



Minutes

Stoneybrook Parent School Council

Wednesday

October 8, 2014

7:00 p.m – 8:30 p.m Library

Parents, Teachers, Students & the Community Working Together



Stoneybrook Parent School Council Executive 2014-2015

Principal
Cynthia Kneale

Chair
Jody Paget

Chair-Elect
Andrew Johnson

Treasurer
Ranulf Glannville

Secretary
Michelle Bacon

Parent Representatives
Tammie Ashton
Eliana Caranci
Alan O'Brien
Julie Peters
Eric Southern
Tania Testa

Hot Lunch Co-ordinator
Allyson Watson
Karen Willits

SPSC Communications
Lesley Hart

Teacher Representative
Lorraine Lewis

Outdoor Improvement Sub-Committee Chair
Julie Peters

Student Representatives
TBA

	Item
	The meeting began with introductions.
1.	<p>Approval of June 2014 Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approved by Ranulf and Alan
2.	<p>Principal's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Meet the Teacher</p> <p>Cynthia thanked everyone for all the work done at Meet the Teacher night. Feedback is that teachers' being available for the entire 2-hour period was helpful; as was the system some teachers used of having parents take a number. We raised over \$2,000 and Scotiabank will match the amount again. We thank them for their generosity again this year. We discussed recognizing the Scotiabank manager at an upcoming school event, as he and his team have been instrumental in bringing significant fundraising dollars to Stoneybrook for many years. ACTION: Cynthia will be in touch with the Manager of Scotiabank to extend an invitation to the event</p> <p>School Concerts</p> <p>Our school has only 66 chairs for events. That is a small number for our size of school. Chairs are very expensive to buy. Cynthia is going to look into options for obtaining more from the Board. For our seasonal show in December, we need to pick up chairs from the Board office, as they do not have a truck available. ACTION: Cynthia will look into whether the Board will cover the cost of renting a truck, if no one has access to one for free.</p> <p>School Improvement Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The school was very pleased with its EQAO results. Cynthia read out the results and they were well above the provincial averages. The teachers held a meeting to determine how our school can improve further this year. The focus will be on measurement and geometry. 2. At the recent PD Day, the teachers focused on school improvement through ensuring a universal design for learning. 3. The school received funds for networking with teachers at neighboring schools to together develop ways to improve. <p>School News</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The students have been very busy with cross-country, soccer, volleyball, social justice club, library club, safety patrollers, moo crew and healthy schools program. We just completed our

	<p>Walk to School week and Terry Fox run (over \$2,000 raised).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Progress reports will be going home November 14 and interview day will be November 21. 3. There will be newcomers meeting run by a settlement worker on October 24 for new-to-Canada families attending our school. 4. We have a number of new staff: Ms. Oliver in grade 4, Ms. Brosnan in grade 7, Ms. Wilson for primary prep, Ms. Wainman covering while Mr. Rochford is off from knee surgery and Ms. Lewis in grade 3. We started the school year with two grade 3/4 splits and were pleased to get approval to have a straight grade 3 and straight grade 4 classes. 5. There will be a block parent assembly on October 15 for JK – grade 4 students 6. Cynthia has been successful in securing partial funding and assistance from the Board for improving the FDK outdoor learning area and to do some painting around the school. We will pursue grants for additional funds. 7. Graduation will be held at Stoneybrook this year (instead of Lucas). It has become increasingly more challenging to schedule the Lucas auditorium for graduation and our gym can accommodate the number of Grade 8 students. 8. There is a new Stoneybrook sign outside the library that replaces one that was falling apart. A family donated ½ the cost of the new sign. There are funds in the parent council's parent involvement fund that may be available to pay for the remainder. 9. The school has purchased mathletics for a number of grades in the past, but the program is expensive and the school is looking into free programs that may be good replacements. 10. The monthly character trait assemblies have started and the shark bites program continues to be used. 11. Cynthia handed around a notice from the TVPIC about a fall parent learning conference to be held later in October and a notice seeking public input on Records Information Management Procedures of the Board. If anyone is interested in these items, they should contact Cynthia. Cynthia also mentioned a possible fundraiser raised by a parent. She will see if there is more information she can get about that. 	
3.	<p>Old Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. School website upgrades have been started 	
4.	<p>School Council Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Council Report 2013-1024 Jody discussed the school council report that must be filed each year. ACTION: Jody will email it to the members, along with the year-end financial report, after the meeting. • Nominations for the SPSC 2014-2015 position vacancies <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The council discussed the advantages of considering having chair-elect, chair and past chair positions to allow for 3 years of continuity in the leadership of the parent council and in particular, to help with coordination of fundraising events (meet the teach and family fun night in particular). UPON MOTION for the 2014-2015 	

year, council created a new executive position of chair-elect that would have a one-year term and would have the responsibilities as worked out with the chair. This person would intend to run for chair the following year. Further, the term for the chair position would reduce to one year. UPON MOTION beginning in the 2015-16 year, council created a new executive position of past-chair with a one-year term that would be filled by the former chair and would have responsibilities as worked out with the chair. The following individuals were acclaimed to the following parent council positions for the 2014-15 year:

- Chair: Jody Paget
- Chair-Elect: Andrew Johnson
- Treasurer: Ranulf Glannville
- Secretary: Michelle Bacon
- Parent Representatives: Tammie Ashton, Eliana Caranci, Alan O'Brien, Julie Peters, Eric Southern, Tania Testa
- Teacher Representative: Lorraine Lewis
- Student Representatives: TBA

It is exciting to have so many new representatives on the parent council.

