

Briargreen Public School Council Meeting
January 10th, 2018

Present:

Sharon Edgar Creasey (Council co-chair), Andrea Horton, Amy Henry, Stacey Elliott, Donna Owen, Leslie McLeod (principal), Elissa Burrows (teacher rep), Monique Riou (teacher rep), Helena Peters, Dale Spencer, Laurie Spencer, Sean Pierre, Kari Sampsel, Lesley Slack, Tracey Armstrong

1. **Call to order:** Sharon called the meeting to order
2. **Agenda:** – Approved by Amy, seconded by Stacey
3. **November 2017 minutes:** Approved by Stacey, seconded by Sharon
4. **School use of Council funds:** Sharon had circulated the proposed allocation of Council funds by email, and everyone voted yes, therefore it passed.
5. **Milk prices:** As discussed at the last meeting, we have been losing money on milk sales this year, because the price of chocolate milk is more than the amount we are charging for it. Chocolate milk is taxed, whereas white milk is not, but we are charging the same price for both. There is general consensus that the price of chocolate milk should increase so we will have the same profit margin for white and chocolate milk. We will have to do the official vote by email. (Update: This has been done and passed as described here.)
6. **School reports**

School happenings, Elissa Burrows and Monique Riou

Monique thanked Council for supporting Scientists in the Schools. This program provides hands on experience, and can do things that teachers can't do in such a short amount of time. Kids are engaged in the activities.

Mrs. Tea thanked the school community for their efforts on the shoe boxes. They were picked up December 4th and delivered to a community in James Bay via the Love First Peoples organization. The Grade 5s organized the collection and did a great job. Their goal was 5 boxes, but they filled 18!

All classes have visited the new music room. New cajón drums have been delivered, and the kids are exploring them during class.

There were lots of holiday celebrations around the school before the winter break.

All classes are doing daily math games and hands-on activities. Teachers are starting to plan activities for Education Week (the first week of May). They will be using the common spaces to show parents some of the math initiatives that have been happening this year. There will be art in another section of the school, and some performance aspect to celebrate the new school.

Ms. Kovachik's class performed a Christmas song at a military concert at Centrepointe Theatre.

The holiday assembly was postponed until after the holiday. There will be a full school assembly next week.

The kids are excited about having the full gym back now that the renovations have been completed.

Principal's report, Leslie McLeod

Kindergarten information night will be next Tuesday January 16th. All schools give the same presentation but add details about their own school community. Parents can call the school for a tour if they can't attend the information night.

Leslie will be sending out an email to parents about the school learning plan. The plan this year builds on previous years. For the past 2 years, there has been a focus across the Board on math because of declining EQAO math scores. There are lots of professional learning opportunities for teachers to improve math teaching. The first part of the year has focused on operations: the nuts and bolts of math, the fluidity of numbers, and how numbers can be broken down to make computation easier. This helps children develop efficient and effective skills for problem solving. Math drills don't help all kids learn math facts and don't help kids understand what they mean, and they can be stressful. Instead, the school is focusing on games and activities that kids can do independently that help them build their skills. Classes do 60 minutes of math a day. The emphasis is on math being stress-free, fun, and for practice. Teachers evaluate all students, but there is a focus on those in the B-C grade level range, to see how they are improving over an 8-week period.

Cycle 2 will focus more on problem solving, including using vertical surfaces. The focus is on getting kids to choose appropriate strategies to solve a problem. Teachers will share games that parents can play with their kids. Math should be real, fun and meaningful. For example, Mrs. Tea's class is organizing the school popcorn sales, which gives them many opportunities to apply their math skills. Each teacher is picking a target area and doing a pre and post assessment to see how students are improving. Teachers of kids of similar ages are working together.

It was suggested to put the school learning plan on the Council agenda every month for teachers to share results with us.

All major construction is complete. The full gym is available. The library will take some time to unpack; there are some volunteers to help with this. The finishing touches for the construction will probably take a couple more months.

Summer renovations are planned for July and August. They do not involve major work. The areas that will be affected include the main hall, office, staff room, new electrical, heating, air conditioning, and painting. It does not include the gym. The tender is expected to go out in March to start work after school ends for the summer.

