

## Ochre Park School Council Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2021 6:30pm

Via Microsoft Teams

### 1. Called to order at 6:32pm

### 2. Old Business

- Fundraisers: Bear tracks very successful, 157 pails sold as of Friday, \$3900 total with a \$1452 profit, more to come as today last day. Maybe amend due date for next year to accommodate late orders. Mabel's Labels has 6 orders in so far with a \$60 profit. Ongoing so more to come.
- Halloween Activities: Homeroom parties, Students may dress after lunch recess in order to keep costumes in good shape. Makeup can be done before school. Socially distanced Costume Parade will commence in the gym at 1:30. Treats are allowed but have to either be individually wrapped or the teacher has to serve students.
- September meeting overlook: Amanda made a motion to move the May 23 meeting to May 30 as it's Victoria day. Rikki Seconded. **CARRIED**. Amanda made a motion to Cancel June meeting for now and reschedule in spring if required. Courtney Seconded. **CARRIED**.

### 3. New Business

- School wish list can be reviewed later this year. Fundraising updates and goals can be made up in a flyer and sent home with children or included in newsletter to try get more interest. Amanda made a motion to start an ongoing bottle drive with the town depot's participation and suspend any more major fundraisers until Spring, for example Purdy's. Rikki seconded. **CARRIED**.
- School pictures: Lifetouch contract up for renewal in January. Should we look at what other companies offer? Some negative parent feedback with lifetouch; only one pose, no class pictures, poor photo retouching. Laurie volunteered to approach Josten's photography and see if they can present a package for November's meeting. Courtney will check with her brother's kid's company as she was very impressed with their portraits.
- Room reps: an email will be sent to reps to discuss their roles and if they can help organize other parents for help with teacher prep, class parties, field trips etc.
- Sponsorship Letters and Requests: Lion's club approved the \$1500 hotdog lunch grant. Will approach Rick's oilfield to sponsor Oil King tickets again for a prize to a top seller in a fundraiser. Purdy's points were collected in the past and used to purchase giftcards. These cards will be given away to the top Purdy's sellers. Amanda will draft a letter to send to other major companies and groups for sponsorship requests. Some ideas of companies discussed: Jaynart, Nutrien/Agrium, Altaland, NWR, Plains Midstream.
- Snowshoes: The newly purchased snowshoes have large metal spikes bolted on the bottoms, potentially posing a safety hazard. Laurie will see how difficult they are to remove then ask for parent volunteers to help remove all the spikes.

### Reports:

**Parent Society:** Fundraising is great so far. Financially a quiet month, but the new school sound system has been purchased. Casino funds can only be used for specific purchases. Will look into what purchases qualify to use these funds. School wishlist to be revised based on the funds in accounts. Amanda summarized the fundraisers already done and what is planned for the spring, such as Purdy's and the Schoolstart school supply partnership.

**Room Reps:** PreK- Stephanie reported that the children made talking sticks and went for a nature walk for Truth and Reconciliation week (TRW). They had a bus safety presentation on Sept 14 and just recently a fire safety fieldtrip with the local departments coming to school. Because the children were being helpful, they earned a PJ party in the near future.

K1- Mrs. Fossen will be back Nov 15. Mrs. Clements is the sub until then. K1 Halloween party is Oct 27 and K2 on Oct 29.

1/2T- Participated in TRW by making Every Child Matters posters and model teepees and learning about Indigenous culture.

3W- TRW activities included learning about residential schools and doing some Indigenous art projects. They conducted a rock study, painted them Orange, wrote inspiring words to survivors and returned the rocks to nature. They also wrote letters to residential school survivors.

3/4G- Students learned about the legacy of residential schools during TRW. As a class, they made an Every Child Matters book, as individuals they wrote about "Imagine a Canada" to inspire reconciliation.

4H- Learned about why reconciliation and history are important. Learned about the residential school system. For Halloween, the children unlocked their classroom haunted house by completing assignments.

**Trustee:** Superintendent Mary Lynn Campbell is retiring June 30, 2022. Bill 58- Freedom to Care act is going to be reviewed by the legal team and presented in simpler terms for parents to read and understand as lots of legal wordings. 72 staff hired division wide. 4.9% enrollment increase this year. The school council grant was applied for through central office.

**Teacher:** Students enjoyed Take Me Outside Day on October 20. Goal was to spend at least one hour outdoors. They had gym class outside, went on a scavenger hunt, went for nature walks, played sidewalk games like hopscotch etc. 3W is heading up the 10 days of Giving again this year for their social project. The students organize and run the event and the whole school participates in providing donations for the food bank. Ochre Park has been a top giver these past few years and we want to keep the momentum going.

**Principal:** New Principal, Calvin Anhorn starts November 1, there will be a one week overlap with both Mr. Anhorn and Mrs. Filipchuk working in order to transition. Staffing update, Laurie Hadden hired as part time office clerk, Rikki Anema as an EA who works in all classes and Carrie Rosser has increased hours and assists in Pre K and K. Mr. Booker was hired to teach Music and this allows the students to have 75 minutes of music class per week compared to 50 minutes previously. Teachers are now providing school council with monthly highlights taken from their education plan. This month's highlights were mainly about Truth and Reconciliation week. Covid update: Contact tracing will be done through central office should there be a positive case in

class. If three or more students test positive in a class or cohort within 5 days, that class or cohort will then commence online schooling for 10 days. Mr. Anhorn will provide financial update in November. Virtual Remembrance Ceremony to commence Nov 5. Principal led ceremony and class performances will be recorded. \$1500 grant from Lions club will be used for Free Lunch Fridays. Virtual Parent Teacher interviews are on Nov 17-18. Virtual book fair runs Nov 15-28. Parent council minutes are to be posted on the school website as well as a copy forward to Krystal Bryant at Central office.

**Open discussion:** Parent society to make a motion at their meeting tomorrow to support Teacher dinners during parent-teacher interviews.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:10pm

**ADDENDUM:** October 26, 2021, Laurie called Craig of Sportfactor to inquire re: snowshoe spikes. The spikes serve a purpose in our climate. Unless the kids are strictly snowshoeing in fluffy snow, removing the spikes will make the snowshoes feel more like skis. He advised they have sold over 10,000 pairs to schools in the past 5-6 years and no complaints. Agreed via Email to keep the spikes on the snowshoes for now.