

**Elmdale School Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, 22 May 2019, 1800hrs**

**Welcome and Open Meeting**

The 7<sup>th</sup> April Elmdale School Council meeting of the 2018/2019 Academic Year was called to order by the Co-Chairs, Jordan and Larry, at 1812 hrs.

**In attendance:**

Larry  
Carolynne  
Caroline  
Jordan  
Isabelle  
Tracy  
Monique Sack  
Allison  
Catherine  
Jen  
Kimberly  
Jess  
Katherine

**1. Welcome and open meeting**

Jordan thanked everyone for coming despite this being a very busy time, and also thanked everyone for bringing food for the potluck.

The Co-Chairs reviewed minutes from the meeting that took place on 17 April 2019. Two comments were noticed from the previous minutes: First, in para 2. ii., it should read *Principal's Profile*, vice *Principal's Assessment*. Second, in para 5. c., it should read *Churchill School* vice *Fisher School*. With these two secretarial amendments, Tracy moved to accepted minutes; Kimberly seconded the motion; the motion was carried and the minutes were accepted.

**2. Renew Elmdale**

Larry described the Elmdale Open House that recently took place at Century; it went really smoothly – well done to the Principal, the organizers and the Grade 5 hosts / tour guides. The tee shirts including a clever, artistic logo and were really well received by all.

The site plan is still not approved; Larry met with Jeff Leiper and spoke with the OCDSB point of contact (Mr. Miro Vala) recently. Both are optimistic that the project will remain on track, but the authority at this time rests with the city. The site plan **is** in compliance with the applicable

regulations, but needs formal approval.

OCDSB has some concerns wrt the proposed Mud kitchen – not a lot of other OCDCB have them, so this could be seen as setting a precedent. Miro has concerns due to the upkeep required (both cost and maintenance), as well as the safety aspect. Specifically, concerns are centered around ensuring things get put away at the end of each day; that storage cabinets would be closed (and locked if applicable) everyday; that anything that is broken is promptly replaced / addressed so there's no risk to injury to children. It was discussed that this could be seen as a Healthy Earth initiative; the question was put to the Council as to whether or not we still want to include a Mud kitchen during the renovation. The Council, including the teachers present, want to pursue this. There is money set aside by Council for this. Kimberley, as the Chair of Healthy Earth will put together a proposal that Larry can bring to Miro for his consideration.

### **3. Hot Lunches**

The pizza delivery person doesn't anticipate that it will be a problem to deliver the pizzas to the new location. The real issue with getting this initiative in place next year is ensuring sufficient volunteer activity.

Tracy is willing to be a volunteer coordination for these Friday lunches. This new process for volunteer sign up will be trialed for the rest of this school year.

The grade 6s can be engaged more to help deliver pizza. The Principal will consider 2-6 kids helping per class, per pizza day, but it's disruptive for them and also overlaps with a lot of the extra curricular activities (sports, lunch monitors etc). The Principal is more supportive of having the Grade 6s used as back up (on weeks when there aren't many parent volunteers).

For next year, we'll do every other week for pizza; Subway is still TBC (based on whether Subway could deliver to the school, or if we can use a food delivery service).

Point from the floor that we could consider having A&W burgers (Beyond the Meat). The Principal mentioned that there's a formal guide for what is permitted in OCDSB schools. This is something to discuss further at another meeting, including getting approval to sell this as a food option to the students.

### **4. Council Constitution**

Notice was given at the previous meeting that the Constitution would be reviewed at this meeting. The changes noticed were mostly administrative in nature. These formatting changes are not detailed in these minutes; the non-formatting changes are as follows:

- page 3: separated internal and external communications; added more detail regarding social media platforms.
- page 4: the Healthy Earth committee was updated to be in alignment with the other committees.
- page 9: the e-vote amount increased from \$250 to \$500; wording changed to be less specific (i.e. 'email' changed to 'electronic access'.

The above-noted changes were individually voted upon, and all motions were carried.

## 5. Principle profile

The draft of this document is completed, but has not been distributed yet. This will be distributed in soft copy and then discussed and voted on at the June meeting.

## 6. Principle's report

- The Principle and Vice Principal are both staying at Elmdale for next year.
- They are currently applying to get funding for lunchtime monitors to help with supervision. Presently have funding for 7 hours and have applied for the same amount for next year. Despite the move to Century, they are hoping that the current monitors will continue to work as lunchtime monitors.
- Student enrolment levels for next year are currently 527; this compares to 526 currently, so the numbers are very similar.
- Welcome to Kindergarten night is tomorrow (23 May 19).
- Basketball just finished; the students did really well. Many are now training for Track and Field. Teams were selected for Tennis today.
- School learning plan is wrapping up; this info will be shared with the staff soon.
- There will likely be less extra-curricular activities due to being at Century next year.
- Book Fest may be at Fisher Park School next year; more to follow at a later date.
- Arts activities: can be difficult to coordinate so many different activities for the different grades. It could be simpler for the staff if the activities spanned more grades (i.e. 1-3)
- Dress code was reviewed. There were discussions regarding short shorts and tank tops. There haven't been any recent challenges with Elmdale students. The sentences regarding the length of the shorts will be amended.
- There was a point from the floor regarding the fences, or lack thereof, at Century. There is not a plan to build a fence at this time. The older students will be using the further fields, and the younger students will be closer to the school. The on-duty supervisors will position themselves with their back to the fence to ensure those areas are monitored. The kindergarten yard is fenced.
- There was another question from the floor regarding the possibility to take some photos and place them on the website or email to families who were not able to visit. The Principal will look into this.

## 5. Committee updates and Discussion

- Finance: see attached. Highlights are as follows: opening balance \$83,342.75; closing balance \$73,061.59. Still \$2,600 unallocated from this year's budget. The Principal proposed carrying forward funds for a new sound system for the gym, and/or new computers, depending on how many Chrome books are provided by the OCDSB. Motion from Katherine to carry forward the amount of approx \$2,600 for these two purposes, Tracy seconded the motion; the motion was carried. At the next meeting, we'll know if we have any remaining funds that are unallocated and not carried forward, and this amount could possibly be donated to another school.
- Fundraising: All Wheels Go raised almost \$2K and was really well received. The volunteers did a great job and a lot of people really enjoyed the skateboarding and long

boarding. Fun Fair is Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Advertising such as backpack drops will go out soon. Everything is on track for the Fun Fair; call out for volunteers will go out tomorrow.

- Communications: Our Communications representative spoke to some members of the Churchill School council who wanted more details regarding Elmdale's communications strategy.
- Safe Travel Planning: The Grade 4 bike rodeo is May 31. Island Park traffic has been very, very busy lately (two closed bridges and 2 closed exits to the highway).
- Staff appreciation lunch: Tracy took the initiative to send out the invite for this event, which will be Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup> (PD Day). There's \$500 set aside to purchase some items, and parents are asked to contribute other food.
- Healthy Earth: Earth Day events went really well. The third Grow Tower is up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and growing lettuce.
- OCASC: The OCDSB will be acquiring some 3D printers in the next few years.

## **6. Close meeting and Points from the Floor**

Next year we'll likely have our meetings at Fisher Park – this will need to be booked asap in order to reserve that for next year. The Principal will look into this.

The meeting was adjourned at 1953 hrs.

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 1800 hrs in the library.