There is \$25,000 from Leslie Park for a new play structure. There is also a \$25,000 donation from TD that didn't come to Briargreen. It is planned to be used for the outdoor classroom, which should be able to be developed in the existing habitat space and will be used for outdoor

studies. We could look at raising additional funds through grants etc. if we want to. Leslie will find out whether the Board wants to develop this space before, during or after the summer renovations.

Supervision on the yard: There are staff on duty from 9:00-9:15 and at busing times, as well as lunch and recess duty. This is the same across the Board. If anyone comes before 9:00, parents must supervise their children on school grounds. There are cameras at the front and back of the school that show the doors. They are only live, they don't record. Lunch duty teachers supervise 4 classes at once, which is standard practice. On the yard, there are 3 supervisors on the primary yard and 2 on the junior yard, and often an EA supporting up to 5 students. Everyone has walkie talkies or cell phones to communicate with each other. They let the office know if a child is coming inside. Yard supervisors approach unknown individuals to talk to them. Community members are generally respectful of school recess times.

Logo/school colours/ amalgamation: Last spring, a Leslie Park-Briargreen school transition committee looked at revisiting school logos, colours, and mascots, but it was decided to wait until the two schools were together to make any changes. Leslie will invite parents and students to participate in the decision making, beginning in the next few weeks. There is a graphic artists at the Board who can help with this once the design is chosen. It is suggested to select the mascot first. (Update: A preliminary email has been sent from Leslie to parents about this.)

A lot of classes have done Scientists in the Schools so far this year.

Each teacher got a wireless keyboard and mouse, and a projector in their classroom.

Thanks to the Council for subsidies for food programs for students. We also get other subsidies through the Education Foundation, which is a charitable organization under the Board. These subsidies provide milk and pizza to students who need extra support. We also started a breakfast/snack program, which regularly serves 36 kids in the morning. Kids must choose at least 2 food groups. Some people think it's a great community activity. Some parents have also donated money for the program.

One family donated \$500 to the school to be used for redoing pavement games in the spring, which will be supplemented with school-generated funds.

School Cash Online is up and running. This will allow us to pay for field trips and other school initiatives online. There are 3 methods of payment: you can put money on your account, e-transfer, or credit card. It could eventually be used to pay for lunch programs. Using it is voluntary- parents can still send in cash or cheques to school if they choose. An extra 3% will be added to costs regardless of how you pay, in order to help pay for the program and transaction fees.

Toonie Tuesday will be in February, which supports the Education Foundation. Briargreen does a special event or theme day for this. The Education Foundation provides backpacks for kids who need them, grocery money for families in need (up to \$200 per child), and supports students who can't afford to go to camp or do extra curricular activities. Our school benefits a lot from this support. We receive \$3,000-\$5,000 per year overall. Monique's class will organize something fun for this day.

7. Discussion regarding school reports

There was an incident in October, before 9:00, where a stranger approached a child on the school yard while the caregiver was nearby. There was a discussion about how this kind of incident should be handled in the future. It was noted that before 9:00, parents/caregivers are responsible for their children on school property. However, the school could advise parents that there has been someone in the area who they should be on the lookout for.

8. Council reports

Treasurer's Report, Sharon

We will probably have around \$11,000 by the end of the year in profit. See financial details below.

Fundraising report, Amy

Popcorn is going well. White cheddar flavour started this week. Caramel will be available one day before Valentine's Day. Amy is looking for a replacement for 3 weeks in February to cover popcorn.

The Macmillan's fundraiser was very successful. There will be frozen berries sold in March. The Valentine's Day Dance is coming up. We need volunteers and raffle prizes. We are hoping to have two movie nights: one in March and May. For the holiday bake sale, we didn't have as many contributions as in the past. Book World, our used book sale, will take place in May.

