

# Ecole Jasper Elementary Parent Association

## Meeting Minutes

November 23, 2023

### Attendance:

Present: Myka Jones, Jenn Stolfa, Michelle Flores, Stephanie English, Rosanna Zaniol, Danielle Duffy-Mills, Sandra Campbell, Jess Agustin, Veronica Gomez, Tricia Pearson, Eric Bouchard, Becky Koss, Dale Karpluk, Angie Thom

1. Call to order: 7:02pm
2. Agenda review and additions completed
3. Approval of minutes completed
4. Brief introductions completed
5. JES Parent's Association Financial update by S. English
  - i. Nothing new to report. Association still has roughly \$17,200 in playground fund. Of the roughly \$23,800 additional funds, about \$10,000 will pay for the flowers from the fundraiser.
  - ii. This year an "art event" will be funded (the school alternates year to year between art and science), total budget is around \$7,000.
  - iii. TD tree grant should be applied for at local branch if being considered. 1. Myka to research tree grant(s) and report back
6. New business
  - a. SMART photography discussion:
    - i. Discussion summary: The Association and school get to choose which company takes school photos. Apart from some communication issues and broken links, parents were pleased with the service and will try this company for another year.
  - b. Nutrition grant
    - i. Discussion summary: The nutrition grant brings about \$1,000 per month to the school. Currently, snacks are purchased from Sysco and are available to all students. Some are on the sweet side and all are individually packaged (meets Health & Safety regulations- no commercial kitchen in the school). Some kids eat the snacks instead of their own food. Could this funding be used to meet the nutritional needs of children in other ways? Hot breakfasts? Hot lunches? Glenda's catering? Would parents like to see other options?
      1. Members to think about this, research other options, and bring back ideas to next meeting.
  - c. Composting
    - i. Discussion summary: composting is an important part of reducing landfill waste/emissions and participating students/teachers can compost at the school if they choose to.
7. Old business
  - a. Scholastic Book Fair update from A. Thom: 26 adult volunteers, 3 child volunteers came together to make this event happen. Broken pens and erasers totalled \$32. Total scholastic

dollars earned was \$2037, to be split evenly between library and school. School has some \$ left over, so will be added to this year's "wishlist" amount and Walkdown books for Grade 6s.

- b. Inventory on skis – gym under construction, so can be completed when back in. c. Myka and Melanie will take over the flower fundraiser, Leslie is facilitating.
- d. Myka still working to organize a Playground/Landscaping working committee, Ecole Desrochers would like to work together. Danielle will join. Playground has 7 years of life left.
  - i. Eric to organize a meeting for both school groups to come together
- e. Library: Jody Anderson is now in the library 45 minutes per day to start sorting books and training our parent volunteers.
- f. Amanada Denton is back in school 2 days/week as the BEST coach. g. Parent Engagement:
  - i. Eric to talk to teachers about drafting a survey to send to the parents, used as a means to invite parents into class to share their interests, skills, culture, etc.

#### 8. Committee member share

#### 9. Administration Reports

- a. Dale Karpluk (summary): Has taken part in Rural School Board's caucus meetings and the AB School Boards Association meetings. Had a business meeting to advocate for better OT, SLP, mental health, etc. support services in school with Martin Long. External audit of books for GYPSD completed and found to be in good standing.
- b. Eric (summary): Past month's events were successful (Halloween, Oopsie Play, Remembrance Day ceremony, CN Rail Safety, Ukulele Club, etc.) Math consultant came in to help teachers refine some skills. Student Success meetings coming up, Festive Spirit Day.
  - i. Winter concert moving to January
  - ii. 90-day plan for Literacy goals started, next Numeracy and Parental Involvement (goals for the school)

#### 10. Opportunities to Advise & Discuss

- a. Discussion summary: National Truth and Reconciliation Day should be honoured in the calendar. GYPSD has not finalized calendars yet.
- b. Fundraising idea: Art cards by Kids is a potential idea
- c. Discussion summary: Living wage calculations should be taken into consideration in school Support Staff union bargaining underway. Member(s) do not believe support staff are earning a sufficient wage (no raises since 2004, effectively).
- d. Bus: Councillor Hall is willing to bring it forward to council. Forward any/all concerns to the town council.

11. Next meeting: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at the school, 7pm. 12.

Adjournment - 8:10pm