

**JACKMAN SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING: 7 November 2011, 7PM
MINUTES**

Attending

Members: Astrid Jacques, Antonia Guidotti, Helen Hawketts, Michelle Nelson, Karyne Finlason, Kamran Jafry, Jen Cumming, Gaylene Edmondson, Michael Moore (teacher), Shaune Palmer (principal), Ryan Granville-Martin, Mia Sheard, Lisa Farun, Karen Jungjohann, Kathryn MacDonald, Stephanie Eaton, Lissa Mitchell, Joel Brody; Vice Principal: Freddy Frenette

Absent

Kunle Bristow, Muriel Deschenes, Grace Chao (teacher), Julie Dale, Jeff Lennon, Michele Pollack

Agenda Item	Decision/Action Taken	Follow up: Person(s) Responsible/Timeline
1. Approval of minutes – Oct. 3 rd 2011	CARRIED	
2. Lecture series for parents/guardians; discussion	Gather more information re: possibility of partnership with other area schools.	Gaylene Edmondson
3. Chess; discussion	Moved to allocate \$2,000 towards a lunchtime club with pro chessmaster to be hired. Three sessions to be offered this school year, with up to 30 students participating in each. Once up and running Council to determine if additional funding is required to make club available to all students (this is in lieu of \$2,000 originally allocated to purchase chess boards for classrooms). CARRIED	Kamran Jafry to implement ASAP w/ assistance of Shaune Palmer
4. Harvest Fest; post	Our community building Harvest Fest was again a big success. There was more and a greater variety of music than ever. A few thousand dollars were collected; net proceeds to be reported once all receipts are in.	

<p>5. People for Education: Workshop</p>	<p>Jacqui Strachan of People for Education presented, giving advice and best practices around what an effective school council looks like and does. Jacqui distributed three handouts: a) brochure on People for Education; b) document summarizing what a school council is and how it can maximize effectiveness; and c) tips for parents. She emphasized: have a clear mission and principles, and express the mandate. Another main point: Council has its greatest impact through community building and this includes two-way communication, parent/guardian education, and information sharing. This is achieved through multiple activities – keep them cheap or free. Need clear fundraising goals and if there are unspent dollars, question this and work to resolve. Fundraising, believes People for Education, builds community and supports valuable activities, but fundraising with limits. Need to worry about the equity issue. For example, if running a surplus, consider: a free funfair, twinning w/ another school(s), or cancelling fundraising for a year. Consider fundraising burden on individual families, the costs add up through the year. Shaune Palmer elaborated: Council helps publicize the school improvement plan (based on evidence) – school and parents to collaborate around this. Link school and council towards making school improvements. Look at school plan through parent lens. What can council do to support the school? It was also noted that our school community supports environmental sustainability and equity/social justice as important values and that lesson plans often incorporate them. Council should use the environment and equity as filters when making decisions; they should permeate every aspect of what council does. Other suggestions: comfortable, informal meetings; teachers talking to parents; taking time to discuss SIP.</p>	<p>Jacqui Strachan is available for follow-up if required</p>

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

6. New website: update	Work continues and a first iteration is almost completed.	Council members, teachers asked to contribute possible website content ASAP and ongoing
------------------------	---	--