

**Watt Public School  
Parent Council Meeting  
Tuesday, January 24, 2017  
6:45pm**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Kate Monk, Cheryl Marshall, Greg Goulter, Laura Goltz, Kim Small, Hayley Lawrence, Jeannette Odman, Amber Gordon, Norah Morrison

**Regrets:** Graydon Bunn

**Guests:**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision / Action Item</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>
<b>Welcome – Kate Monk</b>	Chair welcomed everyone including new principal Norah Morrison and new SC member Amber Gordon	
<b>October 4, 2016</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Jeannette Odman 2<sup>nd</sup> Cheryl Marshall</b>	
<b>Business arising from minutes</b>	<p><b>Security System</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council had previously requested increased surveillance at Watt due to vandalism and now the recent lock down. This was requested formally in a letter from Council to principal Dennys prior to his departure. Mr. Dennys asked for this in his Facility Renewal Request to the Board; we will hear back on the response from the Board later in February. If we are turned down, Council will consider its own options. Principal Morrison indicated that full security might be tricky due the necessity of rigging it with the Board’s technology, but motion-censored lights might be easier.</li> <li>- Hayley Lawrence inquired as to why other schools have fob pass and buzzer access when Watt does not; anyone can walk through the</li> </ul>	

front door unhindered if no one is in the main office. Principal Morrison will find out what is involved having this system/process introduced at Watt. Council's collective feeling is that we are a little more vulnerable because it takes emergency services longer to get to our rural location in the event of an incident.

**Norah Morrison**

**Nordic Skiing**

- Greg Goulter gave an update on the successful completion of this project.
- Algonquin Outfitters was the vendor and gave Watt a discount.
- The total cost of the new equipment was \$5423.97. Taking into consideration all donations raised, council will pay an outstanding amount of \$822 (motioned at our last meeting).
- Teachers are overseeing the use and storage of skis to ensure they are well maintained.
- There may be a few odds and ends (boots or poles) to purchase still
- Races are January 31 and March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Arrowhead Provincial Park
- Council wants skiers to arrive as a team and will pay for bus transportation.

**Motion: Council will pay for bus transportation for Nordic skiers to and from Arrowhead PP for two races in 2017**  
1<sup>st</sup> Laura Goltz  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cheryl Marshall

Norah Morrison will follow up with costs and advise Cheryl Marshall for budgeting.

**Norah Morrison / Cheryl Marshall**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- January 27 has been decided upon as the date for the photo of the new skis with council, students and Diane Smith and her daughters. Sean Roosen should also be contacted about this. Cheryl Marshall will reach out to him. Greg will also determine if Paul from AO is available. Metroland will cover the story, and Kate will distribute photo to additional media.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding for Individual Classrooms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The school has preferred vendors for whatever they want to order, so teachers can do this through Mrs. McMurray in the office. Some items we may be able to get quotes to try to get a better price; Greg Goulter will do this when needed. Otherwise items will be purchased through office and SC Treasurer advised of the purchases.</li> <li>- Teachers can spend UP TO \$500 – do not have to spend the entire amount. Cheryl Marshall will sign off on invoices.</li> <li>- Some teachers holding off to determine what phys. ed. equipment is needed (e.g. basketballs); Mrs. delaGran is conducting an inventory review for that.</li> </ul> <p><b>Parent involvement Committee Update (Laura Goltz)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Board is looking at option for parents to pay through debit or credit card</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cheryl Marshall</b> <b>Greg Goulter</b></p> <p><b>Kate Monk</b></p> <p><b>Lisa McMurray</b></p> <p><b>Greg Goulter</b></p>
--	--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schools will have to absorb transacting fees</li> <li>- Won't be in place for a while but council should be aware for any purchasing of swag etc when it is introduced</li> <li>- Board will introduce the <i>OVER DRIVE</i> app – basically a digital library - on February 1<sup>st</sup> (\$50K investment)</li> <li>- students/parents/staff can have 10 books out as a family</li> <li>- JK right to 12 and adult</li> <li>- NOT getting rid of libraries</li> <li>- Next PIC meeting is March 2<sup>nd</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Watt Winterfest Update (Laura Goltz)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Takes place Wednesday, February 8 from 6:30pm to 8pm</li> <li>- Fire department will set up lights at toboggan hill</li> <li>- Skating rink is open and will hopefully be in good shape</li> <li>- Broomball to be set up</li> <li>- Hot chocolate – Laura will talk to Kim Chan about donating hot chocolate once again</li> <li>- We have left over cups from Watt 50<sup>th</sup> but this is also “lug-a-mug”</li> <li>- Fire barrel pit – wood needed and need to determine from Ray Herman or Mel Crewson where firepit is</li> <li>- Need to advertise out to the families: this will be done by the school admin using various channels (bring back text alerts!) including agendas and loading it on the website. School can tweet about it as well.</li> <li>- Snow date is February 15</li> </ul>	<p><b>Laura Goltz</b></p> <p><b>Greg Goulter / ALL</b></p> <p><b>Norah Morrison / Lisa McMurray</b></p>
<b>Review Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cheryl Marshall handed around info received from Vessey Bulbs</li> </ul>	

