

**Caldwell Parent Council Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2018**

Present:

Ashlee Simpson	Amanda Kenny
Wendy Ferris Groulx	Lisa Code
Rachel Dugdale	Lisa Gardiner
Becky Whelan	Suzanne Draper
Melissa Danis	Laura Scott
Angela Pozzi	
Devinder Pooni- Gunderson	
Carmela Ciocio	
Denise Packard	

New Vice-Principal

- Before starting the meeting, Chair Ashlee Simpson gave the floor to Principal Carmela Ciocio, who introduced parent council to Caldwell's new vice-principal, Devinder Pooni-Gunderson.
- The council was not aware that Caldwell Street Public School was going to be adding a new VP, but happily welcomed Devinder, who said she was glad to be at Caldwell.

Finances

- Our finances are sitting at \$7321.71. I know this because I had to ask Ashlee to repeat it several times.

Sensory Spending

- The special education team has spent just under \$500 on gadgets for their bins, as well as a small laminator for EAs who require it for creating visuals.
- Money was taken from the sensory room funds but we do not have a total on what remains in that account, as the money spent cannot officially be deducted from the total until all purchased items are physically in the school. We should have an updated total at our next meeting.
- An occupational therapist that works with the school board visited the sensory room and set up a circuit. Children do the circuit three times and then are permitted to pick a preferred activity.

Book Fair

- The book fair bought in \$2270. I know this because I had to ask Ashlee to repeat it several times.
- The second book fair of the school year will be held during Education Week in May. Berta, our parent volunteer who runs the book fair, is hoping the school can hold some sort of event that will bring in parents to the fair.

Pro Grant

- As of Oct. 18, the Government of Ontario has postponed all program funding, courtesy of the education freezing by Premier Doug Ford.
- Bah humbug.

Fundraising

- **Hot dog** days are being reintroduced this year. Amanda, Rachel, Melissa and Tammy will be volunteering to make this happen. Rachel noted that she is, in fact, in the FOURTH position on that volunteer list. Not one. Not two. And certainly not number three.
- As per the administration from last school year, we will not have more than two hot lunches in one week. So hot dogs will replace Subway lunches once a month.
- It was decided that we will do the hot dog lunch in December and not put it on the January lunch order forms. Council will determine if the money brought in warrants having hot dog lunches for the remaining months of the school year.
- **Pizza** - It was discussed doing a Facebook post to announce that we have switched from Dominos pizza to Spartan pizza. Some council members felt that this might encourage more pizza lunch orders.
- **Fresh From the Farm** - The school brought in \$1183.60. I know this because I had to ask Ashlee to repeat it several times. The last possible date for delivery of the items to the school is Dec. 6. After delivery, we will require volunteers to help prepare the items for pickup.
- **Halloween** - The fun night brought in \$3381.25. I know this because I had to ask Ashlee to repeat it several times.
- **Dance-a-thon** - The Feb. 14 fundraising dance will see pledge forms go home and the canteen will be open. Kinders will get 30 minutes of dancing while all other classes will get 40 minutes.
- **Amazing Race** - This event will take place on Friday, May 3 and will once again be run by the grade six-es.
- **Water Carnival** - Council voted on whether or not the carnival should take place on Friday, June 14 or Friday, June 21. **Council voted for June 14.**
- **T-shirts** - The deadline to order Caldwell gear passed in November. Lisa Gardiner and Becky Whelan will be making the t-shirts.
- **Mabels Labels** - Ashlee spoke about a Mabels Labels initiative where Caldwell is registered with the company and whenever anyone buys anything through the site, the school will receive 20% of the sales. **Council voted "yea"** for registering our school into the Mabels Labels program.

Snack Program

- **Snack Program** - Leeann Lyons needs another volunteer to help her run the snack program, coming in one day a week at 2:45 pm. Lisa Code offered to pick up any snack program donations from Fresh Co. and drop them off at the school.

Boks

- As of this meeting, there is no Boks scheduled for the school year. Vice-principal Claire Snider is still looking for a staff member to take over the program.

Upcoming Events

- The **Food Drive dance** will take place on November 22.

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- While Grade 6 students will be running the canteen, parent council volunteers will be required for both the morning and afternoon shifts to make popcorn and oversee the canteen.
- The **holiday concert** will take place on December 11. If that happens to be a snow day, it will be moved to December 12.
- There will be a morning show and an afternoon show. Parents will be encouraged to attend the morning performance if they have a primary student, and the afternoon show if they have a junior student. However, parents can attend either show if they have students in both primary and junior, or if they have a schedule that only allows for the viewing of one of the concerts. The show will be about an hour.
- Lisa brought up how she was frustrated that there is still no link to last year's Christmas concert for parents to view. The concert was filmed on the camera that parent council bought, and we were told there would be a link going home to parents for viewing.
- The Student Shop will take place on December 18. Caldwell is seeking donations of wrapping paper, gift bags, and cards, as well as gently-used gifts for both adults and children.

Spending

- Denise Packard conducted a teacher survey to give guidance to council on where teachers would like to see some money spent. Some suggestions include: tech - making sure all smart board projectors and laptops are in working order, walkie talkies, RAZ Kids (this is off the list as the license was already purchased), recess items - more equipment for the kids to play with, art programming - musical instruments, bringing in an artist to teach lessons, drumming instructor, yoga and other activities that focus on mental health.
- Council also discussed bringing in a martial arts instructor.
- MindMasters was discussed. It is a free resource on the CHEO website that includes breathing exercises.
- Wendy Ferris Groulx suggested an emphasis should be put on making sure our tech is in working order.
- Lisa raised the point that we should not invest in any more musical instruments when the Council already purchased an electric keyboard which is currently not in working order, as a piece has gone missing.
- Lisa also said we should not invest in recess items because "BINS!" Bins have apparently gone missing and Lisa is not having it.
- Council discussed having a dance instructor come into the school.

Bad Moms Christmas

- There will be no council meeting in December. Instead, parent council will be meeting for a holiday meal together at Smith & Barrel on Dec. 11 at 6:30 pm.

Next meeting IS IN 2019: January 22, 2019