

## **AMC SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Karley Chafee (Staff Representative), Ian Pellizari (Principal), Victoria Baranow, Sarah Drake, Caitlyn Araya, Amanda Faulkner, Melissa Garay, Laura Deboer, Jordan Neudorf, Jill McKim, Katie Janssen, Chloe Richer, Abby Zaitley, Katie Moisse, Vanessa Dunn

### **Welcome**

- Vanessa and Katie, Co-Chairs from 2023-24 school year welcomed everyone. Everyone in the room introduced themselves.
- Vanessa explained some of the School Council roles such as Treasurer, Fundraising, and Student Events.
- Victoria raised the issue of the Boys and Girls Club after school care falling through the cracks Victoria will reach to to her contact so Ian can follow up with BGC about running a program within the school. It is unknown whether families currently on the waitlist for YMCA care would have their waitlist status considered by BGC.
- Laura Mulder requested we add school bus concerns to the agenda; it was tabled due to time constraints.

### **Review & approval of previous minutes (standing item)**

- Minutes from April 16 2024 meeting were circulated via email to attendees and Ian.
- No minutes were taken at May 21 2024 meeting. Secretary Laura Mulder was absent due to illness.

### **Treasurer's Report (standing item)**

- Our previous Treasurer Brian is no longer at the school. The newly elected Treasurer will connect with Ms Kilgour in the office regarding current balance.

### **Principal's Report (standing item)**

- Ian sent out a community update email that has all current information.

### **Council Election**

- Vanessa, Abby and Chloe were elected as Co-Chairs. Abby would like to focus on organization/setup for the year and creating a blueprint for future School Councils to make handoff and startup easier. Vanessa will stay on as support for Chloe and Abby, and create a Slack account for School Council discussions.

- Victoria was elected as Treasurer.
- Laura Mulder was elected as Secretary. Katie Janssen offered to act as Backup Secretary.
- Amanda was elected to chair the Social Media Committee. Laura Mulder and Laura Deboer will join.

### **Fundraising Ideas**

- Mrs O'Marra suggested discussing MacGregor Meats and the FlipGive app.
- Mrs Pierroz has set up Raise the Dough for February and April.
- Little Caesar's, Muskoka Coffee, Mabel's Labels, music trivia night.
- Parents can donate to Hamilton Foundation for Student Success and select their school.
- We would like to see more information about fundraising in the school community emails; perhaps a signature line highlighting HFSS and Mabel's Labels if we create that.
- Can popcorn be moved to School Cash Online?
- We can create a QR code to have at events lining to SCO, with a specific donation option informing donors that the funds will be used for student excursions (field trips and busing to sporting events).
- Fundraising done by School Council is limited to items that are NOT provided by the School Board.
- When Jenn George returns two key items to discuss will be Fundraising and Communications.

### **Event Ideas**

- Smash It Don't Trash It evening event. Everyone brings their pumpkins, hot chocolate is served, projector with something spooky. Kids smash their pumpkins, which are then donated to a farm or composted. Collect small donations to smash pumpkin and for hot chocolate via QR code linked to School Cash Online. Discuss with custodial staff; hope is that organization would provide supplies to keep mess contained.
- Pumpkin Walk evening event
- So Chill event after school with Halloween treats

### **Social Media**

- There should be more regular communication about the basics: dates for pizza and popcorn days, and where those funds go.
- A Social Media Committee will create a newsletter or blurb for the Principal to email out. They will also post more regularly on Facebook in order to generate discussion and ideas. Updates on School Council minutes will be provided, with a reminder that the full minutes are on the school website.
- School Council will have an email address, and the school will send out emails written by School Council, with the reply option being School Council. Parents can also subscribe to the school website to receive notifications.

### **Community Outreach update**

- Tabled

### **PIC update and Grant update**

- PRO Grant is due at the end of November.

### **General Organizations**

- Tabled

### **Teacher needs/requests (standing item):**

- Playground upgrade: requests have been made to repaint the blacktop, have bins for sports equipment, basketball nets and a tetherball pole. This was approved in April, but no follow up was made. Vanessa motioned to approve the quote, all in favour.
- Author visit for \$113 was approved via email. Vanessa motioned to approve this request, all in favour.
- Karley to ask teachers to send blurbs about the events that School Council funds for updating on social media/School Council newsletter.
- Garden update: There is potential to create a committee for community garden, has been there for 7 years. Bleuprints were sent in, there was a site visit with the Superintendent in May, and we are waiting to hear what our next steps are. Ian to follow up to see if we can move forward with anything.

<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TASK</b>
Vanessa Dunn	Create a Slack account
Abby Zaitley	Contact attendees via email

<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>TASK</b>
Victoria Baranow	Connect with Ms. Kilgour re: current balance
Laura Mulder	Finish and circulate minutes
Victoria Baranow	Provide BGC contact to Ian Pellizari
Ian Pellizari	Contact BGC regarding after school program
Ian Pellizari	Follow up on quote for playground improvements
Karley Chaffee	Request blurbs from teachers about events funded by School Council
Ian Pellizari	Follow up regarding next steps for community garden

**ACTION ITEMS**

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5 6:30 focus on winter event planning and tabled items**

**TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 6:30**