

CES Minutes Sep 29, 2105

Attendance: Carol Mothersill, Sephanie Nasmith, Christine Kirkland-Klerks, Teri MacDonald, Kim D'Angelo, Andrew Seymour, Sheila Ball, Ralph Quapp, Jennifer Kemp, Robyn Bascombe, Deirdre Mander, Chris Brown, Natasha Smith, Robyn Stongitharm

1. **Welcome.**
2. **Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.** Approval of Minutes from May 26/2015 meeting by Teri and Ralph. Approval of Agenda by Robyn Bascombe, and Chris Brown.
3. **Election of Council Members and Executive**

There was a brief discussion regarding the outdated Constitution from 2003 and the need to review it and update it.

There was a motion by Sheila Ball to appoint the following members as part of the School Council Executive: Carol Mothersill, Jennifer Kemp, Chris Brown, Stephanie Nasmith, Kim D'Angelo, Andrew Seymour, Deirdre Mander, Robyn Bascombe. The motion was seconded by Robyn Strongitharm, all in favour. There was a motion by Carol to appoint the above members as follows:

Chair- Carol Mothersill

Treasurer- Jennifer Kemp

Secretary - Chris Brown

OCASC Rep.- Stephanie Nasmith

Events/Fundraising Coord. - Kim D'Angelo

Volunteer Coord, - Andrew Seymour

Communication Coord. - Deirdre Mander and Robyn Bascombe

This motion was seconded by Jennifer Kemp, all in favour.

The meeting dates have been set as the last Tuesday of the month, there will be no meeting in December and June.

Quorum: as per our current constitution, is set at 9. There was a motion by Carol Mothersill to set quorum at 5 for this school year. This was seconded by Kim, all in favour.

4. **Chair's Report** - Carol Mothersill

a.) Hot Lunch Program. Pizza on Mon, Hot Dogs the last Fri of the month. These are the two largest fundraisers. Lunch Lady on Thurs. The first hot dog day is Oct 30th. There has been a slight increase in the costs due to the increase in price of whole wheat buns. The hotdog prices were increased by .25 as a result.

b.) Events. Oct 30 there will be a Halloween Dance from 6pm-8pm in the gym. There will be a parade of costumes during the dance, but there will be no contest or prizes for the best costume.

There will be a discussion at the Oct meeting, after the draft budget has been presented, as to what other types of events we would like to see.

c.) PRO Grant. Last May Carol applied for a PRO grant and we were awarded another \$1000.00 for an event for this school year. Last year the Math Night was sponsored using the PRO grant, and it was very successful. The event this year will be a "Wellness Evening". There will be a physical activity, and healthy eating component, a mindfulness session, and a sleep component. There are 3 teachers working on this project with Carol: Mme. Taggart, Mme. Smith, and M. Muldoon-Roy. The event will take place Jan/Feb of 2016 in conjunction with a Drum Fit workshop. An exact date has not yet been chosen, based on the uncertainty of the labour relations issue. As a Council, we will need to decide by our Nov meeting if the event can proceed and in what form.

School Council Training day is Oct 3rd.

There was a discussion regarding the safety concerns in front of Holy Redeemer School. Now that OSTA changed the boundary for the walking area, there is a larger walking population. On inclement weather days, we see more car traffic, because more parents are driving their kids. Carol asked Barbara to contact her counterpart at Holy Redeemer and our SRO to address the situation.

Question from Stephanie: When will we look at what we are going to spend our money on? We will need to solicit information from Barb and Natasha and decide where the priorities are. Can we decide as a Council? We need to mutually discuss and agree to a plan and present the ideas to the staff and get everyone on board. How do School Council Resources work with what Barb collected through the voluntary student fees? Barb does not yet have a final number. The money collected will be used to cover agendas. The extra money will be put back into the program to best benefit the kids and the curriculum. There have been some complications regarding this process due to the limited communication with teachers.

5. Principal's Report - Barbara Martinez

It was a smooth start to the year. There is a great staff, great kids and many involved parents. There is a very nice and welcoming feel to the school. Barbara gave a little bit of an introduction to herself. She has been in the industry for close to 30 years. She has taught at South March, and W. Erskine Johnson, and has been the VP at Bridlewood. She is very familiar with the Kanata area. She has taught many different grades and has had many different roles throughout her career. There are 330 students at CES.

There was a close call with a possible re-organization of classrooms. With Carol's help and by speaking with the Board and our Trustee, there will be no re-organization. The class sizes are perfect for our age group. We have a few new staff members and ECEs.

We have had 2 fire drills, and there will be a practice lockdown at the end of October. Barbara will let us know when this will take place. She will try and keep it low key considering our younger new students.

There are Four Square and Basketball lines painted. There is a new stop sign in the parking lot, and the one at the four way stop has been moved for better visibility.

Things are moving forward with some extra curriculums. Natasha will be taking some grade 3s to a Cross Country meet. The paperwork side is complicated, but Barb is filling in that role. Barb feels we have a dedicated staff and she is communicating as effectively as possible. The Safe and Caring committee has not met, and it is uncertain as to when it will start again.