9. **OCASC report, Donna:** School council banking: Board staff will recommend that all Councils bank with the school, not have their own accounts. They are open to feedback. Some considerations are that school councils want to maintain control over their finances, and that combining them would create additional workload for office staff.
10. **PRO night:** We got money from the Ministry to bring parents into the school for a family Scientists in the School event. The scientists will set up stations in the community areas of the school. There will be take home activities for families to do together. The idea is to demonstrate that science is fun and not scary. This will take place on February 13th; the snow date is February 27th. We don't think we need volunteers, to be confirmed.
11. **Valentine's Dance:** We are looking for volunteers for set up and for the evening. Classes can create decorations and Grade 6s can help set up.
12. **New business, open ideas:** Skating will hopefully start soon. Permission forms will be going home this week. This is for Grade 2s and up, and kids must be able to do up their own skates. It will take place at 2nd recess. The days will be determined based on volunteer availability. (Update: this has started.)
13. Sharon adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be **February 7th**.

Budget 2017-2018

Updated Jan. 9, 2018

Projected Income	Actual Income 2013/4	Projected Income 2017/18	Actual Income 2017/18
Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$7,318.56	?	\$5401.64*
Mummies Yummies	\$518	\$0	\$0
BBQ	\$1,277.99	?	\$789.20
Lunch Lady	\$188.65	?	\$0.00
QSP Magazine Subscription	\$519.55	?	\$146.15
Bake Sale	\$216.75	?	\$124.25
Valentine's Dance	\$243.18	?	\$0
Book Fair/World	\$623.65	?	\$0
Movie Nights	\$1,051.10	?	\$0
Coffee	\$435.61	\$0	N/A
Mabel's Labels	\$63.66	?	\$0
Organic Farm	\$150.00	\$0	N/A
Pizza kits last year/MacMillan's this year	\$223.00	?	\$464.00
PRO Extra	\$156.85	\$0	\$0
Tupperware	\$100.00	\$0	N/A
Popcorn	N/A		\$240.08
Total Projected Fundraising	\$13,086.55	?	\$7165.32

Projected Expenses:	Actual Expenses 2013/4	Projected Expenses 2017/18	Actual Expenses 2017/18
OCASC	\$35	\$35	\$35
Subsidy for school lunches (mummies yummys)	\$234.36	?	\$0
Appreciation Breakfast	\$294.18	?	\$0
Grade 6 Ceremony	\$106.98	?	\$0
Service Charges	\$51	?	\$20
NSF Charges	\$14	?	\$14
Miscellaneous (cheque printing fee)	\$57.39	?	\$76.75
Total Expenses	\$792.91	?	\$145.75
Total Money Raised	\$12,293.64	?	\$7019.57

Ledger 2017-2018

Date	Explanation	Debit¹	Credit	Balance	On Bank Statement
Sept. 11	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$1,234.97		\$11855.88	X
Sept. 12	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$1,424.70		\$13,280.58	X
Sept. 13	Fees for new cheques		\$76.75	\$13,203.83	X
Sept.14	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$1,360.10		\$14,563.93	X
Sept. 18	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$1,233.50		\$15,797.43	X
Sept. 20	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$1,019.40		\$16,816.83	X
Sept. 25	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$268.70		\$17,085.53	X
Sept. 25	BBQ Sales	\$292.60		\$17,378.13	X
Sept. 25	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$11,294.90		\$28,673.03	X
Sept. 25	Cheque #917 - pizza		\$253.12	\$28,419.91	X
Sept. 26	NSF Cheque		\$140.00	\$28,279.91	X
Sept. 26	NSF Fee		\$7.00	\$28,272.91	X
Sept. 26	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$340.80		\$28,613.71	X
Sept. 26	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$726.80		\$29,340.51	X
Sept. 27	NSF Cheque		\$165.70	\$29,174.81	X
Sept.28	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$96.00		\$29,270.81	X
Sept.28	NSF Fee		\$7.00	\$29,263.81	X
Sept.28	Cheque #920 Refund for pizza		\$36.00	\$29,227.81	X
Oct. 2	Cheque #918 Subway		\$224.00	\$29,003.81	X
Oct. 2	Cheque #921 Pizza Pizza		\$269.79	\$28,734.02	X
Oct. 3	Bank Fee		\$4.00	\$28,730.02	X
Oct. 4	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$128.00		\$28,858.02	X
Oct. 5	Cheque #919 Sharon Edgar (juice boxes and chips for bbq)		\$51.60	\$28,806.42	X
Oct. 10	Pizza	\$32.00		\$28,838.42	X
Oct. 10	Cheque #925 Pizza Pizza		\$269.79	\$28,568.63	X
Oct. 12	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$198.00		\$28,766.63	X
Oct. 12	Cheque #808 subway refund		\$60.00	\$28,706.63	X
Oct. 16	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$101.70		\$28,808.33	X
Oct. 16	Cheque #923 Subway		\$241.50	\$28,566.83	X
Oct. 17	Cheque #810 Pizza Pizza		\$269.79	\$28,297.04	X
Oct. 20	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$58.60		\$28,355.64	X
Oct. 30	PRO Cheque	\$1,000.00		\$29,355.64	X
Oct. 30	Grant for running Council Events	\$500.00		\$29,855.64	X
Nov.1	Cheque #809 Subway		\$227.50	\$29,628.14	X
Nov.1	Cheque #811 Subway		\$220.50	\$29,407.64	X

