



Huntington Park ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *SCHOOL COUNCIL* *Meeting Minutes*

Date: Wednesday, January 8, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Huntington Park School Council Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm on Wednesday, January 8th, 2025. Roll call was conducted. The following persons were present:

Nancy Radojevic (Principal), Stephanie Sawchuk (Teacher), Joanna Beckley, Erin Wilkins, Shannon Blair, John Henry, Rebecca Cardwell, Tim Lawson, Yvonne Rieck, Susan Martin, Andreana Zerafa, Jennifer Anthony

ABSENT: Adam Neumann

REGRETS: Adrienne Smith, Crystal Seager, Marion Garrido,

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board acknowledges our presence on ancestral Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Confederacy land as determined by the Dish with One Spoon treaty.

The intent of this agreement is for all nations sharing this territory to do so responsibly, respectfully and sustainably in perpetuity.

We respect the longstanding relationships with the local Indigenous communities, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Six Nations of the Grand River.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

The motion to approve last meeting's minutes was approved with all votes in favour.

IV. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Nancy Radojevic

Instructional Focus:

- Priority in January
 - Welcoming students back into their classrooms
 - Re-imagining Wellness in the classroom – team building, activities to connect

- School Annual Plan
 - Gr.1 Teaching Team Acadience PD in-school release – delivered by our reading specialist
 - Junior Division Language Teachers – system PD release sessions at the Board
 - Gr. 1-8 Team Teaching release – programming alignment with Special Education goals
- January Professional Development (PA Day) – Friday, January 24, 2025
 - Teacher/Educator Teams – report card preparation day
 - Term 1 Report Card – Achievement Communication – sent home Friday, February 14th, 2025
- Council members engaged in discussion about the Acadience program and feedback given to families
 - Parents can reach out to teachers for details about their child’s assessment

School Operational Updates:

- Family Information Packages sent home – updating our System for Student Accuracy of Information
- Student Council Led Spirit Days – high level of student and staff engagement
- Neighbour-2-Neighbour (N2N) Food Drive led by staff and student council – successful collection of over 1000 lbs, 1700 families supported
- Winter Year End/Holiday Assembly – high level of student and staff engagement with the choir and dance team
- School fundraising update – thank you to our fundraising sub-committee for meeting in December and communicating the two votes online for the Dance-a-thon in February

Re-Election of School Chair/Co-Chair Model

- Resignation of Previous Chair – Laura Hill
- Duties of School Council Chair
 - Prepare meeting agendas and circulate to School Council
 - Arrange and chair meetings
 - Ensure meeting minutes are recorded and maintained
 - Chair will be provided with HWDSB email address
- Seeking anyone on Council interested in role of Chair or a Chair/Co-chair model
- 1 committee member interested – assigned as Chair
- 2 committee members interested – Chair/Co-chair model option or Elect 1 Chair as Vote

V. TEACHER’S REPORT – Stephanie Sawchuk

- The community organization N2N has 4 volunteers to come into HP to read with students a few days a week (grades 1-4)
- Senior Basketball schedule is up and running with coaches Mr. Cognini (boys) and Mr. Resovac (girls)

VI. TREASURER’S REPORT - Rebecca Cardwell & Tim Lawson

- \$14672.61 in the account to close out
- Pizza orders seem to be light in January
- Lisa Hill sent email and talked to Pizza Pizza – we are already part of their fundraising program and \$10 pizza is as inexpensive as it gets

- We are waiting on invoices for previous purchases (shed, whiteboards, chargers for tablets – approx. \$1250)
 - Shed has not yet been ordered
- Approx. \$5181 is available for teachers to spend (until all purchases have been accounted for)
- A request was made that an email notice is sent out to families as a reminder about February pizza purchases
 - Rebecca or Tim will reach out to Lisa Hill about sending this reminders

VII. FUNDRAISING REPORT

- Dance-a-thon update:
 - *Summary of online vote in December:*
 - *Dance-a-thon fundraiser to be held on February 14th & spending of a maximum of \$200 for prizes/wrapping and \$800 for concession/glow sticks*
 - *Yes - 14 votes; No – 0 votes; Abstain – 1 vote*
 - Need to coordinate School Cash Online for Dance and Pizza days because they will both be listed around the same time
 - Susan will talk to Lisa Hill about leaving School Cash Online open for multiple donations
 - There was discussion about families with varying financial scenarios and how they are impacted by using School Cash Online for collecting donations (i.e. an e-transfer donation may look like income)
 - Mrs. Radojevic will find out about alternate School Cash Online options
 - Proposed timelines:
 - Make initial post for donations and glow sticks in the range of January 15th to 20th
 - Close school cash on Tuesday, February 7th or Tuesday, February 11th at 2:00 pm (forms would be printed and picked up by volunteers at the end of the school day)
 - On February 12th and 13th the prizes would be ready to be viewed and boxes will be available for students to place their ballots
 - Promotion of event:
 - Poster in each classroom (possibly colour copies for posting in school)
 - Each student will be sent home with a two-sided paper copy – poster on one side and the pledge form on the other side
 - Notices and reminders will be sent out electronically
 - Yvonne volunteered to help update the poster
 - Susan will purchase concession items and glow sticks after confirming prices
- An idea for a 2nd fundraiser was brought forward
 - Susan shared the “Luck of the Irish” raffle example (can be adjusted to fit our needs and schedule)
 - A \$5 ticket would be purchased for a chance to win cash prizes
 - Fundraising sub-committee can discuss details further

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Spirit wear
 - Council members were interested in placing another Spirit Wear order this year
 - Items to consider: 1) “Property of Huntington Park Athletics” t-shirt, and 2) Zippered hoodie
 - Jennifer will contact JML for order details and will share this information with Council
- Kindness closet or Parent’s closet
 - Discussion about having children’s’ clothing donations available so families could take what they need
 - This requires further discussion with staff and determining if there is available space in the school to store clothing
- Nutrition program
 - Jennifer connected with the Taste Buds program in Hamilton regarding a nutrition program – it is an involved process and requires several volunteers every day
 - Suggestion was made to support the purchasing of small snacks (Mrs. Gedye) for students
 - Rebecca shared information about a school that offers a self-nominated program where donations of non-perishable items are sent home with families each week – this model could be considered for Huntington Park

The motion to approve \$200 for Mrs. Gedye to purchase supplemental snacks for students was approved with all votes in favour.

- *Topics to discuss at our next meeting:*
 - Can Council help financially to support field trips (e.g. pay for a bus)?
 - Over the past few years, the idea of applying for grants has been brought up – Can Council members set up times to meet and write applications (for this year or next year)?
- Tim and Crystal both volunteered to become the new Chairs for Council
- Joanna volunteered to be a Co-Treasurer with Rebecca

IX. SPENDING & VOTING

- There are no requests for spending at this time.

X. UPCOMING SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 12th, 2024 @ 6:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Jennifer Anthony