2. Tammie Ashton and Allison Watson agreed to co-chair Family Fun Night

ACTION: Jody will announce the new council in the November newsletter and post to the SPSC and TVDSB website.

- **Meet the Teacher Summary**

Discussed above under the principals report

- **Project Shark Play**

Julie Peters delivered a Project Shark Play update. It was confirmed that we have met our goal of raising \$60,000! A \$10,000 donation from the Optimists was key to reaching our goal. A meeting was held with a representative from the Board and a representative from APE, our playground manufacturer, and the demolition/extraction of the current structures is scheduled for the first week of July 2015 and the installation of the new structures is scheduled for the second week of July 2015. We were very pleased to learn that the Board will pay for the demolition/extraction, which will allow for improvements and additions to be made to our new structure. Thanks to everyone for their fundraising efforts.

ACTION: Julie will bring new drawings to the next meeting.

- **Parent involvement Fund**

This is a fund that is made available yearly through TVPIC up to \$500. In the past we have used it to fund our SPSC website as it meets with the criteria of this funding. Lesley will be submitting a receipt from our website in the amount of approx. \$375. Cynthia asked if she could submit a portion of the money spent on a new sign that was recently hung inside the parking lot doors of the school to help direct traffic to the main office.

ACTION: Lesley and Cynthia to co-ordinate the submission process for this funding to cover these cost

- **Goals for the 2014-2015 school year**

	<p>The council discussed goals for the 2014-15 year. It was agreed that the goals will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey parents and teachers. Now that we have meet our fundraising goals for Project Shark Play, as identified as a top priority in a survey to parents a number of years ago, we should complete another survey of parents and teachers to assess the needs of the school for future fundraising goals. ACTION: Lesley and Andrew will work on a survey for parents and Cynthia will co-ordinate with teachers. 2. Update bylaws and policies (including code of conduct and dress code). ACTION: Jody to add these to the agenda for future meetings. 3. Complete Shark Play project ACTION: Jody to continue to add this to the agenda to ensure that project continues to move ahead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Questions/comments from the SPSC website The SPC website allows for parents to pose questions, which are forwarded to Jody. Two questions were discussed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can a parent's business be promoted at the school? The council discussed that we do not have a community bulletin board and therefore there really is not any way for parent's businesses to be promoted in the school at this time. ACTION: Jody to re-connect with parent and forward information to Cynthia to see if information could be distributed through the classes 2. Why there were no buses coming home from the cross-country regionals? Cynthia explained that this was not a funding decision. The teacher coordinators have found that in past years very few kids used the return bus. Most parents came to watch their children run, and then brought them home/back to school, or kids went with friend's parents. There were 3 contacts made to the office in advance of regionals with concerns about return transportation and all three were worked out so that the children could participate. Cynthia is not aware of any child who was unable to attend regionals because of a lack of return transportation. ACTION: Cynthia to bring this up with the event coordinators to discuss whether there might be ways to better communicate this issue to the families so that no child is unable to attend. Jody to invite parent to have a discussion with Cynthia about this issue. 3. Can SPSC fund bussing for school trips and sporting events? The council was not aware that there were financial issues surrounding bussing. The council is open to any proposal for funding if the issue was that children were not able to attend school trips or sporting events. Cynthia was also not aware that there were issues. ACTION: Jody to put this issue on the agenda for next month for a more thorough discussion. 	
5.	<p>Financial Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew circulated and reviewed the current financial report. The Scotiabank match for Meet the Teacher night has not yet been received so isn't included. • The 2013-14 year-end report will be emailed out after the meeting. • Andrew and Cynthia summarized the different operating and school/board accounts. • Cynthia will follow up on whether there is an account for smart board 	

	maintenance.	
6	Future Agenda Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fundraising initiatives for 2014-15• Parent and Teacher Surveys• Grade eight Graduation• Review of the Stoneybrook PSC By-laws• Code of Conduct and Dress Code Review –Spring video project• Barbecue and popcorn maker for fundraising• Balanced Day• E-commerce initiative• Using SPSC funds for transportation to sporting events and school trips	
7.	Date of Next Meeting – November 12, 2014	