

## Humewood Parent Council Meeting Minutes

DATE	Dec 6, 2017
TIME	7-9 pm
FACILITATORS	Janine Geddie, Natasha Greenberg
SECRETARY	Janelle Watson Cavallo & Cheryl Batty
ATTENDEES	Rae Ann Fera, Cheryl Batty, Erin Schieman, Katherine Almeida, Janelle Watson, Simone Dailleboust, Rachel Birenbaum, Lori Litman, Marisa Mastrella, Janine Geddie, Debbie Baker, Elisse Grossman, Kailey Stewart, Lori Eisen, Ali Siegler, Anna Rutledge, Carly LaBell, Lisa Baylin, Julie Whitfield, Avi Mani, Natasha Greenberg

1. **Welcome and Introduction – Janine**
2. **Approval of Agenda** - Elise moved to approve and Lori seconded
3. **Approval of November Meeting Minutes:** approved.
4. **Declarations of conflict of interest – none at this time**
5. **Financial Report –** Rahim's notes:
  - Pizza lunch income increased by \$1670.17
  - Fall Fair Income decrease by \$100 due to calculation error on cheque deposit
  - Previous year income adjusted by \$59.20 due to lost cheque deposit from March 27, 2017. It was \$9.20 from QSP and \$50 for Humewood Touques. The deposit was either not picked up or not processed by the bank. Given the length of time, the deposit was written off.
  - Arts expense increased \$1152.60 for performance expense
  - Music Expense for Kiwanis Festival
  - Bank Charges - \$9.75 for annual membership dues, \$7.50 to stop payment on lost cheque that was replaced, \$12.00 for NSF Pizza lunch cheque
  - Grade funding spending \$250

**Approved** with the exception of one error found on the Fall Fair money which will be looked into

### 6. **Principal's Report – Julie Whitfield**

#### **OPAL Update:**

Earth Day Canada did a workshop for lunchroom supervisors and staff, hoping they will do a presentation for parent council in January.

Initiatives:

#### All-weather recess

- Send kids dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Now – students are given permission if they are dressed appropriately
- Library of rainy day gear (coats, boots)
  - o Parent involvement in coordinating this?

#### OPAL Play Day: Loose parts

- Goal within 2 year framework is to have storage shed on property, but there is a delay. Large construction bags will be used in the interim. One will reside in west yard, and would like to have one in north yard.
- Recess is hard for some students, so it's thought this program will level the playing field for all students and will help them learn and play

- Over the next 2 months, they will develop play policy
  - o Short-term: looking at it as it applies to snow. Current snow policy is that the snow stays on the ground so this will be revised
- Symposium is Jan 19
- Child-led play is so important for children, and OPAL staff are passionate about this
- There is no pedagogy around play right now, so want to give students resources
- Would like it to be a community initiative so loose parts will be left outside for after school use

Eco-school – applied for platinum again this year.

“Humewood WOW” initiative – really successful. Donated to multiple charities

BAGS TO SCHOOL initiative (culmination at winter concert)

- o Textile recycling program
  - Bring in old clothes and shoes and fill bags and the school is paid by the pound.
  - Some is recycled, some clothes are re-used

Grade 8 Grad – different format, similar to other schools. Takes pressure off to decorate.

Families pay \$50 per student and students will fundraise for DJ and photo booth

- ceremony at Humewood 5-6pm
- 6pm shuttled to Monte Casino for dinner and dance
- 10pm bussed back to Humewood

Starting Friday – Humewood Café: selling coffee and bags of beans

- Also running every morning next week

Hacker Girl – hosting a hack-a-thon Wed Dec 13

- Girls will have 8 hours to complete challenge
- Trying to do largest girls only hack-a-thon across Canada
- By 2020 there will be 20 million jobs in computing
- Grades 6-8
- Groups of 3

1<sup>st</sup> Lego League competing on Dec 16 (Grades 4-6)

- Highly competitive
- Build on skills of previous years
- Grade 7/8 students previously in the program become mentors

#### **AVI MANI:**

- Yearbook Update: Edge to publish with all classes, teams, special day pages, grad section, etc.
- Charge = \$20
- Teacher (Ms. White)

Question – could we do a digital copy?

