology that will be brought up tonight.
- Also, if you are waiting on a cheque from the FSA, there are a number of them in the office in the School Council mail slot

Tech update – Krista Semotiuk

- Tech committee met with Mr Nigro and Ms Vala on asks for the teachers and students in relation to technology
- Overwhelming ask for Chrome Books (over ipads). Would like 2 additional charging carts and 66 new Chrome Books.
- There will be a vote at our next FSA meeting on the ask.

Mr Nigro: At next FSA meeting in February, we will have a teacher and some students come and present to the FSA some of the things they would like to do with the new tablets. We have some letters from students already on why they would like Chrome books. Overall, we would be looking at an ask of \$25k. It is \$2700 per cart and \$300 per Chrome book. It would take about 4-6 weeks to get the Chrome Books into the school.

Kat: We currently have \$17k in the budget allocated to Tech so we would need to raise more money to fulfill the request.

Comment: At Hodgson they use Chrome Books for Google Docs and Google Classroom. The teachers use Google Classroom to communicate with the students and parents. Forest Hill also uses Chrome books.

- The current ipads would be used by the jk to gr 2 classes... freeing up these ipads with new Chromebooks would increase their accessibility as well.

Dance-a-thon – Christine Rigby (Michelle Wagland on behalf)

The dance-a-thon will take place on March 1st. We have a new dj this year we are trying out. These DJs are high-energy and real party starters! We will start promoting the dance-a-thon on Feb 1st and we are hoping the money raised will go to the technology request. Would like if we could take a vote at the Feb meeting to confirm this.

Enrichment – Sue Porritt

A lot of changes going on in Enrichment this year. We've been working with Mr Nigro, Ms Vala and the teachers and would like to give each of the (28) classrooms a budget to spend on Enrichment for their classrooms. This is something we're hoping to vote on tonight, so the teachers can start booking their activities.

Mr Nigro: teachers really like the idea of a budget of their own and some of the options they've been working on are Scientist in the School, Lego Robotics, Lisa Rivers drama and dance etc.

- X Movement and the Authors are being kept in a separate budget and we will continue with those.
- Teachers are collaborating on ideas and have put together lists of which programs they would like to bring in
- We are looking at \$550 for each room which works out to an additional ask of \$200/class
- Total ask is \$5525.

Question: Are there other asks that usually come in during the year or do we know what to expect?

Answer: (Kat) We have a lot of money allocated to different areas that hasn't been spent yet. We will be starting to go through this list soon to notify the different departments if they don't need the money it will be relocated to other areas.

Mr Nigro: We are taking the grade five art project under our budget as well which will relieve some money there.

Vote: Laura Witkowski made a motion to approve the \$200/class to spend on Enrichment. Kat Hopkins seconded the motion. All in favor was unanimous and the ask was approved.

Principal and Vice-Principal's Reports – Mr Nigro and Ms Vala

Please visit the Principal's Report at mauricecody.ca for more detailed information and initiatives not presently listed here. The following is just a sample of some of the highlights.

- Dr Dodgeball was a great success during lunchtime intramurals. Ms Appel is great at getting everyone together
- Next intramural will be for gr 4/5's: girl's volleyball and boys basketball
- Grade 5 Coding Club will continue
- Folkfest is beginning
- Ongoing discussions on snow forts with a great focus on working together

Ms Vala:

- Lunchtime programs are available for registration on the parent website
- Spellbinding Science & Magic started today with great attendance
- Also available Explore IT has Art Lab, Lego Stories, Chess and Chess 2, Lego Robotics, Great Mind Science and Creative Craft Adventures.
- Our goal to reach a wide variety of students but to allow them to still go outside and have a nice balance so they get some outdoor time and programs that interest them.
- Traffic blitz last Monday and Tuesday. Many tickets were handed out. We are now in the rotation, so another blitz will happen, we just don't know when.
- Sarah sent a letter to each of the neighbors specifically on Cheston (the scene of most traffic issues) expressing our appreciation for their understanding and assuring them we are working on the problem

Traffic update – Sue Porritt

Wanted to comment on the tragic accident that happened yesterday with the five-year-old girl at her school and how we have to be more vigilant as a community.

Mr Nigro: we have an amazing community and so many parents that are diligent about drop-off, but we have a small number that are not following the rules that are the problem. We have spoken with the police in regard to our crossing guards and they sent someone over to work with them on controlling both the traffic and pedestrian flow.

(Discussion over the harassment Elizabeth is getting from some of the drivers...Mr Nigro will follow up with her)

Comment: Could Mr Nigro add to the morning announcements how important it is for the kids and their parents to listen to the crossing guards when walking to school. Could make a difference coming from him to the kids directly.

Help Wanted – Laura Witkowski

We are extremely thankful to the kindergarten parents who volunteered to coordinate the Winter Fair. We now desperately need someone to take on the Spring Fair Coordinator position(s).

- Laura happy to offer guidance and pass on any info she has
- Contacts already in place – fairly easy job – really just busy day of fair
- Usually get started in February
- Fair is at risk of not happening if we don't find someone soon

Laura: I've been truly blessed to be apart of the fair and my kids value it and that's important to me.

Kat: just want to add the Spring Fair money goes towards next year's budget

Wanted: Pizza Lunch Coordinator(s)

- Much easier now that everything's online
- Bulk of work is done in Sept with Michelle (Wagland's) help
- Need to arrange to purchase drinks and cookies from Costco

Laura: Nathalie has been a great partner and friend and I've had a lot of fun working with her

Wanted: Lice Check

- Nathalie will still coordinate
- Need people for next year to help on the day of (bringing down classes, etc - all admin work, NOT checking for lice!)

Speakers for Parents – Mr Nigro

Anthony McLean spoke with the students from jk to grade 5 on stress and bullying. Great feedback from the students and teachers on his presentation. We have an opportunity for him speak to parents in February for an hour. Would cost \$800 and would cover kids and stress with social media. Will vote on at next FSA meeting. He is tentatively booked for February.

Other Business – Michelle Wagland

We are starting a Community Corner on the parent website to post any events going on at neighboring schools that we are also invited to. For example: Hodgson's parent night or a speaker at Rolph Rd, Bennington or Northlea. Once this is up and running Mr Nigro will send out the link to everyone.

Adjournment – Katrina Hopkins

Motion to adjourn Laura Witkowski and Jen Ankenmann seconded the motion.