

E.J.E.S. School Council & Parent Association Meeting Minutes

Mission: To Foster the well-being and effectiveness of our school community and to enhance student learning.

Date: May 19, 2022

Location: Blended Meeting (zoom and in person at EJES)

Attendance: Rosanna Zaniol, Eric Bouchard, Trish Pearson, Jenn Stolfa, Susan Given, Becky Koss, Bridget Young, Erin Jean.

1. Call to order: at 7:05pm

- Agenda review and additions
- Brief introductions

2. Approval of minutes – Jenn Stolfa approved

3. Administration Reports / Opportunities to advise

1. Principal's Report, Eric provided the following update:

- Reviewed ski trip
- Finished Evergreen Theater, worked with all the classes with each having their own skit
- Did a variety of Mental Health awareness week activities for the week
- Freeze Friday, April 22, 2022, was a big hit, enjoyed by the kids
- Right in the middle of Spring testing (k-3s) to test progress made
- Did first rounds for PATs for grade 6s, asking about options for high school
- Swimming Lessons have been booked June 6-8 and June 13-14 30min sessions for the kids
- Looking for dads for help in the change rooms for swim dates
- Class photos without masks coming up, schedule will be created shortly
- Visit to RCMP office for kids coming up
- June 21 National Indigenous People Day, planning activities to recognize this day
- Eric has been invited to a BC school on a First Nations Reservation June 7&8 may become a sister school, more info to come
- Last day of school, June 28th, and report cards will be sent home at that time
- Ordered some new desks for school, replace some blinds that are broken, more kid friend furniture in the library
- June 22 is walk-down ceremony, grade 6 in the am
- Developed a new day, "Wellness Day" incorporated yoga into sexual health education

2. Trustee's Report

- regrets from Dale.

3. Opportunities to Advise and Discuss:

- no community guests

4. Committee and Member Share

Opportunity for members wishing to share a brief report, update, or news item

- no items brought forward

5. New Business

1. School council engagement grant – Discussion around how to utilize dollars. Asked if it can be used for webinars/workshops, yes it can. We are joining the High School and cost sharing for a presentation on Social Media Safety for Parents and caregivers: May 26 at 7pm via zoom – invite to come shortly. We have enough dollars to organize a 2nd education session to use the \$500 of the engagement fund.

2. Volunteers needed for distributing the flowers for 9am – pick up May 20 between 10-12am.

3. Theatre Program – A motion to contribute \$3,000 to Evergreen Theatre program by Jennifer Stofla, Trisha Pearson seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Parent Council budget/spending:

- Playground Funds – These funds have been raised for new playground and for new outdoor equipment. Explored the need for basketball nets outside. Will connect the Jasper Municipality to see if they will donate any portable nets that they may not be using.

- Parents are asking about shade. Becky, Jenn and Susan to come together and review what kind of outdoor equipment for school could be considered.

Parent Association Council Budget:

1. Playground Fund
2. General Fund

- Telus world of Science comes for hands on experiences. Motion to contribute \$1,400 to school budget for Telus World of Science to come in 22/23 school year and do sessions with the kids by Jennifer Stofla, Trish Pearson seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

- Discussed supporting swimming lessons costs. Motion to contribute \$2,511 towards the school swim lesson program for this year (all kids k-6) by Jennifer Stofla. Trish Pearson seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

- Discussed walkdown books - school will pay for walkdown books, when they have the invoice, they will bring this cost/invoice forward to the parent council and see if school council budget can pay for it at a later date. Jenn to put together welcome bags.

5. Discussed Facebook Page / Regular Newsletter – the board approved the current FB page and use.

- reviewed need or benefit from a regularly distributed Newsletter. Eric will trial sending out a monthly newsletter. Will do a trial run and collect some feedback.

6. Briefly discussed the community Pantry Project – This initiative supports Ukrainians new to Jasper to set them up with fresh meat, veg/fruit, dairy, breads and non-perishables. Community asking if school can circulate opportunity. Eric to follow up with teachers as there has been some discussion of actioning/supporting.

7. Lunch Program – Susan brought forward the follow up to September 2021 discussion of the lunch program. Concerns raised: The lunch program is too long (Eric), communication of the lunch program messages to parents that the program is intended only for participation of children that live out of town such as JPL kids, and for kids that absolutely are not able to go home and reinforces that kids should be sent home for “quality time with parents and a break from school”, this stereotyping is outdated and puts unrealistic expectations and unnecessary stress on parents, kids and families, not clear if there has been any recent evaluation and formal engagement with parents regarding the lunch program and if it is meeting the needs of kids, parents and families. Informal feedback heard by Susan that there has been some evaluation in the past, not clear on what that was. Also heard that there was interest in creating a more developed lunch program with food provided. There was a FB post last Spring inquiring on lunch program, minimal responses. Sending kids home from school misses out on the social and emotional benefit and opportunity for kids to socialize together. Eric stated that it is a 50/50 mix of utilization of the lunch program. Eric states that communication to parents should not be messaged as it has in the past.

6. Old Business

-no items discussed

7. JES Parent’s Association

-no items discussed

8. Opportunity for open discussion

-no items discussed

9. Adjournment: at 8:34pm

Next Meeting: June 15, 2022