Spirit wear – Justine and Mr. Mani met with Pegasus Spirit Wear

- Also contacting other companies to research best options
- Looking for generic T-shirts, jerseys, online purchasing will be an option
- Ethical sourcing policy?

Parent Questions:

1. How do you determine when free play turns into hazard?
  - Free play does not mean unsupervised. Teacher intervenes when it's not safe.
  - Kids might get a bruise, but will keep playing.
  - Kids aren't as active anymore, so not as much muscle tone and ligaments aren't as strong. So this play will build skill and muscle tone.

Does it go past grade 6? At Humewood – yes!

2. Update on basketball nets?
  - Once Ms. Mastrella gets okay to order, will place the order through the board.
3. Can we be proactive in having enough salt to cover our ice in play areas? Much concern was expressed regarding treacherous conditions. Who do we talk to get the policy/snow removal plan changed to include a greater area for snow removal to create a bigger path?

Suggestion: draft letter and bring it to council. It would have to be approved by council and sent to Shelly Laskin.

- Nothing is stopping parents from chopping the ice, but can't bring salt.

#### 7. **Chair's Report – Janine**

OPAL meeting in November review:

- Specific talk of role of parents and role of council
- Big part is donations
  - o Lists of things they need (noodles, boxes, pots, pans, etc)
- Loose part provider volunteers?
  - o Get parents to spearhead a committee to collect donations
- Storage – OPAL wanted to get tires right away, but still trying to find a place to store them. Vandalism and theft is a concern
- Talked about incorporating parents by extending it to after school for parents to see which would assist with questions regarding when safe play becomes unsafe

Snowball: Cheryl

- Evening for parents with music. DJ and hopefully band will return. Silent auction, etc.
- Friday, March 2nd with a throwback 80's theme
- Motion to approve from Cheryl
- No conflict from school
- seconded by Erin
- tickets on sale in January
- **donations welcome**
  - o theme baskets, tickets, experiences, classes, etc
- teacher experiences: will be put online
- Looking for a parent who can curate 80's videos on a video to play on a screen?
- Rebecca Wise is going to chair the snowball – thank you!!

After 4 – have until Jan 8 to register. Same programs as fall. Sewing/felting has extra space.

- Can we look at programs that would interest older boys?
- Keyboarding workshops?
- There is a waitlist of about 30 for after 4 programs.

Janine:

Canadian Parents for French could possibly offer an after school homework club if there was space in the school. Ali Siegler offered to be the contact person for this organization.

Lost and Found Clean up: Thanks to Bessi Amaral who organized the lost and found and donated the coat rack!

Natasha: Asks how is French Immersion being introduced in Grades 7 and 8? Will the kids stay at Humewood? Will it be classroom based or rotary? Do we have space for them?

Admin: They will stay here. Grades 7 and 8 French immersion is 50/50 French/English, students will have homerooms, based on staffing models there may be some rotary. Room 110 is available.

### **Council Election – Co-Treasurer positions (2)**

Janine: Thanks to Rahim for all of his work.

Janine: Elections for treasurer. Erin and Tanya are elected the two new treasurers. Cheryl B. will give them a board contact.

AOB:

Lisa: Will be launching a Wine Survivor Fundraiser. Parents pay money and wine to participate to win wine. The winners will be announced at the Snowball.

Simone: Is the safe snack list being used this year?

Admin: Yes, and they will send out a reminder.

Some parents at the meeting said their children weren't eating their lunches

Admin: Will look into it.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Moved and approved

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- Any parent interested in coordinating the collection of rain gear to create a library at Humewood for students who don't come prepared for All-Weather Recess?
- OPAL – Collection of loose parts: is there a parent who is interested in coordinating this?
- Snowball donations – contact Cheryl Batty
- 80's theme videos to play during snowball – is there a parent interested in putting this together?