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| A picture containing text, gambling house, room, scene  Description automatically generated7u | **Home & School Association**  **Meeting Minutes February 5, 2024**  **7:00pm**  **SAMBROPTA@GMAIL.COM** |

**Attendance:** Meredith Higgins (Co-President), Andrea Rose (Co-President), Colette Strome (Principal), Carrie Flemming, (Member-at-Large), Allie Cassibo (Member-at-Large), Peggi MacEachern (Staff Member), Justine Cowie (Member-at-Large), Josie Berry (Member-at-Large), Sandra Lee (Vice-President), Gemma Vale (Member-at-Large), Sam Clements (Member-at-Large), and Maryanne Fisher (Secretary).

**Regrets:** Amy Gilkie (Member-at-Large), Melissa Cummings (Member-at-Large), Meghan Thorne (Member-at-Large), and Tracy MacDonald (Administrative Assistant/Treasurer)

**Absent:** Genevieve Baechler (Member-at-Large),

**Call to order:** Meredith Higgins, call to order at 7:06pm

1. **Welcome/attendance:** recorded above.
2. **Approval of agenda:** Gemma moved and Allie seconded, all approved.
3. **Approval of minutes:** Colette moved and Gemma seconded, all approved.
4. **Principal’s report:** Colette Strome
   1. Bussing: One of the busses did not make it down one road. The situation was investigated, and the driver needs to contact the service provider, who then contacts parents. That process did not occur, so the process for communication has been revisited for the future. Also, there have been some inappropriate behaviors brought to her attention; she has been discussing with students, and she will be communicating expectations to families shortly.
   2. Plowing: Due to recent snowfall, tomorrow there will be decreased parking.
   3. The gaga ball pit was to be fixed today, but it had to be rescheduled due to weather.
   4. Feb 8 the musician and author Dave Carroll will be coming in.
   5. Feb 16 will be the winter walk.
   6. Mar 6 the whole school is going to the Oval for skating.
   7. This past week the new Puppet Club began. Using SAC funds to purchase puppets, a club was started by Ms Caines and Ms Gray, who began it to facilitate oral communication among students.
   8. There was a recent oil spill due to an overfill that was not initially reported by Irving. Members of the school noticed the smell and reported it, which led to the discover that the spill happened. We do not know the amount of the spill, but 20 tons of fill were removed out of concern about contamination. Water samples for the well have been drawn out of an abundance of caution. In the meantime, water coolers from Irving have been provided until the results of the test is returned.
5. **Treasurer’s report:** Colette presented on behalf of Tracy
   1. $500 was received from Andy Fillmore for the H&SA spring fair 2023 and will be transferred into HAS account.
   2. Colette has explored the bursary in terms of the financial creditability and was told that it can proceed, with her providing authorization for large expenses.

6. **On-going business**

**a. Fundraising/Events**

i. *Spring Fair planning update:* Allie reported the committee had a meeting. All coordinator positions are now full but she reported that the committee is happy to have more people involved. They plan to have more meetings from here on.

ii. *Mitchell’s soups update:* It is moving along. Parents have the forms, due Feb 12. The pre-primary class may not have received the form, so Colette will check to make sure they go home.

1. **Other business:**

*i. Community sign partnership request:* Andrea sent requests for updates and the requested fund amount from the committee (primarily members from St. James Church and SACA) who asked for funds to help with an electronic community sign. She was told they were having a meeting January 31, but they did not provide any further information in time for tonight’s meeting.

*ii. Library resources:* Colette reminded the librarian that there are funds available for purchases. Some of the funds have been used for science and maker’s space books, but there are remaining funds available. Donations of brand-new books are still welcomed.

*iii.* Newsletter: Allie has been exploring the potential for creating a newsletter from the H&SA. She will share it with Colette and brainstorm.

*iv.* *Water bottles:* The hot lunch program has funds, so reusable water bottles be purchased. They’ll stay at school and be washed so students who don’t have a bottle can borrow while at school.

*v. Bursary fund idea:* Already discussed; the be revisited.

7. New Business

*a. School supplies idea:* Colette proposed the H&SA use funds to purchase supplies for the entire student body for equity reasons, for ease of teachers, and convenience for parents. She estimates costs to not exceed $40 per child. Justine made a motion that we proceed with purchasing school supplies for all students beginning September 2024. Motion was seconded by Carrie. There was discussion about providing supplies for Pre-Primary moving forward. The motion carried unanimously.

*b.* *Wipes and tissues:*  Colette will purchase and distribute as needed. Funds from H&SA.

*c.* *Babysitting course:* It is being provided free to grade 5 students collaboratively with Harrietsfield students via grant funding.

**Next meeting:** March 4 2024 virtual only

**Adjournment:** Meredith adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm