

**Tecumseth South Central PS**  
**School Council Minutes**  
**Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 6-7pm School Library**

***Members Present:***

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Melissa Mackenzie | 5. Anna Lisa Wienecke |
| 2. Kathryn Spencley  | 6. Krista Elford      |
| 3. Tina Rakovsky     | 7. Robin Hryniewski   |

***Members Absent:***

- |                  |                      |                   |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Rebecca Mayne | 3. Sheri Cicirello   | 5. Melissa McKeon |
| 2. Megan Bender  | 4. Katherine Hopkins | 6. Alana Ciolfi   |

***Staff Members Present:***

Tana Ward (Principal)

Marianne Kennedy (Teacher Representative)

***Opening:***

- Meeting called to order by Chair Melissa Mackenzie at 6:07pm.

***Welcome:***

- Land acknowledgement

***Approval of Minutes:***

- Minutes approved for December, 2022. Melissa Mackenzie motioned to approve the minutes. Tina seconded the motion.

***Teacher Report – Marianne Kennedy:***

**Carnivale de Neige:** The entire school is looking forward with great anticipation to our upcoming Carnivale de Neige, organized by Ms. Barone and the Grades 6, 7 and 8 students. The Carnivale is happening on Thursday of this week (Blocks 1 and 2) and will include lots of fun festivities including dancing, tobogganing, target practice, building with snow, hockey, a photo booth, scavenger hunt and hot chocolate station. The Carnivale is modeled after the Carnivale d’Hiver in Quebec City and the intermediate and high junior students will be running the stations and acting as team leaders for the younger students. Thank-you to Ms. Barone and the Grade 6, 7 and 8 students for all of their hard work planning this fun event for our children! The inclement weather day will be Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Black History Month:** This year, our focus is not exclusively on Black history, but also on Black joy. At the moment, students in the primary grades and Kindergarten are learning the history, specifically the Underground Railroad, and will be creating a collaborative quilt to show their understanding. Our intent is to shift the focus to Black joy as the month progresses. In addition, students have been invited to prepare announcements for Black history month that show what they have learned from their class inquiries.

**Music:** Ms. Leaist has been using wind instruments to give students an opportunity to experience what it is like to take music class in high school. These instruments are shared between the family of schools in the south end of the county, and can be borrowed for one month at a time. Initially, students had opportunities to experience all of the instruments through guided personal experiences at centres, then concentrated on one instrument.

**Field Trips:** Mrs. Santo, Ms. Howland and Ms. Matthews' classes will be going on a field trip to the McMichael art gallery later this month. Ms. Howland and Mrs. Santo are also going to King Conservation Area for wall climbing and low ropes in May. Staff from the Tiffin Conservation area will be visiting on Tuesday to do some outdoor experiential education with some students, if the weather is okay. An in-school field trip is in the planning stages for JK-Grades 1 / 2. We are in the process of finalizing dates for VanGo from the McLaren Art Gallery in Barrie to come to Tec South to do some clay art, likely later in February. We are also in the process of booking a trip to the Tiffin Centre for Conservation for the week before March Break.

**Robotics:** Partnering with Ms. Leaist in the library, Grades 1 and 2 students will be using the OzmoBots to retell the story of the Wonderful Wizard of Oz. The students will be creating a three-dimensional story map, while adding some imaginative locations. The Ozmobots are capable of reading code the students input by using specific colours and the final product should include the students retelling the story as the Ozmobots make their journey through Oz.

**Playground Pals:** Mrs. Brisco and Ms. Ayisis are working with students in Grades 4 and 5 to become student ambassadors on the playground. These students are receiving training on how to help mitigate small disputes that may occur between students in the younger grades.

**Pizza:** Teachers are requesting that the pizza arrives in classrooms earlier, such that there is not a scramble to distribute slices. It will be considered to move the delivery up 10 minutes earlier, such that this can be accommodated. It was suggested to consider Pizza Hut for next year's pizza orders, if they become an approved vendor and are able to handle school orders. Parent volunteers are allowed to serve pizza to students.

### ***Admin Report – Tana Ward***

- Two school sports teams have been competing, the Intermediate boys' basketball on February 22 and Intermediate girls' volleyball on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Locations are TBA.
- Grade 8 students are making course selections for Grade 9.
- Grad photos have been taken and there will be a re-take date, TBA.

- Five new chrome books have been ordered. Some chrome books are end of life and not within the warranty period.
- **Professional Learning:**
  - Literacy: All Primary staff have attended a 1-day workshop on the science of reading, virtually. Staff are working on determining which decodable books to order for school use. We are looking to spend \$3000 this year, and possibly more next year.
  - Math: Ms. Margie will be doing some professional learning at the end of February, to share with the team. Collaboration time for J/I teachers will be provided.
  - Health and Safety: Staff meetings have been covering health and safety topics, along with mental health strategies.
- Character recognition will occur in May. Nominations are encouraged. The due date is Feb 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Staffing for next school year will occur at the end of the month. Fourteen JK students are registered so far.
- Parent Drivers: It was requested that the forms for parent drivers to sporting events specifies the drop-off and pick-up locations clearly. The type of form used depends on whether students are picked up/dropped off at school or home and the number of locations.

