

**Gainsborough School Council**

**Minutes**

**March 29, 2022**

**Attendees:** Julie Adams, Tom Adams, Tara Vallentgoed, Shari May, Stephanie Schwartz, Erica McLaren, Cam McLaren, Alison Moore, Connie Mittag

**Staff:** Kim Bartlett, Lisa Gravelle, Hollyce Nunnenmacher

**Regrets:** Shelly Brinkman

Notes	Action
<p><b><u>Welcome &amp; Introductions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So great to be back at school in-person!</li> <li>• February minutes approved</li> <li>• A great big delicious thank-you to Sadie for sending in the better-than-Starbucks Vanilla Bean Scones!</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Principal's Report</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No childcare for meetings (no insurance). Is babysitting from PIC money allowed?</li> <li>• Field trip through the school.</li> <li>• Covid – no masks, bus seating in place, hygiene signs in place, designated health room, r.a.t. available upon request</li> <li>• Schoolwide: cohorting no longer req; parents can come by appt, spectators welcome for sports</li> <li>• Classroom: flex seating (Kotsis), guided reading tables return, rotary teaching, small group instruction (within/between classes), singing/wind instruments</li> <li>• Trips: kg-3 PALS at Brock (\$35 per student due to bussing costs); Gr.4-8 tbd based on requirements (i.e. PALS 12+ yrs vaccine req'd). <b><i>Does School Council have funds to offset bus funds?</i></b></li> <li>• School Nurse Austin White has started at Gainsborough. Presentation-friendly. Invite and drop-by. No set hours.</li> <li>• PIC group purchased a book for us: Michael Ungar's I Still Love You (Nine things troubled kids need from their parents).</li> <li>• Can we start a parent library? List them on website.</li> </ul> <p>It was a school staff decision to not have volunteers in the school just yet:            Teachers need time to help the students adjust to all the changes. <i>The dynamics of the changes to the classroom setting are overwhelming the students routine." They need time for relearning the rules/etiquette of the activities they have not had for over 2 years such as group activities/learning.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Teacher's Report</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April Days               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1st Autism Awareness</li> <li>○ 5th intermediate soccer practice begins (intermediate only)</li> <li>○ 14th pita pit lunch day</li> <li>○ 15th &amp; 18th Easter weekend</li> <li>○ 22th Earth day - wear green blue brown</li> <li>○ 22th end of can tab classroom challenge</li> <li>○ 29th 'anything but a backpack day'</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Eco Club:            Hollyce will keep us posted as to how things are going. We have offered to top up their funds to buy a tree            or</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crazy Bread was a huge success. Kids loved it.</li> <li>• DSBN's Special Olympics Track &amp; Field meet is on for first time in three years. Last time there was 700 students in attendance. June 16<sup>th</sup> (rain date Jun17) at Welland Centennial. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ T-shirt contest for students (volunteers wear them as identification) due Apr10</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sports: wrapping up intramural basketball (29 students), soccer starts (mentioned above), 3-pitch in June. Board decision to go just intermediate.</li> <li>• Track and field gr3-8 runs different this year: only sport students are <i>required</i> to try-out for. Movement that this shouldn't be required. This year we may try the voluntary sign-up Track: 100, 200, 400 and 800 m running go to E.L. Crossley. Field: long and triple only – here at Gainsborough. More info to come after Staff Meeting tomorrow.</li> </ul>	<p>they buy a tree and we buy a tree</p>
<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FWRN LP \$7,200 donation received</li> <li>• When Little Caesars profit cheques are in, they will go directly eto playground fund</li> <li>• Tom <b>motioned</b> to move additional funds to the playground fund to total \$3,000 (\$1,600'ish) now in preparation for Fall playground costs. <b>PASSED.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Fundraising</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not much activity for tru-earth and fundscrip</li> <li>• Plant fundraiser: order form shared with DSBN. They're making custom form for us. Next week it will go live for ordering. Link can send to family and friends. Orders in April 19<sup>th</sup>. Delivery is Wed May 18.</li> </ul>	<p>Alison: When does fundscrop and tru-earth cut cheques</p>
<p><b>PIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaker series ongoing: Paul Davis May 27 &amp; 28, May 25 outdoor play</li> </ul> <p><b>Parent Involvement Funds (PIC \$500):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are able to host a BBQ on June 16<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>	<p>Alison: M&amp;M meats donation/discount? Julie: Giant Tiger/Foodland?</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank-you from Kubiks</li> <li>• Grad – 23rd, parents involved, all details t.b.a. later</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 26<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• May 24<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>	



## DSBN Parent Involvement Committee

support • engagement • success

The following are examples of DSBN schools' previous use of the \$500 annual Parent Involvement Funds provided by the Ontario Ministry of Education and DSBN. The initiatives you choose to undertake need not be complex or overly time-consuming. It is important to keep in mind that these efforts made to engage parents can result in huge dividends for parents, staff and students.

1. School Community Night with refreshments
2. School Council volunteer t-shirts and pamphlets used to promote School Council
3. Guest speaker night
4. Family Math night with refreshments and numeracy hand-outs
5. School Council social to encourage new members
6. Promotional materials to encourage parent involvement in school (fridge magnets)
7. Family Science days
8. Cyber bullying presentation
9. Parent BBQ and information session
10. School Council name tags
11. Literacy Night
12. Trivia Night advertising School Council
13. U Power presentation
14. Family Fun Night
15. Social Media Awareness guest speaker
16. Parent Night about "How to Support Your Child in French Immersion"
17. Transition presentation for parents
18. Funds used for Babysitting during School Council meetings
19. Parent Information display
20. Family Picnic
21. Family Appreciation breakfast
22. Internet Safety evening
23. Parent Lending Library
24. French Café for parents throughout the year
25. Parent Technology Night
26. Joint evening with Secondary school council and feeder school councils
27. Family of Schools evening
28. Secondary evening hosting Grade 7, 8 and 9 families
29. School Council promotional table, clothes and banner
30. Advertising for speaker series



## **DSBN Parent Involvement Committee**

support • engagement • success

### **Parent Involvement Funding \$500**

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Parent Involvement funding is to provide additional support for the work of School Councils in their efforts to reach out and further engage parents at school and at home, as well as to support student achievement and well being. By working collaboratively, School Councils will help identify parent engagement strategies and implement parent-focused initiatives (as outlined in the 2010 Ontario Engagement Policy).

#### **BACKGROUND**

In 2005-2006 school year the Ontario Ministry of Education announced their base funding in support of parent engagement. These funds are allocated through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) to school boards to support a wide range of parent engagement activities.

#### **GUIDELINES**

The funding must be utilized in a manner that is focused on increasing parent engagement at home and at school and to support student achievement and well-being. Working collaboratively, School Councils help to determine strategies, initiatives and projects that would best serve their school community and help to identify and remove any barriers that limit engagement by parents.

Funds are only to be used to support and encourage parent involvement

Some of the projects or activities that are considered as NOT an appropriate use of the funds are listed below:

- Capital projects, school furniture, landscaping expenses, playground equipment, facility upgrades;
- Purchase of goods and services for which the Ministry of Education or DSBN provides funds, such as textbooks;
- Student focused activities/purchases including: student agendas/planners, speakers/performers for students;
- School anniversaries/reunions/dinners;
- Other non-parent involvement based initiatives.

**Every school in the DSBN has \$500 available in their budget to encourage Parent Involvement.**