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**SCHOOL COUNCIL**

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| Date: | Jan 16, 2023 |
| Meeting Start Time: | 6:30pm |
| Meeting End Time: | 8.02 pm |
| Members in Attendance: | Judi, Jean Marc, Kelly, Candice, John, Sanjay, Diana, Kalsum, Liat, Sarah, Sana, Maninder, Alaa, Diana, Candice, John, Rex, Mandy, Kiran, Rashed |
| Members Absent: | Muneezah, Sonica and Brandy |
| 1. Land Acknowledgement
 | * Jean Marc made a land acknowledgement
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| 1. Approval of meeting minutes
 | * Could not be approved as the meeting minutes were not circulated
* Meeting minutes from Sep, Nov will be circulated with January’s meeting.
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| 1. School Administration Report /Judi & Jean Marc
 | * **Strategic Plan:** Judi Laman encouraged everyone to review the Halton Board’s multi-year strategic plan to ensure that all school activities and decisions are aligned with the board’s vision and lens of
	+ Equity and inclusion
	+ Mental health and wellbeing
	+ Learning and achievement
	+ Environmental leadership, and
	+ Indigenous perspectives and awareness.

The strategic plan can be viewed [here.](https://www.hdsb.ca/our-board/Pages/Multi-Year-Plan-2020-2024.aspx)* **School Leadership Team:** Jean Marc shared the updates on the “School Leadership Team.” Every class from grade 4-8 will nominate 1-2 students to represent them on the team. One of the activities the leadership team came up with is a food drive. It is planned to end on Feb 14. Details will be shared with the community once they are finalized.
* **Carnaval Des Coyotes:** The week of February 13-16 is also the schools carnival week and discussions are underway to decide the scale at which the event could be held this year post Covid. There will be an opening ceremony and the teachers would plan week long class activities. Council is requested to find any community partners to provide gift cards as class prizes.

**Outdoor Play Day:** February 15 will be the outdoor play day. School council will be requested to volunteer and provide hot chocolate as per tradition with a dairy free option. Diana proposed a motion of up to 500 CAD for the hot chocolate. Maninder seconded it and passed unanimously. * **Feb 17 is a PA day.**
* **School Website:** Judi requested if someone would like to volunteer to update and refresh the school’s website. Liat volunteered to take on the project.
* **HDSB Purchase Policy:** Judi shared an important update on the board’s mandate on purchase policy. Any purchases made by the school council must be approved by the school principal. Council members and school management cannot use personal credit cards. Any purchases will have to be made through the school/board credit card. In cases where urgent purchases need to be made, debit cards or cash can be used and school will reimburse the cost against itemized receipts. Terminal receipts are not itemized and cannot be presented for reimbursement. All purchases must be preapproved by the principal.

Council members pointed out that following the purchase policy will be cumbersome. It was agreed that while inconvenient, better planning must be done to abide by the policy.  |
| 1. Teacher’s Report
 | * Kelly had a request for technology. See wish list section.
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| 1. Fundraising
 | * Maninder mentioned that two orders have come in worth 18.50 CAD for “Tea with Tracie.”
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| 1. Pizza/Subway/ Sanjay
 | * Pizza and Subway programs going really well. Current term will end on March 10 and second term will start on March 24, 2023. Parents had an option of paying for the full term.
* Cookies will be offered for a dollar each.
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| 1. Suggestions/ Discussions
 | * Maninder suggested that council has its own email distribution list. He said any communication will be preapproved by school management before being sent out. Judi liked the idea and said the email from council can be sent from the same system clearly indicating in the subject line as coming from school council.
* Sanjay and Liat mentioned how it take readers four clicks to get to the content of an email message. Council members agreed that this needs to change and there should be a simpler way of getting to the email message in fewer clicks. Sana F pointed out that this could be a reason why fewer parents are reading email communication from school.
* Judi noted the feedback and said school will try their best to work on this issue.
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| 1. Budget Report/Sanjay
 | * Please see the image below for a snapshot.

* Candice pointed out that we have not received any money from lunch lady from last year or this year. Judi will follow up this item herself.
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| 1. Wish list
 | * Kelly Spalding appreciated the efforts of Tasty Tuesday Pizza Team and how well it has been running.
* **Chrome Books:** Kelly updated the council on the state of the chrome books acquired 11 years ago. She mentioned that Chromebooks have become too old to be used any more. Some can’t even be turned on. Grade 3 classes do not have any technology.

Kelly requested at least 10 K to purchase 30 chrome books. The cost of one Chromebook is about 333 and 350-400 with chargers, cables and accessories.Sana Farid suggested to raise the funds request to 12k in order to buy 35 Chromebooks. John Ye commented that since technology depreciates every year, we should have a dedicated budget for technology updates every year. Rex suggested if there is a possibility of buying the Chromebooks through a payment plan to spread the payment over 1-2 years. He also suggested if school can buy refurbished technology. Judi said that board has been helping/contributing in the past. Mandy commented that technology is a very important part of modern education and we should prioritize technology over other activities.Meeting discussion brought forth two points: as a council we have not invested in tech in the past two years, and also that council is not in a position to set aside $10K each year due to variation in fundraising. After a round of discussion, Sana Farid suggested raising the funds request to 12500. **Diana brought a motion for $12500 for purchasing technology, Candice seconded it, and it was passed unanimously.** |
| 1. New business
 | * **MiniShop Feedback:** Candice will share a google feedback form with council members to provide feedback.
* **Funfair:** Candice requested volunteers for a designated Funfair organizing committee. Funfair is scheduled for June 1st 2023 with June 8 as the rain date. Volunteers interested should reach out to Sana, Candice, or Diana. John Ye requested some information on what the Fun Fair event entails and what kind of help is required. Sana Farid filled in the new members about the Fun Fair. Fun Fair is an annual after school event usually held on a Thursday in early June just before the summer holidays. It is a community event with fun activities. In pre covid times, there had been food trucks and bouncy councils. This year’s details need to be discussed. Potential dates are June 1 and 8, 2023.

Kiran suggested that in the past the Fun Fair event also served to welcome grade 2 students and parents. She said it would be great to revive that tradition. Maninder proposed a motion for raising the Fun Fair funds to 3000. Sanjay seconded it, and was passed unanimously. Liat asked if it is possible to restart school movie nights. Candice and Sana said that in the light of this could be considered at a later meeting as the community is still reeling from Covid. Besides the school does not have the license to show movies and it would not be a judicious use of funds to purchase a 500 CAD license in the middle of the year. Sana requested if anyone has any update on RBC’s program to donate 500 CAD to a school if the parents volunteered at school.  |
| 1. PIC meeting /Sarah
 | * No updates.
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| 1. Next meeting
 | * March 6, 2023 (virtual)
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