¹ Note that, in accounting terms, Debits are funds coming in and Credits are funds going out.

Nov.1	Cheque #812 Subway		\$224.00	\$29,183.64	X
Nov. 3	Bank Fee		\$4.00	\$29,179.64	X
Nov. 14	Cheque #814 subway		\$224.00	\$28,955.64	X
Nov. 14	Cheque #815 Briargreen Public School (milk)		\$2,613.62	\$26,342.02	X
Nov. 20	Grant for Food Subsidies	\$1,000.00		\$27,342.02	X
Nov. 24	QSP Deposit	\$112.00		\$27,454.02	X
Nov. 28	Cheque #819 Kernels Carlingwood (Popcorn)		\$296.62	\$27,157.40	X
Nov. 28	Cheque # 822 Briargreen Public School (council funds)		\$12,775.17	\$14,382.23	X
Nov. 30	Cheque #817 pizza refund		\$22.00	\$14,360.23	X
Dec. 1	Bank Fee		\$4.00	\$14,356.23	X
Dec. 4	Pizza/Milk/Subway	\$17.50		\$14,373.73	X
Dec. 4	MacMillan's Deposit	\$40.00		\$14,413.73	X
Dec. 4	MacMillan's Deposit	\$147.00		\$14,560.73	X
Dec. 4	Cheque #816 Subway		\$224.00	\$14,336.73	X
Dec. 4	Cheque #818 Subway		\$224.00	\$14,112.73	X
Dec. 4	Cheque #820 Subway		\$220.50	\$13,892.23	X
Dec. 7	821 Briargreen pizza 1618.74		\$1,618.74	\$12,273.49	X
Dec. 11	# 823-- \$1567.41 Briargreen--Nov. Milk		\$1,567.41	\$10,706.08	X
Dec. 19	Dec. 19, 2017---\$1408.00 MacMillan's cheque and cash	\$1,408.00		\$12,114.08	X
Dec. 20	# 825-- \$1157.00 MacMillans Fundraiser		\$1,157.00	\$10,957.08	X
Dec. 22	Dec. 22, 2017---\$34.15 QSP	\$34.15		\$10,991.23	X
Dec. 22	Dec. 22, 2017---\$26.00 Zoya Berkovitch cheque for MacMillans	\$26.00		\$11,017.23	X
Dec. 22	Dec. 22, 2017 Bake Sale	\$124.25		\$11,141.48	X
Dec. 22	Dec. 22,2017 Popcorn	\$536.70		\$11,678.18	X
Dec. 27	# 951 Subway		\$220.50	\$11,457.68	X
Dec. 27	# 952 Subway		\$220.50	\$11,237.18	X
Jan. 3	Bank Fee		\$4.00	\$11,233.18	X
Un-cashed cheques	Cheque #813 OCASC		\$35.00	\$11,198.18	
	Cheque # 824 Susan Goodyear--milk refund		\$39.00	\$11,159.18	
	Cheque #954 Subway		\$213.50	\$10,945.68	
	Cheque #955 Briargreen Public School--pizza for 4 weeks		\$1,074.92	\$9,870.76	