How much notice will we get if the teachers go on strike? The Board is working with the Federation to ensure the safety of our students and we can expect to have a few days notice.

6. Teacher's Report - Natasha Smith

The teacher rep position will be shared by: Natasha Smith, Miriam Walker, Val Cook and Anne Labonte.

There was a video at the first Assembly: "20 things we should say more often". The kids came up with some of their own ideas and they are posted on the wall. There is a CES pledge at the beginning of every assembly.

Clubs: Mme. Martel has started Choir - Thurs pm recess. Natasha has started Run Club for grade 2s and 3s - Thurs am recess. Clubs to come: Connie and Wendy will do Yoga.

There was a discussion regarding money and requests from teachers. Natasha confirmed that all of the teachers like and appreciate the teacher's allowance. Tradansa, Drum Fit and Scientists in the School are also well received. They are open to new ideas.

Wednesdays will be demonstration day at school. Teachers will wear blue, and will walk outside for 15 min, before and after school. They will answer any labour relations type questions.

7. OCASC

No report.

8. Treasurer's Report - Carol/Jennifer

Question from Stephanie: The Kinder's received \$500.0 and the 1-3s received \$350.00 for playground equipment. Can we make it more equitable?

Question from Stephanie: Are we transparent enough when it comes to purchasing gift cards for the teachers year end appreciation brunch, with Council raised funds? There was a discussion about how we have to ensure that we advise everyone what we are raising money for. Perhaps the amount set aside could be less, considering the amount of donated door

prizes we received. Barbara assured us that she will be transparent about how the student fees will be spent.

The Spirit Committee line item can be reduced. We have 80 grade 3 students so the line item for the grade 3 end of year celebration will be increased to \$800.00 which equals \$10.00 per student.

The budget will be discussed further at the October meeting.

i.) Food Box program - Kim D'Angelo

Kim presented a fund raising possibility. This is a box of local farm fresh organic fruits and vegetables. The small box would sell for \$35.00 / large box for \$65.00. The profit on a small box is \$14.00 / large box \$21.00. This would support local farmers, good time of year. There is no risk, no minimum purchase. There was a discussion regarding the word "organic" and how that might affect the fundraiser. Barb asked if there could be an educational component. Kim will look into that. The money raised will be used to support a "Buddy Bench" project. The sale period will be Sep 13-21 with delivery on the 28th.

Belly Laughs - Jen Kemp. They have a fundraiser for schools. Suggested as a good Kinder project. To be discussed in Oct.

ii.) Chapter's Evening - Megan Venner (presented by Carol)

Thursday Nov 5th. This is a joint fundraiser with CES and KES, profits will be equally shared. There is either a 10% cash back option, or a %20 gift card option. Details to follow.

iii) Popcorn fundraiser - Stephanie Nasmith

Stephanie introduced the idea of a one a month popcorn sale with Poppa Jack's. Selling price for \$2 a bag, profit \$1 a bag. This is a snack size bag that could be consumed at school. To be discussed further at the Oct meeting.

9. Communications - Deirdre Mander

There have only been a few new subscribers to the blog. It would be expected that there should be more considering the new JK population. Carol and Deirdre will work on a sticker approach for the JK classes.

10. Other Business

a. Book Fair Nov 17-20

Megan Venner will be looking for volunteers. The proceeds will go to CES. In the Spring, KES will host a book fair during Education week in the first week of May.

There was a discussion about how to keep the French component to the Book Fair. We need to advise parents that if we don't purchase the minimum component of French books, they will not participate in our book fair.

b.) Board of Trustees COW reports.

Carol was provided with the following links to be reviewed and discussed by CES parents.

French Instructions in Kindergarten and Primary Early French Immersion
(report 15-108)

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%2ODOCS/2015%2ODOCS/Sept%202015/COW%2021%20Sept%202015/08a%20Report%2015-108%20French%20Instruction%20in%20Kindergarten%20and%20Primary%20Early%20French%20Immersion.pdf>

Consultation Process Approval - Pupil Accommodation Review Policy

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/calendar/AGENDA%2ODOCS/2015%2ODOCS/Sept%202015/COW%2021%20Sept%202015/06b%20Report%2015-101%20Consultation%20Process%20Approval%20PARG%20web.pdf>

These items directly affect the CES population. All parents are encouraged to read and review and they will be discussed at the next Council meeting. We will have to decide as a Council, if we want to address any of the issues and how we would do that. There was a brief discussion regarding some of the highlights of the documents.

Note: these documents are on the agenda for the next OCASC meeting on Oct 15. Any parent is welcome to attend an OCASC meeting.

c.) Playground Equipment -

There was a motion by Carol to up the allowance for playground equipment to \$500.00. This was seconded by Teri. All were in favour. Stephanie will purchase balls per classroom and label the items.

11. Adjournment: 10:00pm