



HENRY LARSEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 1750 Sunview Drive, Gloucester, ON K1C 5B3
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 Principal: Christine Camus-Shepley Vice Principal: Jeremy Nowiski



Henry Larsen Elementary School Council Meeting
Minutes
Monday, November 10, 2014

Chair:	Jennifer Pyne		
Secretary:	Jennifer Pyne (for tonight's meeting)		
Attendance:	Tracey Smith	Marcia O'Connor	Laura Ireland
	Jennifer Pyne	Nikki Lee	Melissa Britton
	Lisa Anne Palmer	Jeremy Nowiski	
	Cathryn Peloso	Doreen Cummins	Karen Stoddart
	Signe Swainson	Sarah Dooley	Christine Camus-Shepley
	Karina Budzinski	Sandra Schwartz	
Regrets*	Julie Bisnath	Una McNeill	Teresa Janz
	Ryan Crampton	Dianne Morris	Dawn Scott

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Pyne at 7:05pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved

3. Approval of October 20, 2014 Minutes

Approved

4. Chair's Report

- PRO Grant Update—Jennifer reported that Teresa was able to secure the Emotional Coaching Workshop for \$800 which falls within our budget. The workshop is booked for February 19.
- Monster Mash Update—Jennifer reported on the success of the event and thanked all those who were able to help out.
- Boston Pizza Night—Jennifer reminded Council that the BP night is Monday November 17, 5-9 pm. Confirmed that all people had to do was leave their receipt in the labelled box at the front of the restaurant. Also reminded members that kids are expected to behave in the restaurant (running around can be dangerous for them and for the servers).
- School Trustee—Jennifer introduced Sandra Schwartz, the newly elected school trustee for our school. Sandra will assume official duties in December 2014. Sandra spoke to Council for a few minutes regarding her main issues she intends to focus on. To date, she has heard similar issues from different Councils. One of her focuses will be ensuring that schools with

special programs (for both ends of the spectrum) are staffed and resourced adequately. She reiterated that she is here to listen and to work on our behalf. She agreed to provide a few words that we can include on our Council website. Jennifer will add her to the Council mailing list so she can be kept apprised of what is happening within the school community. If anyone would like to contact her, she can be reached at Sandra.schwartz@gmail.com until such a time that she gets her Board email. Biographical information about Sandra can be found at www.sandraschwartz.ca.

5. Principal and Vice-Principal's Action Items / Info. Update

- Christine expressed their thanks for putting on another Monster Mash.
- Christine discussed the “shelter in place” that occurred on October 22. All classrooms were communicated with individually as well as regular announcements as more was known. Only basics were told to the kids with the decision of how much to share left to the parents. All students were successfully sent home without delay at the end of the day. Overall, staff and students handled the situation well.
- Jean Bégin is the new School Resource Officer. The school is working with him to organize a practice lock-down.
- Christine reported on the Remembrance Day Ceremony which was to take place on November 11, 2014 at 10:00 in the gym. All were welcome to attend.
- United Way fundraising is ongoing with the kids. Hat Day raised \$191 and Friday November 14 is PJ Day where kids can pay \$1 to where their pjs to school.
- Christine reminded that progress reports are going home on Thursday November 14. Interviews are being scheduled for the evening of November 20 or the morning of November 21.
- There is a Scholastic Book Fair scheduled for the week of November 17 with an evening session on November 20.
- The preparations for a Math Night are ongoing—this will give parents the opportunity to see what their kids are working on. Scheduled for Thursday November 27 from 6:30-7:30. It applies to all grades and more info is forthcoming. (Post meeting note: Math night has been delayed until the new year due to the number of upcoming events and activities)
- Jeremy provided information on a \$5000 grant that was received for math tutoring in problem solving. A former teacher (Mme Spack) and a 4th year university student will work with small groups of kids to tutor them in this area.
- Jeremy updated on the last 2 assemblies held. For grades 3-8 they recognized all the kids who participate in clubs or on teams and it was noticeable the high level of involvement there is at this school. They watched a video (The Ridge, Isle of Skye). The Jk-grade 2 kids also had an assembly about helping each other out. An Angry Birds video showing a bird helping one of the pigs was shown.
- Jeremy reported that the Robotics Club is up and running and that all the volleyball teams are ongoing.
- A movie night is tentatively scheduled for December 4 for Jk-Grade 5 kids—more info to come.
- Paul Davis is scheduled to come to the school on December 8 to discuss internet safety and online pitfalls. They are hoping to get 50-60 people to attend the evening session.
- The Holiday Concert is currently scheduled for December 11 from 7-8:30.

6. Teaching Staff Liaison Report

- Mrs. Morris was not able to attend the meeting this evening. There were no requests for funds put forward.

7. Website Update

- Cathryn reported that Ryan is now fully trained and able to update the site.
- Jennifer reported that the site has been under a “brute force attack”; Ryan has spoken with some IT folks who indicated this was normal.

8. Treasurer’s Report

- Marcia provided her report.
- We are awaiting payment from the recent fundraisers to get a better handle on where we are at for funding initiatives.

9. Fundraising

- Signed reported on the success of the Norcard and QSP magazine fundraisers.
- She also indicated that a few more people have signed up for Fundscrip. A paper order will go home for the holiday rush of gift cards.
- Two new fundraisers were discussed: electronics recycling and test-drives from Meyers Chevrolet. Test-drives could run in conjunction with the Fun Fair.
- Chocolate Bar Sales were also discussed as a possibility for the spring. Signe will bring additional information to another meeting.
- Sponsorship for the schoolyard was also discussed as a possibility. Broadview was used as an example of how sponsorship has been used and advertised at the school.

10. Henry’s Cool Yard

- Sandra Schwartz suggested that Tree Ottawa and Ecology Ottawa be looked at as possible groups that could assist.
- No concrete decisions have been made about starting some small projects for the yard. It was agreed that communication must go home as to the amounts raised to date and the amounts that are required to do the work we want to do. The school community needs to understand the expenses involved in this type of venture.
- Grant applications are ongoing. They are time-consuming to do but may be significant contributors at the end of the day.
- Trillium successfully did a playground in a short amount of time. Signe was going to attempt to contact them for some tips.

11. Other Business

- Doreen provided a brief update on the Holiday Store. The room is booked for Dec 1-5. All classes will have a turn rotating through. It was suggested that perhaps the younger kids could be brought around by their reading buddies. A note was sent home asking for donations of new or gently used items for the sale including wrapping paper and labels. A number of volunteers will be needed to make this a successful event.

12. Next Meeting

- The next council meeting will be Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7pm. It will be held in the school library. The date needed to be changed due to the Paul Davis presentation on December 8.

13. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.