#### ***Financial Report – Tana Ward***

- Co curricular Account \$868.41 - will pay for T&F bus and any other clubs/needs
- Commencement \$668.81 - will be enough for this year, planning begins after March break
- Eat Well to Excel \$1135.68 - will order for a few more months on e-way and then keep a start-up amount for 2023-24
- Field Trips \$2644.67 - will use \$10 per student (approx \$1850.00), any remaining amount we can make a motion to allocate to school yard
- Grade 8 trip \$1600.79 - with 15 grads, this is \$100+ per student, so there will be no more fundraisers for this (school council may take over "treat days" and we will re-allocate funds) - will consider making this \$50 toward grade 8 trip and remaining for grad sweaters
- General Needs currently at -\$66.41 - Green Apple and Macgregor meats to go here
- Library \$1882.40 - Ms. Leait is ordering books (just spent \$1400 on non-fiction)
- School Yard \$1963.41 - will got to Gaga Ball Pit
- Student Nutrition Grant \$4922.19 - about \$600 spent so far, will start getting snacks from other locations to use this money, as well as doing school-wide snacks on special days

## ***Fundraising Report – Melissa Mackenzie (on behalf of Megan Bender)***

### **Current Fund-raisers:**

- Little Caesars pizza kits – Tana send another email reminder to families on Wednesday. Orders must be in by Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. \$258 in orders has been made so far.

### **Remaining Fund-raisers:**

- ***Open donations*** – not yet set up on school cash online.
- ***Zander sod soil bags ‘big yellow bag’*** – A code will be provided, which gives a \$5.00 discount to the customer. \$10.00 per bag will be given to the school for fundraising. Orders can be made through the website with a code, and delivered directly to the purchaser.
- ***Make it Sow*** (seeds and bulbs) – There is no minimum order and there is a 40% margin for online orders. There is a two week turn-around.
- Make it Sow and Zander soil fundraising will be offered at the same time, likely right after March break.
- It was discussed to consider treat days being allocated to school fund-raising. It is too short notice to provide treats on Valentine’s Day for this year. There are two treat days written on the fundraising plan. This should ideally be done on School Cash Online. The updated vendor list will be requested from Lori, such that we can decide on possible treats to offer to students. Treats need to be individually packaged. To consider selling treats on the March 21<sup>st</sup> - Rock Your Socks for Downs Syndrome day. Also consider a vendor such as Chapmans, who offers individual ice cream/sorbet packages.

### **New Business:**

#### ***1. Parent ‘ice cream social’ for primary classes:***

- Due to the impact of COVID pandemic, it was decided to provide a primary event. This will be done instead of mother/father’s day event.
- The goal is to build community and provide a fun event for students and families.
- This will occur during the last block of the day in April, at 2pm.
- A date will be chosen, and then volunteers will be requested.

#### ***2. Spirit wear:***

- We will be going with Cutting Edge. There is a \$2.00 added cost to provide colour contrast to any clothing items. As there were complaints about the colour contrast, this will be added to each item, as otherwise the logo appears dark and undefined.
- All orders are completed online.
- Samples for sizing can be provided, with pick-up and drop-off in Orillia.
- Possibly have sizing available for the Scientist in the Schools event.
- A sub-committee will support Tana with deciding which items to sell, and decision-making around spirit wear. Kathryn Spencley, Melissa and Tina volunteered to help.

- Spirit wear does not need to conform to previous 'colour groups'.
- Tana will attempt to close down the Entropy account and investigate whether Cutting Edge can also provide grad sweaters.

### **3. PRO Grant – Scientists in Schools**

- Event will occur on March 29<sup>th</sup>, time TBA.
- This is a virtual event, to take place at school, in the library and gym.
- Materials will be provided, and then donated to the school.
- Families will need to RSVP, there are two workshops. Guardians are asked to stay with their child, as this is a family/child event.
- This event has more of a primary focus, with a physics theme. There is one presentation on roller coasters and another on flight. There are three mini-experiments within 1 hour.
- \$100 will be allocated to snacks.
- Numbers will need to be gathered by March 8<sup>th</sup> for planning purposes.
- Volunteers to support this event: Kathryn Spencley, Melissa MacKenzie, Rebecca Mayne.

### **4. Spring Fling:**

- A sub-committee will be formed. First meeting of the sub-committee will be March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Melissa MacKenzie's house. Others will be invited to join this sub-committee outside of parent council.
- The date for spring fling will be June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Consider that activities cannot resemble gambling.
- Ideas include an ice cream truck, popcorn machine, snow cone machine, silent auction, baskets for each class to be donated/raffled off. Consider ideas of 'Principal for the day' or 'Extra recess' for the silent auction/raffle, along with something for older students, such as a parent vs. student soccer game at 7pm.

**Next Meeting:** April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6-7pm

N.B. – No Meeting in March

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm by Melissa Mackenzie.