

Knoxdale Community School Council

June 11, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Please visit our website at <https://knoxdaleps.ocdsb.ca/School%20Council/Pages/default.aspx>

Please contact the KCSC at knoxdalecouncil@gmail.com

Chair: Heather Gordon

Vice Chair: Vacant

Secretary: Danielle Aubin/Alysse Norcross

Treasurer: Natalie Clark

OCASC Rep: Alysse Norcross

Volunteer coordinator: Mary Murphy

Attendees: Heather Gordon, Andrew Bell, Patrick Fiori, Nathalie Clark, Julie Chouinard, Emilie Desjardins, Joanne Childs, Corrie Cassalman, Simmi Mangat Kelly Bagg, Danielle Aubin

May minutes: Approved.

Event planning:

Year-end Picnic: Finalizing plans for the picnic next week. Picnic runs 5-7 June 19. Fire truck will be there 530-630. The event is not a fundraiser (community event), so will plan to use Fitz's prices. Joanne will get drinks (needs an advance). Ordering 100 beaver tails, available on a first come first served basis.

Event day plan for number of tables, number of volunteers, garbage cans and set up map needs to be provided to the custodians, including Fitz's requirements.

Volunteers for games are needed, not sure if last year's volunteers are available. Ideas include tug of war, face painting, chalk; we will ask for volunteers for any talents or games to share. We also need council volunteers to bring coolers and ice. Other ideas for sales for bubble wands, to get clubs to come perform, hold a basketball shooting event.

Motion for \$600 advance for shopping for the event by Kelly, seconded by Corrie. Approved.

Motion for \$200 float for Simmi to manage by Kelly, Corrie second. Approved.

Next year's event planning:

KCSC meetings. Next year, we will move meetings to the first Thursday of the month, so that they fall after school board operations meetings so information is more up to date and available

sooner. No meetings will be held in January and March. The first meeting will be held Sept 12, and the first Thursday of the month.

Julie noted work is underway at the board to align school strategies and activities with new strategic plans. They are also looking at how activities tie to big subjects, what generates most learning, and what is worth cost or is no cost. They are also looking at streamlining after school events and ensure they have a broader purpose, to ensure school visits are “worth your time”.

For example, at meet the teacher, they are looking at a partnership with Dr. Yoni Friedhoff, expert on childhood obesity to do a talk on unintended consequences of food, what and how it is pushed at kids and a lice training event with OPH nurses.

Event	Options/Recommendations	Date	Lead/volunteers
Yard clean up	Continue if volunteer committed to lead; need to align with tornado commemoration	Sat, Sept 28 or 21	Alison? To be confirmed.
Meet the Teacher/Food Truck Rally	Options: continue with food truck rally -snacks in the lobby like this year -no food offered	Thurs, Sept 19	KCSC to attend with volunteer sign ups
Halloween Dance	Book large gym. Options: pizza sales and snacks sales -popcorn/snacks only Next year: look to swap with bake sale time	Fri Oct 18	Kelly Bagg
Craft and bake sale/ski swap	Book: big, small gym and lobby, music/multi-purpose room. Consider shifting bake sale into small gym beyond just foyer/hall space -scale back certain elements (e.g. contests, lunch offerings) -continue as per last year	Sat Oct 26	Simmi will organize, Alina, and Susan will organize. Ski swap: Andrew, Joanne, Tom.
Chapters night	Continue if volunteer is willing to organize,	November TBD	Corrie
FAMSAC/Snowsuit fund	Continue if volunteer is willing to organize,	November/December	Alysse? TBC

Hot Chocolate Day	Back school yard, no other space required. Options: continue with Green Rebel donations of people and materials -make our own	Thurs, Dec 19	Confirm Green Rebel donation? Other coordinators?
Movie night or other potential event	Book gym. Opt for one movie night in april or at least have the space for a winter event. Check vs. other schools' events (like valentines dance) Options: pizza or other food for sale, popcorn snacks only	Fri Jan 31	TBC
Restaurant night?	Options: restart local restaurant night fundraisers (needs a specific purpose). Big Rig, Make your own Pizza at Colonnade?	March ?	Kelly to coordinate
Movie night	Book big gym and lobby Options: pizza or other food for sale, popcorn snacks only	Fri April 3	Simmi and Heather
Education week: Artscape/Book sale	Options: consider giving book sale over to the school given success of student participation. Space is booked every evening that week. To be confirmed. given lack of volunteers, consider cancelling book sale by council going forward. Many other local schools already have one. Only re-instate silent auction (with specific fundraising purpose) during artscape No KCSC participation	May 4-8 education week	TBC
Walkathon	Combine with picnic this during the day, and picnic/celebration at night, Options: during school day – led by staff with support from KCSC vs.	June 19	Will need a sub committee