	<p>on flower fundraising opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A discussion ensued about working together (office/council/teachers/Lions) at the start of the year to determine what the school needs to then mobilize collectively/cohesively. Cheryl Marshall and Kate Monk met with Rob Dennys in late fall to make this request as well.</li> <li>- Kim Small indicated that the Staples grant has been applied to</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Chair's Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chair requested that members send lists of volunteers to the office and keep list for thank yous later in the year</li> <li>- Lisa McMurray has been given permission to use Parent Engagement Money this year to purchase more envelopes for money orders. Any leftover funds should be reported to Cheryl Marshall.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ALL</b></p> <p><b>Lisa McMurray / Cheryl Marshall</b></p>
<p><b>Principal's Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Principal Morrison talked about the strategy for teaching and learning moving forward. Staff will be focused on Math training and leadership (leadership team has been established).</li> <li>- Will also be doing rich learning around reading</li> <li>- She will be spending time in the classrooms for class-based evidence and data...looking at the students' needs</li> <li>- Every six weeks teachers will get together to study info/data again to make it dynamic</li> <li>- Math is key – number sense and numeration</li> <li>- There will be work on intentional interventions with some students</li> <li>- 5 teachers are taking additional math qualifications</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EQAO testing is May 23<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>- Will be doing moderated student evidence assessments...have experts come in and have other eyes to look at the data</li> <li>- Norah Morrison will determine if Watt can get EQAO tutors like other schools</li> <li>- Council would like more information on the opportunity to hold math literacy session with parents</li> </ul>	<p><b>Norah Morrison</b></p> <p><b>Norah Morrison / Kate Monk</b></p>
<p><b>Treasurer's Report – Cheryl Marshall</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We've raised \$1800 this fall (swag money not included)</li> <li>• Candles \$322</li> <li>• Poinsettias \$500</li> <li>• Christmas sale = \$348</li> <li>• Ski donations = \$240 (?)</li> <li>• Etc.</li>   <li>• \$500 also given to us for Watt 50<sup>th</sup> from the board</li>   <li>• <b>Bank balance \$4900</b></li> <li>• Minus \$800 for skis</li> <li>• Minus \$2500 for teachers/classrooms</li> <li>• <b><i>\$1600 remaining budget</i></b></li>   <li>• Cheryl Marshall and Lisa McMurray met to discuss budget tracking; Lisa will provide Cheryl with a balance on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month moving forward</li> <li>• Cheryl Marshall will sign off on invoices and receipts for council before they are processed</li> <li>• Cheryl Marshall going to create a Treasurers' binder with all these records</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cheryl Marshall / Lisa McMurray</b></p> <p><b>Cheryl Marshall</b></p> <p><b>Cheryl Marshall</b></p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	<p><b>Soapbox Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Chair asked council members to indicate whether they are interested in doing Soapbox Derby</li> </ul>	

	<p>as a fundraiser again. It was agreed that the silent auction is important component for raising the funds needed to support school programs no matter what event we do.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a feeling that Soapbox – though a great event that kids enjoy - is a lot of work for the same few people and that in order for it to move ahead, new volunteers will need to be recruited.</li> <li>- Council threw around additional ideas for fundraising</li> <li>- Council made the decision to first determine if more volunteers will step up to help execute and organize soapbox; if 20 new people volunteer by February 10<sup>th</sup> it will go ahead. If not, Council will hold a special meeting on February 16 to determine what the new fundraising event will be. Kate will write notice for agenda delivery and send it to Lisa McMurray for distribution asap</li> </ul> <p>Winter Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Norah Morrison and Kim Small updated council on the winter activities planned</li> </ul>	<p><b>Kate Monk / Lisa McMurray</b></p>
<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>	9:05 PM	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<b>February 16, 2017</b>	6:45 pm Library