	led/organized by KCSC -consider re-thinking – readathon or rockathon (sleepover at the school, rocking chairs all night)		
School picnic/end of year celebration	Options: grow to large fundraising and community building event (e.g. school fair like Castor Valley June 13, 5-7). Teachers and students run station, Continue as is with bbq and/or food truck rally model with games. Olympics theme?	June 19	Needs a committee of organizers and event day volunteers

Other items to consider: ongoing coordination of lunch programs, events for new families, multicultural events combined with other events. We could Grade 6 leap year event; book lobby and big gym.

Patrick will talk to lunch company providers about rates, and continuing with them. Heather will provide contacts.

Treasurers Report: Received \$7500 grant from City of Ottawa, went to Knoxdale accounts to make the playground payment. Buddy bench payment complete. Movie night – \$671 raised.. Final balance \$11,274. Some cheques never got cashed (76\$ - stale dated now), and need a cheque for OCASC.

Playground funds - \$2400 reserved for plaques etc.

Playground update: More communication needed, as questions are coming in about plans, especially for nature centre. Julie can update via newsletter, other ideas include improving information on school website, banners outside, kids posters. All grades will get access to the new playground.

Other grounds: New trees were planted, a group of volunteers is needed to manage this through the summer. It needs to be done twice a week by filling water bags on trees. School can provide 200 ft of hose on site, and will need to be done during regular school hours. Kinder yard may be inaccessible due to construction. Andrew will check with scout group for volunteers and set up a google list for sign ups. This needs to start as soon as possible. We should look at having students take over in Sept. Questions raised about whether we could get some tanks filled outside to be used after hours, and we will connect with other community resources as needed (e.g. counsellor, TACA, etc).

Buddy bench installation: new grant put in for an additional tree to go in the yard, need to check location for both tree and bench – unveiling in the fall.

Teacher update: big thanks from teachers for all the events that we do. Trying to think about what is really needed for students to ensure deeper learning experiences. One teacher has raised opportunity for forest school – possibly at MacSkimming. Once a week class goes for outdoor education for ongoing

learning, connected to curriculum. Some schools have received grants, so this might be a thing council could fund, but no details available yet. Estimates are around \$200 for 3-4 visits per class plus buses. It will be important to look at sharing different opportunities at different grade levels.

In general, we should look for opportunities that are more unique, that you can't get in regular school setting (e.g. forest school vs. scientist in the school) and revisit what is offered. Consideration needed for how to build resources in school that can be reused, and events for different grades to do together.

The plan is to go back to school fees in the fall, and to clarify what activities and/or resources they are attached to. It is much preferred to have one fee vs. many over the year. Looking at \$35-40 per year per student.

Questions about whether we can restart giving tshirts for incoming kids. Community building vs funding other learning resources is an important factor that needs to be built into broader planning.

Open forum:

Discussion around possible income and spending needed between now and sept. There may be \$800 from Chapters and Mabel's labels. We will need to be aware as we discuss allocation of grant to Knoxdale in sept., as we won't have as much available at the beginning of the year with playground expenditures. The bake sale will be first opportunity for income, and end of year picnic was a big source last year. \$6400 was raised from lunch ladies. Further discussion needed on how to realign events and fundraising opportunities (e.g. what to keep and what new events to try, how to build a year-end event, do we need to re-align lunch programs and include possible subsidies).

Handover to next year's executive: This is Heather's last meeting as chair; she is happy to support and pass over any information, documents, passwords and advice needed. No successors have come forward yet, so Heather will do an end of year message, and ask again for participants. Julie can help organize the first meeting in September, but members will need to support organization going forward. . Big thanks to Heather for commitment and hard work on KCSC over the years!

Danielle will monitor email for the summer.

Next agenda: election, fundraising plans, new family engagement.

Next meeting: Sept 12 2019